



New Ventures BC
23rd Annual Awards Ceremony
October 3, 2023



PRESENTED BY

innovate BC

PROGRAM OF EVENTS

Thanks for joining us!

5:00PM **REGISTRATION & NETWORKING**

5:45PM **AWARDS CEREMONY**

Awards Ceremony Hosts: Tomica Divic, Interim CEO, Innovate BC and Angie Schick, Executive Director, New Ventures BC Society

WELCOME REMARKS

VIDEO REMARKS FROM THE PROVINCE OF BC

Hon. Brenda Bailey, Minister of Jobs, Economic Development, and Innovation

ALUMNI IMPACT AWARD PRESENTATION

Prize presenter: Wal van Lierop, Executive Chairman, Chrysalix Venture Capital and Chair, NVBC Board of Directors

PRIZE PRESENTATION: INNOVATE BC \$10,000 REGIONAL IMPACT PRIZE

2023 TOP 10 INTRODUCTION

Julien Sellgren, 2023 Final Jury Member, 2002 NVBC first prize winner (Metalogix)

REMARKS FROM INNOVATE BC

Andrew Petter, Chair, Board of Directors, Innovate BC

PRIZE PRESENTATION: \$5,500 LUMINARIES DIAMOND-IN-THE-ROUGH PRIZE

Presenter: Michelle Sklar, Head of Venture Growth Strategy, entrepreneurship@UBC, and NVBC Luminary

PRIZE PRESENTATION: NATIONAL BANK \$10,000 LEAP TO THE CLOUD PRIZE

Presenter: Wade Preston, Director, Central & Western, Technology & Innovation Group, National Bank of Canada

PRIZE PRESENTATION: INNOVATE BC \$10,000 SUSTAINABILITY PRIZE

Presenter: Don Furseth, 2018 NVBC prizewinner (CRM GeoTomography, now Ideon)

PRIZE PRESENTATION: INNOVATE BC \$10,000 WOMAN-LED VENTURE PRIZE

Presenter: Rochelle Grayson, NVBC Luminary and Executive-in-Residence

PRIZE PRESENTATION: INNOVATE BC \$35,000 THIRD PRIZE PACKAGE

Presenter: Sampath Ekanayake, Co-Founder and Chief Product Officer, Yield Exchange, 2022 NVBC prizewinner

PRIZE PRESENTATION: INNOVATE BC \$60,000 SECOND PRIZE PACKAGE

Presenter: Reza Varzidehkar, CEO and Waqas Ahmed, Head of Engineering, OVOU, 2022 NVBC first prizewinner

PRIZE PRESENTATION: INNOVATE BC \$110,000 FIRST PRIZE PACKAGE

Presenters: Tomica Divic, Interim CEO, Innovate BC and Andrew Petter, Chair, Board of Directors, Innovate BC

CLOSING REMARKS

6:45PM **NETWORKING & CELEBRATION**

PRIZES

Over \$250,000 in cash and prizes!

\$110,000 INNOVATE BC FIRST-PRIZE

- \$80,000 cash from Innovate BC
- Access to the Innovate BC Venture Acceleration Program for one year, valued at \$2,400
- \$6,000 in-kind services from EY
- \$9,000 in-kind services from Fasken
- \$10,000 in-kind video services from pushr video
- \$6,750 in-kind services from NVBC's silver & bronze sponsors

\$60,000 INNOVATE BC SECOND-PRIZE

- \$45,000 cash from Innovate BC
- Access to the Innovate BC Venture Acceleration Program for one year, valued at \$2,400
- \$6,000 in-kind services from EY
- \$6,000 in-kind services from Fasken
- \$2,000 in-kind services from NVBC's silver & bronze sponsors

\$35,000 INNOVATE BC THIRD-PRIZE

- \$25,000 cash from Innovate BC
- Access to the Innovate BC Venture Acceleration Program for one year, valued at \$2,400
- \$6,000 in-kind services from Ernst & Young
- \$3,000 in-kind services from Fasken
- \$2,000 in-kind services from NVBC's silver & bronze sponsors

\$10,000 LEAP TO THE CLOUD PRIZE, PRESENTED BY NATIONAL BANK OF CANADA

- \$10,000 cash from National Bank of Canada, awarded to the most promising Software as a Service (SaaS) startup in the Top 10 or

Top 25. The winning startup will showcase an innovative edge with a market validated by either sales, partnerships or trials.

\$10,000 INNOVATE BC REGIONAL START-UP PRIZE

- \$10,000 cash from Innovate BC, awarded to the most promising startup placing in the Top 10 or Top 25, that is positioned to make a significant regional impact. The venture must be located outside of the Greater Vancouver Regional District.

\$10,000 INNOVATE BC SUSTAINABILITY PRIZE

- \$10,000 cash from Innovate BC, awarded to a for-profit venture, placing in the Top 10 or Top 25. The venture must aim to create a strong social or environmental impact that creates shared value to the local community and society at large, in addition to economic profits.

\$10,000 INNOVATE BC WOMEN-LED VENTURE PRIZE

- \$10,000 cash from Innovate BC, awarded to the most-promising venture with a woman CEO or Co-Founder in the Top 10 or Top 25. Preference will be given to CEOs, then to Co-Founders who hold 20% or greater ownership. This prize is open to anyone who self-identifies as a woman.

\$5,500 LUMINARY DIAMOND-IN-THE-ROUGH PRIZE

- Awarded to a promising company that is pre-revenue and pre-investment as of April 12, 2021 (less than \$50K of dilutive financing or revenue). This award is generously funded by members of NVBC's volunteer Luminaries program.

THANK YOU TO OUR LUMINARY PRIZE FUNDERS

- Alvin Chubbs
- Byron Thom
- Catherine (Kate) Dilworth
- Craig Thomson
- Gregory Walker
- Harper Grey LLP
- Jim Fletcher
- Michele Wallcraft
- Michelle Sklar
- Paul Koros, Cassandra Strategy Group Ltd.

2023 TOP TEN FINALISTS

EY presents the 2023 New Ventures BC Top 10 Finalists



BLANKA

blankabrand.com | Vancouver

CO-FOUNDERS Kaylee Astle, Adam Chuntz, Doug Long

NVBC MENTORS Samantha Simonton, Richard Miller



BROWSE AI

browse.ai | Vancouver

CEO & FOUNDER Ardy Naghshineh

NVBC MENTORS Steve Lowry, Bruce Sharpe, Daryl Hatton



GINGER DESK

gingerdesk.com | North Vancouver

CEO & FOUNDER Dr. Julie Durnan, ND

NVBC MENTORS Byron Thom, Anastasia Hambali



IMMFINITY BIOTECHNOLOGIES

immfinity.com | Vancouver

CO-FOUNDERS James Round, Govinda Sharma

NVBC MENTORS Mark Thomson, David Steinley



LEASEY.AI

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CO-FOUNDERS Carlos Leal, Juan Leal

NVBC MENTORS Angus Fraser, Mark Trevitt, Bill Archer



ORCA WATER SOLUTIONS

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FOUNDER & CEO Kerry Chin

NVBC MENTORS David Dunnison, Arik Broadbent



PILOT

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CO-FOUNDERS Connor Wilson, Taher Kathwala,

Avinash VK, Yu-Wei Hung, Abigail Udvari

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NVBC MENTORS Brady Fletcher, Kyle Cheriton, Nari Rampersad



VIRIDIS

viridisresearch.com | Vancouver

CO-FOUNDERS Macarena Cataldo, Ahmad Erfan

NVBC MENTORS Alicia Lenis, Sebastian Nicholson

A BIG THANK YOU TO OUR INVESTOR DONORS

NVBC is excited to announce the piloting of a new investment fund designed to share in the success of winning companies through small equity investments. This year's fund has been raised from the ticket sales from a private Top 10 Demo Day event in September, supported by National Bank of Canada.

Any returns generated through equity participation in our winners will be used for future competition awards and reinvestment in future winners. Our vision is that this fund will help sustain the NVBC competition for the long term, as we believe in, and further contribute to, the success of our winning companies.

On short notice, event co-host, VANTEC Angel Network invited its members and other investors to this event at \$1,000 per ticket. We thank and recognize those (listed herein) who purchased tickets or contributed financially to make this happen. If you are interested in contributing to this year's fund, please contact Angie at angie@newventuresbc.com

Alison Sunstrum

Alvin Chubbs

Ben Slager

Bizfield Angel Network

Charles Garrison

Colin Harris

Darryll Frost

Frederick Ghahramani

Guirong Yang

Hans and Kimberley Knapp

Jackson Wu

Jim Fletcher

John Montalbano

John Rogers

Keith Spencer

Kirk Hamilton

Lillian Jing Liu

Mark Betteridge

Mark Gray

Mark Longo, Osler

Mike Volker

Nimbus Synergies Inc

Nina Vellani

Norma Biln

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Paul Koros

Ralph Turfus

Richard Moore

Robin Louis

Roy Trivett

Sean Hodgins, Tandem

Accounting

Silverlcing.com

Steven Lukas, Harper Grey

Sydney Wilson

Thealzel Lee

Varshney Capital Corp

Vlad Tucakov

WUTIF Capital (VCC)



NVBC LUMINARIES: JURY & MENTORS

Thank you to our volunteers who generously share their time, knowledge, and expertise with start-up companies across B.C.

ROUND 3 AND 4 JURY

Andy Edelman	Julien Sellgren	Rochelle Grayson
Floyd Sijmons	Maria Pacella (Jury Chair)	Thealzel Lee
Jennifer Hamilton	Pieter Dorsman	
Julia Davourie	Rasool Rayani	

ROUND 2 AND 2.5 JURY

Aaron Davey	Geoff Catherwood	Malcolm Kendall
Abhay Ghatpande	Geoff Fawkes	Marjan Miremadi
Alfred Lam	Geoff Hultin	Mehrsa Raeiszadeh
Alvin Chubbs	Geordan Hankinson	Meredith Kennedy
Anamika Mukherjee	Gilbert Lei	Michelle Sklar
Andrew Csinger	Gordon Deans	Mike Hilton
Ashlesha Kadam	Greg Fitzgerald	Mike Montian
Ben Moore	Greg Kowalski	Mo Mostafei
Bill Archer	Greg Walker	Mustafa Mohamedali
Blake Adam	Gurminder Minhas	Nari Rampersad
Blake Ponuick	Guylain Roy-McHabée	Natalia Mainprize
Brian Bapty	Havind Sehmi	Peter Andersen
Brian Kahnert	Helen Goddard	Peter Parrish
Brodie Desimone	Hilary Kilgour	Peter van Bodegom
Bruce Schmidt	Hugh MacNaught	Rafael Gi
Cam Melvin	Jacques Farges	Ray Silva
Chin Chang	James Jacobs	Rob Adamovsky
Chris Ciriello	Jan Langton	Rob Muir
Chris Wiesinger	Jeff LaPorte	Rob Peets
Christopher Chong	Jeff Sinclair	Samantha Simonton
Claire Skillen	Jeffrey Manner	Sara Wang
Cynthia Shipham Brett	Jennifer Matli	Sean Hodgins
Daniel Frank	Jessica Hu	Sean Huang
Darin Herle	Jim Balcom	Sharon Barnes
Darren Frew	Jim Pratt	Shavi Morsara
Daryl Hatton	Joe Parenteau	Shreyas Sali
Dave Savory	John Carter	Simon Backer
Dave Thomas	Johnny Dewan	Sophie Ngo
David Steinley	Kate Dilworth	Steve Lowry
Dean Pick	Kirk Hamilton	Steven Jones
Doug Manness	Kookai Chaimahawong	Stewart Marshall
Emily Wu	Kyle Cheriton	Stuart Bowness
Eric Byres	Lauren Kulokas	Tania Lo
Eric Cormier	Lesley Esford	Tim Collings
Gabe Kalmar	Lisa Ranken	
Gavin Henry	Luke Krueger	

SPEAKERS

Brian Martin, TELUS	Lenny Freilich, Mitacs	Peter de Verteuil
Brianna Blaney, Pocketed	Lesley Duncan, SFU	Pieter Dorsman, Angel Forum
Charlyne Fothergill, Volition Advisors	VentureLabs	Rochelle Grayson, Mosaic Accelerator
Christopher Ross, Fasken	Ling Wong, Fasken	Roger Kuypers, Fasken
Cynthia Shippam, NRC IRAP	Maninder Dhaliwal, TiE Angels	Samuel Li, Fasken
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VentureLabs	Mathieu Apuzzo, National Bank	Steven Forth, Ibbaka
David Ko, EY	Matthew Heydt, Backstretch Recruitment	Tamara Tarnowski, EY
Geoff Pedlow, Fasken	Mike Volker	
Keith Ippel, Spring	Mo Mostafaei, EY	
Laith Shukri, RBCx		

MENTORS

Abhay Ghatpande	Don Furseth	Marty Yaskowich
Adam Lorant	Ean Jackson	Michele Wallcraft
Alicia Lenis	Eric Bukovinsky	Michelle Sklar
Alvin Chubbs	Eric Byres	Mike Radano
Anamika Mukherjee	Eric Cormier	Nari Rampersad
Anastasia Hambali	Frank Leffelaar	Paul Brassard
Angus Fraser	Geoff Fawkes	Paul Koros
Arik Broadbent	Gordon Deans	Paul Lomonossoff
Ashlesha Kadam	Grant Lawrence	Paul McAfee
Bill Archer	Greg Kowalski	Pav Manchanda
Blake Ponuick	Gurminder Minhas	Ray Silva
Bob Harper	Guylain Roy-McHabée	Reza Sanaie
Brady Fletcher	Herman Lo	Richard Miller
Bruce Sharpe	Iain Ball	Rob Atwell
Byron Thom	Iain Begg	Rob Fuller
Caroline Lewko	Iain McLean	Rupert Whiting
Chris Chong	Jack Fraser	Samantha Simonton
Chris Goward	Jeff Churchill	Sean Adams
Christene Best	Jeff LaPorte	Sebastian Nicholson
Craig Thomson	Kari LaMotte	Steve Lowry
Darin Herle	Kevin Jampole	Udi Daon
Daryl Hatton	Kyle Cheriton	Victor Holysh
David Dunnison	Manoj Manathunga	Walter Wardrop
David Steinley	Mark Thomson	
Dean Pick	Mark Trevitt	

ROUND 2.5 MENTORSHIP

Thank you to Volition Advisors for providing pitch mentorship to our Round 2.5 ventures

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