

# JA Company Program

## PROGRAM REPORT

**2022-23**



JA  
British  
Columbia

Member of  
JA Canada



# JA COMPANY PROGRAM 2022-23 OVERVIEW



This past school year, over 700 high school students from all over British Columbia acquired the practical knowledge and skills they needed to launch their own small business enterprise.

Collaborating online or in person, over 50 student companies were formed during this immersive learning experience. These teams introduced a diverse range of offerings, including beeswax food wraps, leather card holders, a graphic design company, biodegradable dinnerware and much more.

The support and dedication of our program supporters have been instrumental in making this free opportunity a reality for youth across the province. We express our heartfelt gratitude for their contributions.

## ABOUT JA COMPANY PROGRAM

### THIS PROGRAM GIVES YOUTH THE HANDS ON EXPERIENCE TO ORGANIZE AND OPERATE A REAL BUSINESS

Over the course of 10-16 weeks, high school students work as a team to develop a business idea, finance their startup, creatively market their concept, and sell their finished product or service.

Mentors from the local business community have the opportunity to volunteer their time to work with students, sharing their knowledge and expertise.

All teams are required to address at least one of the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Like real businesses, they must also incorporate technologies to manage their company and provide a positive experience for their customers.

This program is offered both in school and as an after school experience. Learn more at [jabc.ca/cp](https://jabc.ca/cp)



# JA COMPANY PROGRAM 2022-23 AT A GLANCE



**746**

**Students**



**53**

**Student-run  
companies**



**16**

**Schools  
Districts**



**42**

**Volunteers**

## 2022-23 SCHOOL DISTRICTS REACHED

#06 Rocky Mountain  
#34 Abbotsford  
#35 Langley  
#36 Surrey  
#38 Richmond  
#39 Vancouver  
#40 New Westminster  
#41 Burnaby

#42 Maple Ridge  
#43 Coquitlam  
#44 North Vancouver  
#45 West Vancouver  
#61 Greater Victoria  
#67 Okanagan Skaha  
#71 Comox Valley



"Great experience, leadership experience, learning how a business startup exactly works, collaborating and leading a team. Made me step out of my comfort zone many times."

- CP Student



# STUDENT OUTCOMES



As part of JABC's ongoing efforts to deliver relevant and meaningful learning experiences for youth, we surveyed students after they attended this year's program to help us continue to adjust and improve the overall learning experience.

89%

of students say they developed a greater understanding of business and entrepreneurship.

77%

of students expressed feeling confident making financial decisions.

91%

of students reported developing skills helpful to their future careers.

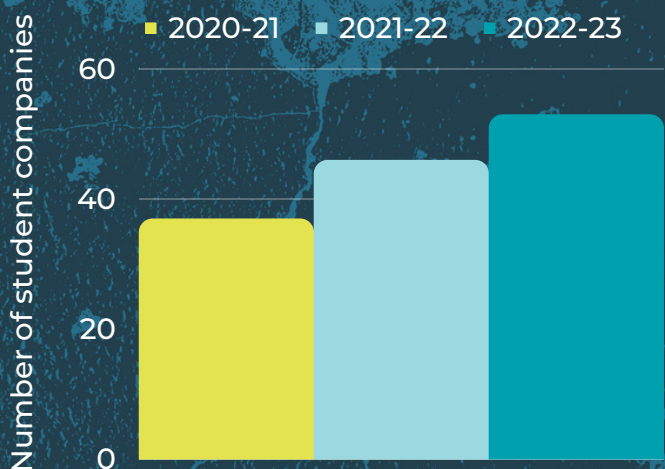


I can't express enough how enriching and thrilling these past 13 weeks have been! The JA Company Program was an exciting whirlwind of entrepreneurship that I recommend to any young individual eager to dive into business. Thank you, JA, for this unforgettable journey!

- Tegan Tritt, CP Student



## PROGRAM GROWTH



## SNIPPITS OF WHAT STUDENTS LEARNED:



How to establish and monitor production and sales goals



The importance of philanthropy in business



How to create business strategies and personal action plans



How to maintain and analyze financial records

# STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



**Chloe Nguyen**  
Grade 11  
Churchill Secondary

Chloe was a vice-president of a student company called Baws. This team launched a dual-purpose product that combined a portable charger and hand warmer in one. Excelling as a program participant, Chloe was also awarded \$2,500 as one of the recipients of the 2023 Junior Entrepreneurship Award.

"As students we don't often get the opportunity to work on hands-on projects...and interact directly with people in the fields that we're interested in. [JA Company Program] allowed us to meet and learn from mentors and students we wouldn't have met otherwise. This allows students that take part in JA to have true insight into their respective interests in the business world and take steps towards their goals."



[View Baws video](#)

# STUDENT BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT



**Happy Hive**

Happy Hive was a JA student company led by youth from Richmond, B.C. who were interested in promoting environmental sustainability. They created beeswax food wraps, called Bumble Wraps.

This team was the 2023 winner of the CIBC Student Company of the Year Award. This \$3,000 award acknowledges excellence in teamwork, creativity, innovation and outstanding planning and operation of a JA Student Company.

"The winning team of the CIBC Student Company of the Year award, Happy Hive, exemplifies the spirit of student innovation and determination. The JA Company program provided the team with an opportunity to tap into their creativity, entrepreneurial spirit and create a viable business plan. I am very excited for the future for all of the teams that participated – the lessons they learned are invaluable and will provide them with practical experience they can apply for the future. I can't wait to see what these students get up to next!"

- Paula Vanni,  
Market Vice President, CIBC



[View Happy Hive video](#)

# THANK YOU TO OUR PROGRAM SUPPORTERS



**Brian & Paula  
Phillips**

**Dr. Kenneth  
Smith**



Aside from the invaluable social and networking opportunities I was very lucky to have in my in-person program this year, the program [helped me develop] many applicable skills such as research, brainstorming, and business leadership in a very hands-on fashion. I could not have been more satisfied with the program.



- CP Student



# ABOUT JABC



JA British Columbia (JABC) is a not-for-profit impact organization that delivers hands-on, immersive education in work readiness, financial health, and entrepreneurship. Through JA, young people are equipped with the skillset and mindset to build thriving communities. Learn more at [jabc.ca](http://jabc.ca)



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