

## Garage Co-Work Space Open for Business

The Garage Co-Work space at 123 Lafayette Street is officially open for business. The space, owned and operated by Winona State Senior and former President of their Entrepreneur Club Eric Mullen and Executive Director Samantha Strand, is designed for workers seeking high amenity, flexible office space in downtown Winona. The idea for the space has been in the works for about 18 months. Partners in the effort include:

***Saint Mary's University Kabara Institute for Entrepreneurial Studies***  
***The Winona State University School of Business***  
***Winona Main Street/Chamber of Commerce***  
***The City of Winona Port Authority***

Users of the Co-Work Space will benefit from the fastest connectivity Winona has to offer. They can opt to rent an office desk for a day, week, a month or a year or an individual or business may also choose to rent one of the two conference rooms equipped with state-of-the-art teleconferencing capabilities. A user could also utilize the space to host a special event.

### **WHAT IS CO-WORKING:**

Co-working is a self-directed collaborative, flexible and voluntary work style that is based on mutual trust and the sharing of common core values between its participants.

### **WHO WOULD USE CO-WORKING SPACES?**

- Entrepreneurs/Start-ups
- Freelancers/Independent contractors
- Remote/Satellite workers and telecommuters
- People who work from home
- Out of the office client meetings
- International and remote business meetings needing video conferencing services
- Nonprofits
- Small business looking to take the “next step”
- Existing companies looking to offer alternative work options for employees

### **WHY ARE COWORKING SPACES BENEFICIAL?**

A growing number of workers are now working from their home, a local coffee shop, a hotel room or other spaces that are not ideal for productivity. For those people co-working space are beneficial for a number of reasons:

- Caters to those who feel comfortable in a collaborative environment
- Helps efficiency and productivity
- You are not and do not feel “alone”
- Networking opportunities
- Maximum flexibility (no long term commitment necessary)

The real magic behind co-working seems to be the community these spaces tend to create. By working independently on your own work while seated next to someone from a different industry, but often facing similar challenges, allows people to tap into the minds and experiences of different industries and different people. It gives a co-worker an opportunity to seek another perspective when it comes to problem solving or growing their business.

***In a co-work space: The sum is indeed greater than its parts.***

***For more information on “The Garage Co-Work Space”***

- ***Stop by 123 Lafayette for a cup of coffee and a tour***
- ***Contact Samantha @: [sstrand@thegaragecowork.com](mailto:sstrand@thegaragecowork.com)***
- ***Visit the web site: <https://www.thegaragecowork.com/>***



