

**NEXT**  
CANADA

**FY2025  
ANNUAL REPORT**

September 1, 2024 - August 31, 2025

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**WE ARE  
EMPOWERING THE  
NEXT GENERATION  
OF CANADIAN  
ENTREPRENEURS**

# LETTER FROM THE CEO



**THIS YEAR MARKED A DEFINING MOMENT** in the history of NEXT Canada. Fifteen years ago, we set out with an ambitious goal: to identify, develop, and support the next generation of Canada's most promising entrepreneurs—and in doing so, to contribute meaningfully to the country's long-term prosperity. Today, it is deeply gratifying to reflect on how far that vision has carried us.

Since our founding, more than 1,300 alumni have completed a NEXT Canada program. Together, they have launched over 700 companies, creating thousands of jobs from coast to coast and building businesses that are shaping Canada's innovation economy. One powerful measure of this impact is the capital our alumni have raised in support of their ventures—\$5.7 billion to date, a figure that continues to grow at an accelerating pace.

A highlight of the year was our 15th Anniversary Alumni Celebration, hosted at the Eglinton Grand in Toronto. It was an evening that captured the essence of NEXT Canada: founders at different stages of their journeys coming together to celebrate shared experience, ambition, and impact. It was also a moment to recognize the extraordinary generosity of our alumni community. To date, NEXT Canada alumni have committed nearly \$1.5 million in pledged support, an important component of the \$15 million pledged over the next decade to sustain and grow this organization.

Like many charities, NEXT Canada faced significant headwinds during and following the pandemic. I am proud to say that we have not only weathered those challenges, but emerged stronger and more resilient than ever. While this year reflects a modest revenue shortfall against budget, that outcome is a direct result of a deliberate strategic focus on securing longer-term commitments—

strengthening our financial foundation and positioning NEXT Canada for stability and impact in the decade ahead.

This Annual Report reflects our activities during the fiscal year from September 1, 2024 to August 31, 2025, while also celebrating contributions and commitments made through December 31, 2025 for recognition purposes.

The photograph above was taken at Venture Day, and it captures a partnership that has been central to NEXT Canada's success from the very beginning. My partnership with **Reza Satchu**, our Founding Chairman, is one I am profoundly proud of, and one I will cherish always.

As this report goes to print, I find myself in my final days as CEO of NEXT Canada, preparing for retirement with deep gratitude and reflection. Leading this organization has been the privilege of a lifetime. I am delighted to pass the torch to Jennifer Reynolds, an exceptional leader who joins an already remarkable team and will be supported by one of the strongest boards in the country.

To Reza, our leadership volunteers, our donors and partners, our alumni, and the extraordinary NEXT Canada team—thank you for the trust you placed in me, for your partnership, and for the opportunity to work so closely with you in service of NEXT Canada. It has been a privilege to build this organization together.



**KYLE J. WINTERS**  
**CEO, NEXT Canada**

*Note: Information about NEXT AI Montréal is provided for context. NEXT AI Montréal is a separate, financially independent entity, operated as part of HEC, an affiliate part of the Université de Montréal, collaborating with us under the NEXT AI brand.*

“

**The most valuable lesson I carried from my NEXT experience into my entrepreneurial journey is the importance of surrounding myself with the right community. The mindset of pushing one another forward continues to guide how I build and lead today.”**

**NIMA JALALVANDI**

(Next AI, Montréal, 2025 | NEXT Canada Donor)



Visit [\*\*www.nextcanada.com/donation/\*\*](http://www.nextcanada.com/donation/) to make a donation today.

NEXT Canada accelerates the growth trajectory of aspiring scaling entrepreneurs with education, mentorship and access to Canada's strongest entrepreneurial network.

**Charitable Registration  
No. 81519 8403 RR0001**



# WE ARE SUPPORTING LIFELONG FOUNDER DEVELOPMENT FOR A MORE PROSPEROUS CANADA.

---

## WHO WE ARE

We are Canada's strongest and most dedicated entrepreneurial network, made up of 1,000+ academics, entrepreneurs, investors and founders.

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## WHAT WE DO

We identify and recruit the country's brightest and most promising founders. We eliminate barriers to participation and then accelerate founder success through access to education, mentorship and to a network of investors. We support our founders throughout their entire entrepreneurial journey.

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## WHY WE DO IT

We aspire to create a prosperous and competitive Canada. Our alumni will contribute to the livelihood of communities from coast to coast.

---

## OUR VALUE PROPOSITION

Our programs are creating a critical mass of best in class Canadian businesses.

Our program participants and alumni are solving real world problems that enhance the day to day well being of Canadians.

Our alumni ventures are contributing to the livelihood of communities from coast to coast, while driving the Canadian economy across a vast number of sectors.

---



**1,300+**  
entrepreneurs

**800+**  
ventures launched\*

**\$5.7B+**  
capital raised

**4,000+**  
jobs created

**and growing...**

## NEXT CANADA PROGRAMS FY2025

**NEXT CANADA IS PROUD TO OFFER FOUR PROGRAMS** for aspiring and scaling entrepreneurs. Our programs are open to participants from all across Canada, who are taught by world-class faculty and mentored by global business leaders. We are committed to supporting the growth and success of Canada's entrepreneurs and tech ecosystem.



**175** entrepreneurs

**100+**  
hours of programming

**2025  
COHORT  
STATS**

**150+**  
mentors & advisors

## NEXT36

For students or recent grads with an entrepreneurial mindset and ambitious dreams.

## NEXT FOUNDERS

For growth stage founders looking to scale their ventures into world class businesses.

## NEXTAI

For founders and teams looking to solve global challenges with AI-enabled solutions.

## NEXTIPO

A boutique scaling program for ventures with the potential to go public



90 ventures

2 national  
headquarters

10+  
experts in residence

# NEXT36

STUDENTS OR RECENT GRADS  
WITH BIG DREAMS AND  
AN ENTREPRENEURIAL MINDSET

## MEET THE NEXT 36 2025 COHORT:

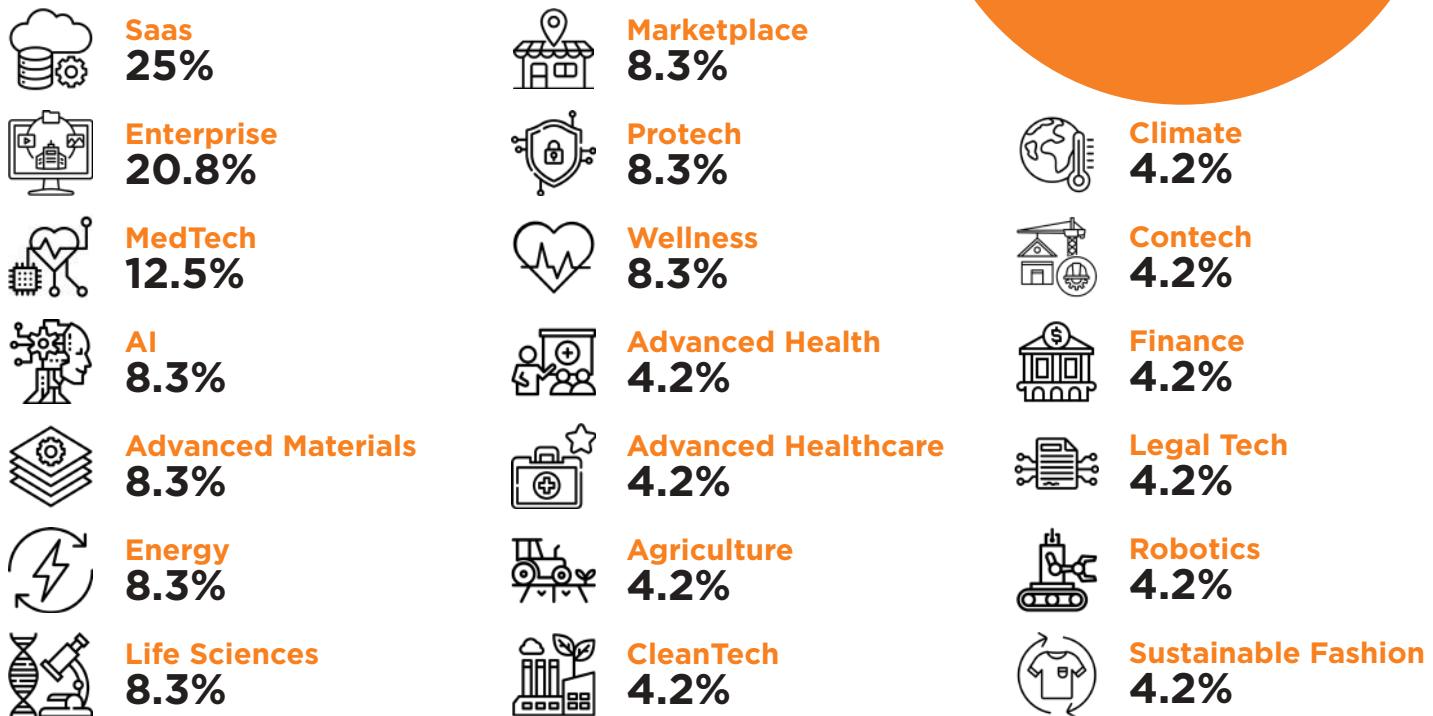
	<b>KIRTI SAXENA</b> AJNAMATERIALS		<b>SAHARSH SURYADEVARA</b> DILIGEN		<b>MANN PARIKH</b> NERVIEW SURGICAL INC.
	<b>THOMAS TUCHENHAGEN</b> ATLAS APPRAISER COLLECTIVE		<b>RUPA VEMULAPALLI</b> GOSPONSORLY		<b>RIDHAM GOYAL</b> OMNI3D
	<b>ADAM BADAR</b> BAVLO		<b>SELEN ONCULOGLU</b> GOSPONSORLY		<b>MATTHEW OLVER</b> RETROFIT.AI
	<b>ARNAV GUPTA</b> CENTRO AI		<b>KYLE STENBERG</b> ICARUS SUN PROTECTION		<b>AVRIL SUN</b> SUCCESSION AI
	<b>TONY JIANG</b> CLEARCUTAR		<b>MAXWELL CLARK</b> ICARUS SUN PROTECTION		<b>SYLVIA GEHRING</b> SUMMINA
	<b>SIMON FUCILI</b> CORDAX		<b>ADNAN SHARIF</b> LYRATA INC.		<b>VALERIE TUEDOR</b> TOVVRA
	<b>JACK FEJER</b> CORDAX		<b>KINO SONG</b> MEDIUM AI		<b>MEGHAN BRAR</b> VETVIVO
	<b>CAROLINE THADANEY</b> CORDAX		<b>OLIVIA LENG</b> MEISSNER		<b>AARON BURLACOFF</b> WILLOW
	<b>NIKHIL SATCHU</b> CORDAX		<b>KOSARAN GUMARATHAS</b> MOTIONUS		<b>HANA RAHILI</b> XPRESS SELECT

**98.2%** program participants said that the program expanded their access to a strong and supportive network of peers, mentors, and investors.

## 2025 COHORT STATS

40%  
FEMALE

### INDUSTRIES



**“BEING PART OF NEXT HAS BEEN TRANSFORMATIVE FOR ME AS A FOUNDER. THE PROGRAM PUSHED ME TO THINK BIGGER, ACT FASTER, AND COMMIT WITH CONFIDENCE EVEN IN THE FACE OF UNCERTAINTY. THE MENTORSHIP, RESOURCES, AND COMMUNITY HAVE SHAPED NOT ONLY HOW I BUILD MY VENTURE, BUT ALSO HOW I LEAD WITH CONVICTION. NEXT HAS TRULY BEEN A LIFE-CHANGING EXPERIENCE.”**

**HANA RAHILI**  
XPRESS SELECT

# NEXT36 SPOTLIGHTS



**“COMPLETING THE NEXT 36 PROGRAM HAS BEEN THE MOST TRANSFORMATIVE EXPERIENCE OF MY ENTREPRENEURIAL JOURNEY. THE PROGRAM CHALLENGED ME TO THINK BIGGER AND EXECUTE FASTER THAN EVER BEFORE. BEING SURROUNDED BY SUCH A DRIVEN COMMUNITY PUSHED ME TO LEVEL UP AS A FOUNDER MORE THAN I THOUGHT POSSIBLE.”**

**MAXWELL CLARK**  
ICARUS SUN PROTECTION



**“THE MENTORSHIP AND FOUNDER DEVELOPMENT I RECEIVED AT NEXT WERE UNPARALLELED AND COMPLETELY TRANSFORMED MY CAREER TRAJECTORY AND MY FUTURE. I ALSO WANT TO MENTION THE INCREDIBLE FEMALE ADVISORS, MENTORS, AND PEERS IN MY COHORT WHO CONTINUOUSLY CHALLENGED AND SUPPORTED ME.”**

**AVRIL SUN**  
SUCCESSION AI



“

**NEXT HAS BEEN A PROGRAM I'VE  
ADMIRED FOR A LONG TIME, AND  
I WAS TRULY EXCITED TO FINALLY  
HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO TAKE  
PART. I FOCUSED MY ENERGY ON  
GROUP DISCUSSIONS, COMMUNITY  
BUILDING, AND FORMING DEEP RE-  
LATIONSHIPS WITH OTHERS IN THE  
COHORT.”**

**THOMAS THUCHENHAGEN**  
ATLAS APPRAISER COLLECTIVE



“

**A HUGE THANK YOU TO OUR IN-  
CREDIBLE COHORT AND COMMUNI-  
TY AT NEXT. YOU'VE BEEN OUR EAR-  
LIEST ADVOCATES, OUR SOURCE  
OF ENCOURAGEMENT, AND A CON-  
STANT SUPPORT. SPECIAL THANKS  
AS WELL TO REZA AND AJAY FOR  
FOUNDING THIS PROGRAM AND  
SHOWING US WHAT IT MEANS TO BE  
FOUNDERS WHO BUILD MEANING-  
FUL INNOVATION.”**

**RYAN JUNEJO**  
CRASHLABS AI

## MEET THE 2025 NEXT AI COHORT TORONTO & MONTRÉAL



**GREG PONESSE**  
ADVANCED CREATIVE LABS INC.



**CAM RZADKI**  
FABRIC BIO



**DENNIS DIXON**  
CODIII BY OQLI



**GREG SHORTALL**  
ADVANCED CREATIVE LABS INC.



**IAN MACPHERSON**  
FABRIC BIO



**PAIGE REICHE**  
CODIII BY OQLI



**DEVYN OLIN**  
CACHE



**CINDY WU**  
FLYING WOLF



**MARY AGLIPAY**  
PIPPEN AI



**JOSH ROBINSON**  
DATACOACH



**JUMANA FATHIMA**  
KIWI CHARGE



**AMJED KADHIM-SALEH**  
PIPPEN AI



**TAIMUR AYAZ**  
DOKSI



**AAMIR ABUBAKKAR**  
KIWI CHARGE



**JOE NOSS**  
PUBLICUS



**BRYN DAVIS WILLIAMS**  
DOUBL



**ABDEL ALI**  
KIWI CHARGE



**AKASH SHETTY**  
PUBLICUS



**JESSICA BOSMAN**  
DOUBL



**AMIRMOHAMMAD  
KAZEMEINI**  
MINDSPROUT



**BRIAN LI**  
QUIP MEDICAL



**RON GALAEV**  
EMERGCONNECT INC.



**SEDEF AKINLI KOCAK**  
MINDSPROUT



**MARC SYKES**  
REALDESK.AI



**MARINA GAVRILO**  
EMERGCONNECT INC.



**MOHAMMAD  
NAVID MASAHATI**  
MINDSPROUT



**MOSTAFA  
NAJAFIYAZDI**  
XUBIN AEROSPACE INC.

**96.4%** program participants agreed that as a result of this program, they felt more confident and prepared to take the next steps in their entrepreneurial journey.

	<b>CHRISTOPHER FLORA</b> AECPROJEX.COM		<b>SAMANTHA TJONG</b> B(X) THEORY		<b>JEMIMAH MICAH BAYNO</b> ELOQUENT
	<b>PEJMAN SAIFI</b> AECPROJEX.COM		<b>PETER YOUN</b> B(X) THEORY		<b>IRENE SALIENDRA</b> FEM ENTITY
	<b>MATTHIEU PALLUD</b> AFFECT AI (LOMIA AI OMICIENT HEALTH)		<b>HADRIEN DAVID</b> BLOOMSCO		<b>MUKISA KAKEMBO</b> FEM ENTITY
	<b>AHAD BEYKAI</b> AGTEQ		<b>HUGH MCGUIREW</b> BLOOMSCO		<b>ÉMILE TREMBLAY-ANTOINE</b> HALPIE TECHNOLOGIES
	<b>ALIREZA MOHAMMAD ZADEH</b> AGTEQ		<b>BEHNAMEH FARSI</b> CANAPPLY		<b>WILLIAM BOUCHER</b> HALPIE TECHNOLOGIES
	<b>TONY AUBE</b> AMICAL		<b>KOOROSH HASHEMI DEVIN</b> CANAPPLY		<b>BENOIT DOMINGUE</b> KUMA
	<b>YOANN VANITOU</b> AMICAL		<b>CARLA MBOL</b> CARLA+ CURLS		<b>AHCENE AHMED YASSER KHARAB</b> MAPLAB AI
	<b>ALYSSIA JOVELLANOS</b> AMX LABS		<b>AMIRREZA ATAEI</b> CHEMIA DISCOVERY		<b>MOHAMED BEN SALEM</b> MAPLAB AI
	<b>MARTIN CIESIELSKI-LISTWAN</b> AMX LABS		<b>ANDREA LOPICIC</b> DENDROMETRIC		<b>JAN GUNASH</b> MARSLAND INSTITUTE
	<b>NURUL IBRAHIM</b> ATLANTIQ AI		<b>VINCENT GRONDIN</b> DENDROMETRIC		<b>VINCENT MARSLAND</b> MARSLAND INSTITUTE
	<b>JOE VERDECAMPO</b> ATLANTIQ AI		<b>MARYAM GILSENAN</b> ECLATIRA		<b>ANTOINE MERCIER-LINTEAU</b> MEDICA
	<b>SALLY NEWTON-MASON</b> AUTOCART TECHNOLOGIES		<b>MOAD RAHALI SEMLALI</b> ECLATIRA		<b>MICHAEL ST-GELAIS</b> MEDICA
	<b>SAFFRIN GRANBY</b> AUTOCART TECHNOLOGIES		<b>PHIL DALLAIRE</b> EEZLY		<b>VINCENT MONTMINY LINTEAU</b> MEDICA
	<b>JOHN YOUN</b> B(X) THEORY		<b>MOUHAMED NDIAYE</b> EEZLY		<b>ALEX CÔTÉ</b> MEDIRAI
			<b>ECHO SANTOS</b> ELOQUENT		

# NEXTAI

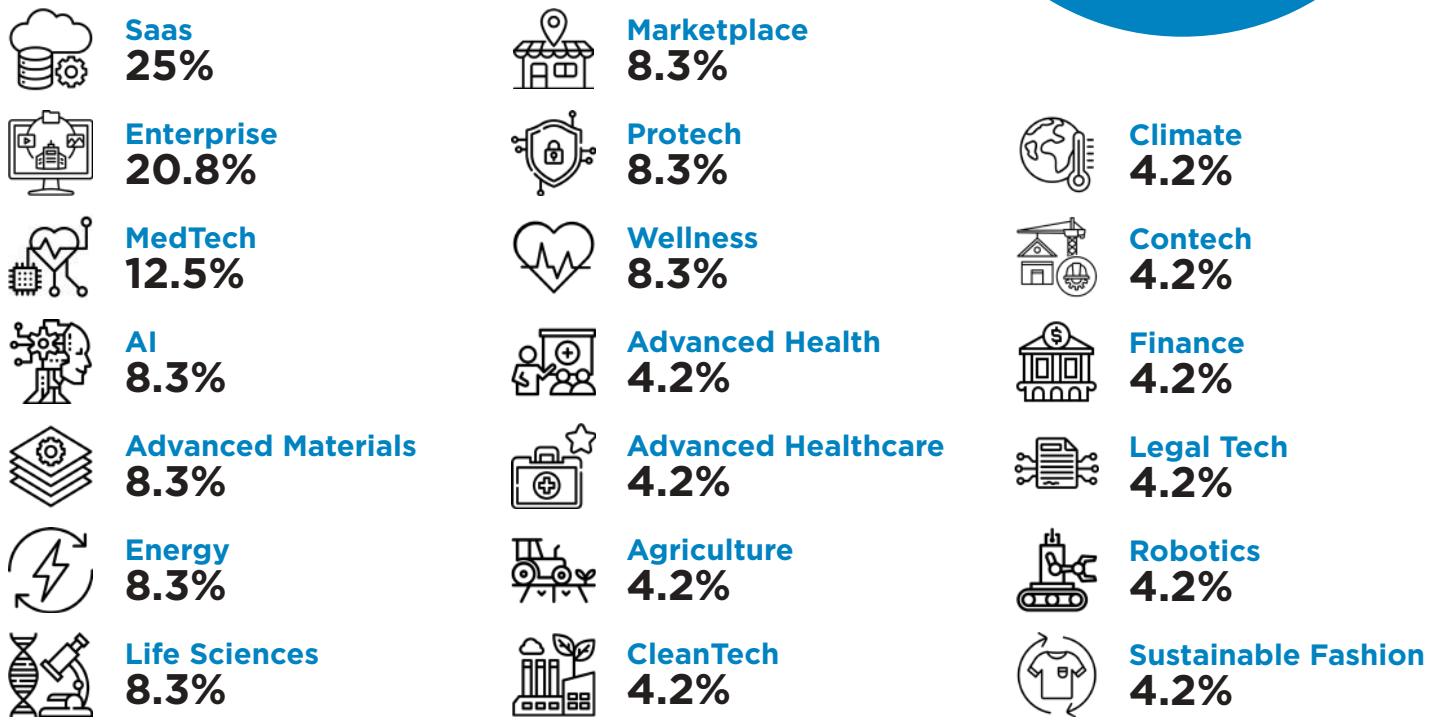
MEET THE NEXT AI 2025 COHORT:

 <b>JEAN-FRANÇOIS DJOUFAK</b> MEDIRAI	 <b>BLAKE NIELSEN</b> PROINVEST ANALYTICS	 <b>ERWAN HENRIOU</b> SOLARIA SENSE
 <b>DEBANGSHA SARKAR</b> MEMREE AI	 <b>PHILIPPE TROP</b> PROINVEST ANALYTICS	 <b>KATHEL DONGNANG</b> SOLARIA SENSE
 <b>KAREN SOUTHWELL</b> MEMREE AI	 <b>SALVATORE PAPIA</b> PROINVEST ANALYTICS	 <b>MOUHAMED ABDOUN AZIZ DIOP</b> SOLARIA SENSE
 <b>BRENDA AHENKORAH</b> MY WELL SELF	 <b>FRANCOIS MENARD</b> PULR TECHNOLOGIES	 <b>JEFFREY SIPKO</b> SOLIPSIST STUDIOS
 <b>YOGESHWAR KHADILKAR</b> MY WELL SELF	 <b>JOEL VANDAL</b> PULR TECHNOLOGIES	 <b>EILYN MEDINA GONZALEZ</b> STUDIOUS
 <b>CHOUKRI MEKKAOUI</b> NOOROOT	 <b>MARCELO PEDROZA HERNANDEZ</b> READY PLAN GO	 <b>JASON SMALL</b> STUDIOUS
 <b>MAYA POLACKAL</b> NOOROOT	 <b>NIMA JALALVANDI</b> READY PLAN GO	 <b>ANTONIO SPIEZIA</b> TRAILS (LEGISIMPLE)
 <b>PIERRE-OLIVIER CAMPAGNA</b> NORTH AMERICAN IMMIGRATION AGENCY (NAIA)	 <b>PARISAGOLCHOUBIAN</b> RETIDE	 <b>BENJAMIN DRINGOLI</b> TRAQC
 <b>CARL-OLIVIER ROULEAU</b> NORTH AMERICAN IMMIGRATION AGENCY (NAIA)	 <b>REZA FAZELI</b> RETIDE	 <b>MARIIA ZHULDYBINA</b> TRAQC
 <b>JOSE AGUILERA</b> OMVI SPORTS ANALYTICS	 <b>JONATHAN MIRECKI</b> SEARCHLESS	 <b>CONNIE PERL</b> VLVT
 <b>MAHAN NIKNAFS KERMANI</b> OMVI SPORTS ANALYTICS	 <b>ELIJAH MIRECKI</b> SEARCHLESS	 <b>CAROLINE BRUN</b> VOXEL HEALTHCARE
 <b>BELAL MOHSEN</b> OPEN MUSIC NETWORKS	 <b>ILLIMAR ISSAK</b> SENTRI AI	 <b>NATASHA LEPORE</b> VOXEL HEALTHCARE
 <b>DAVID SMITH</b> OPEN MUSIC NETWORKS	 <b>JUSTIN ONEID</b> SENTRI AI	 <b>NIHARIKA GAJAWELLI</b> VOXEL HEALTHCARE
 <b>CYRIL BOUNAKOFF</b> SKINAPTIKS	 <b>GUILLAUME DION</b> SKINAPTIKS	 <b>JASON DEOL</b> WHATIFI
		 <b>JON COWLEY</b> WHATIFI

## 2025 COHORT STATS

**33%**  
FEMALE

NEXT AI FOUNDERS ARE WORKING ON SOLVING GLOBAL PROBLEMS IN A VARIETY OF INDUSTRIES INCLUDING:



“

**THE NEXTAI PROGRAM WAS EXACTLY WHAT I WAS LOOKING FOR- HIGH QUALITY MENTORSHIP, STRUCTURED PROGRAMMING & NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES. THE QUALITY OF THE NEXT ECOSYSTEM BLEW ME AWAY AND I HIGHLY RECOMMEND IT - NO MATTER WHERE YOU ARE IN YOUR JOURNEY WHERE YOU ARE IN YOUR STARTUP JOURNEY!!”**

**JOSH ROBINSON**  
DATA COACH

# NEXTAI SPOTLIGHTS



“

**ONCE YOU ENTER THE NEXT PROGRAM, YOU ARE GIVEN AN INCREDIBLE WEALTH OF RESOURCES—MENTORS, DEDICATED PROGRAM MANAGERS WHO WORK TIRELESSLY TO GUIDE YOU TOWARD SUCCESS, AND PROFESSORS WHO INVEST THEIR TIME TO ENSURE WE TRULY LEARN AND GROW. FOR ALL OF THIS, I AM DEEPLY GRATEFUL.”**

**JOE NOSS**

PUBLICUS



“

**I CANNOT THANK THE NEXT CANADA PROGRAM, THE NEXT AI TEAM, AND THE MANY MENTORS ENOUGH FOR THEIR GUIDANCE AND SUPPORT THROUGHOUT THIS JOURNEY. I'M ALSO GRATEFUL TO MY COHORT PEERS, WHO HAVE ALWAYS BEEN WILLING TO HELP AND COLLABORATE.”**

**MOSTAFA NAJAFIYAZDI**

XUBIN AEROSPACE INC.



“

**SIX MONTHS AGO, RETIDE WAS JUST A BOLD IDEA THAT FELT ALMOST TOO BIG TO SAY OUT LOUD: TACKLING THE PLASTIC POLLUTION IN OUR OCEANS, AN ISSUE THAT'S ALWAYS BEEN CLOSE TO MY HEART. GETTING INTO NEXT AI EARLY GAVE ME THE CONFIDENCE TO RUN WITH IT, AND THE SUPPORT TO LEAN ON AS WE STARTED BUILDING.”**

**PARISA GOLCHOUBIAN**  
RETIDE



“

**OVER THE PAST SIX MONTHS WITH NEXT AI, OUR JOURNEY HAS BEEN ABOUT SO MUCH MORE THAN BUILDING AN APP. IT'S BEEN ABOUT LEARNING, BEING CHALLENGED, AND GROWING SUPPORTED BY WORLD-CLASS MENTORS, NEXTAI TEAM AND A TRULY CARING COMMUNITY.”**

**CARLA MBOL**  
CARLA+ CURLS

# NEXT FOUNDERS

GROWTH-STAGE FOUNDERS  
LOOKING TO SCALE THEIR BUSINESS  
INTO A WORLD-CLASS VENTURE

## MEET THE NEXT FOUNDERS 2025 COHORT:



**NIPUN SHARMA**  
APPETRONIX



**NADIA LADAK**  
MARLOW



**SEAN HAZARAY**  
OTTAWA INFOTAINMENT



**RASHMI PRAKASH**  
ARUNA REVOLUTION



**SHAHRAM YOUSEFI**  
MESH SCHEDULING INC.



**ALEX CHALLANS**  
RESONANCE



**ALEXANDER  
MICHALATOS**  
BUILDCHECK AI



**ANDREW  
SACCHETTI**  
MIMIC



**LEON  
PUNAMBOLAM**  
SAMOS INSURANCE  
SOLUTIONS



**ABDUL KITTANA**  
CLOUDAGENT



**CARLY TRINIER**  
MIMIC



**JOSH GUTTMAN**  
SELLIT9



**WILLIAM  
RISTODOULOU**  
CYDER INC.



**DARACE ROSE**  
OPPOS



**MALCOLM EADE**  
SPECTRA PLASMONICS



**NATALIE ASHDOWN**  
EVOCO LTD



“

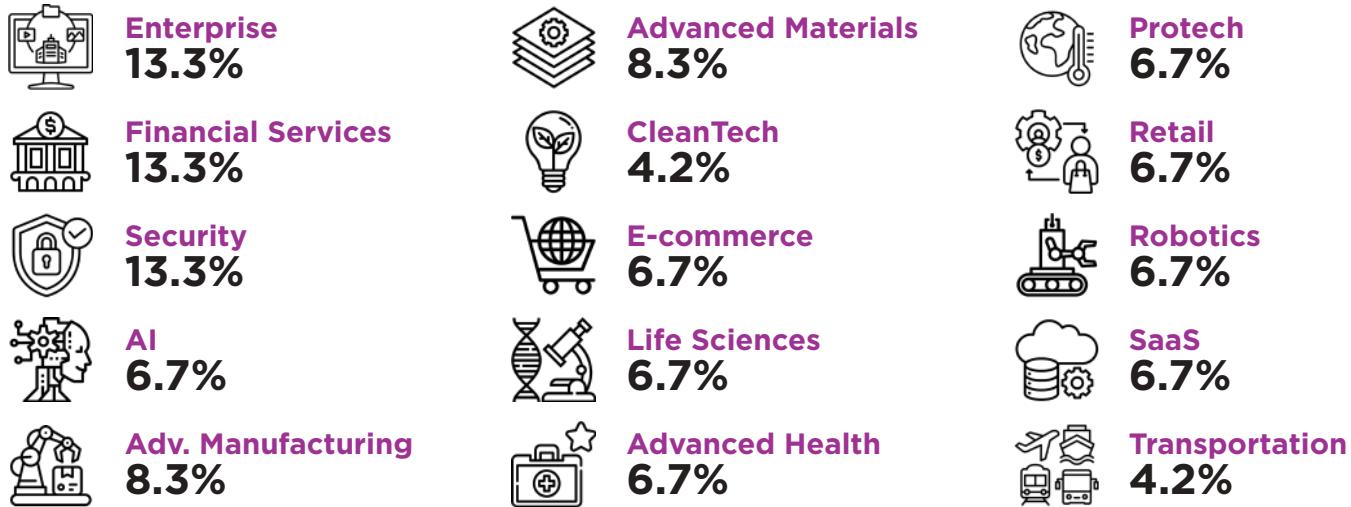
I WANT TO SINCERELY THANK  
THE MENTORS, PROFESSORS,  
THE ENTIRE NEXT CANADA TEAM,  
AND EVERYONE WHO POURS  
THEMSELVES INTO THIS PROGRAM.  
YOU GIVE US OPPORTUNITIES  
TO BUILD EXTRAORDINARY  
BUSINESSES AND DO SOMETHING  
REMARKABLE.”

**NADIA LADAK**  
MARLOW

## 2025 COHORT STATS

27%  
FEMALE

THE NEXT FOUNDERS COHORT ARE WORKING  
ON SOLVING GLOBAL PROBLEMS IN A VARIETY  
OF INDUSTRIES INCLUDING:



**92.9%** program participants agreed that  
the program pushed them to think bigger and set  
more ambitious goals for their venture.



**“A HUGE THANK YOU TO NEXT CANADA FOR PROVIDING US WITH AN AMAZING COMMUNITY OF MENTORS, PEERS, AND A NETWORK THAT WILL DRIVE OUR COMPANY’S SUCCESS.”**

**WILLIAM CHRISTODOULOU**  
CYDER INC.

# NEXT FOUNDERS SPOTLIGHTS



“

**GAINING HANDS-ON COACHING FROM WORLD-CLASS MENTORS AND FOUNDERS, BUILDING A TIGHT-KNIT COMMUNITY THAT SHARES REAL WINS AND SETBACKS, AND CONNECTING DIRECTLY WITH INVESTORS AND ECOSYSTEM LEADERS—PLUS HEARING FROM ALUMNI WHO’VE SCALED GLOBALLY—MADE THE EXPERIENCE TRULY INSPIRING.”**

**DARACE ROSE**

OPPOS

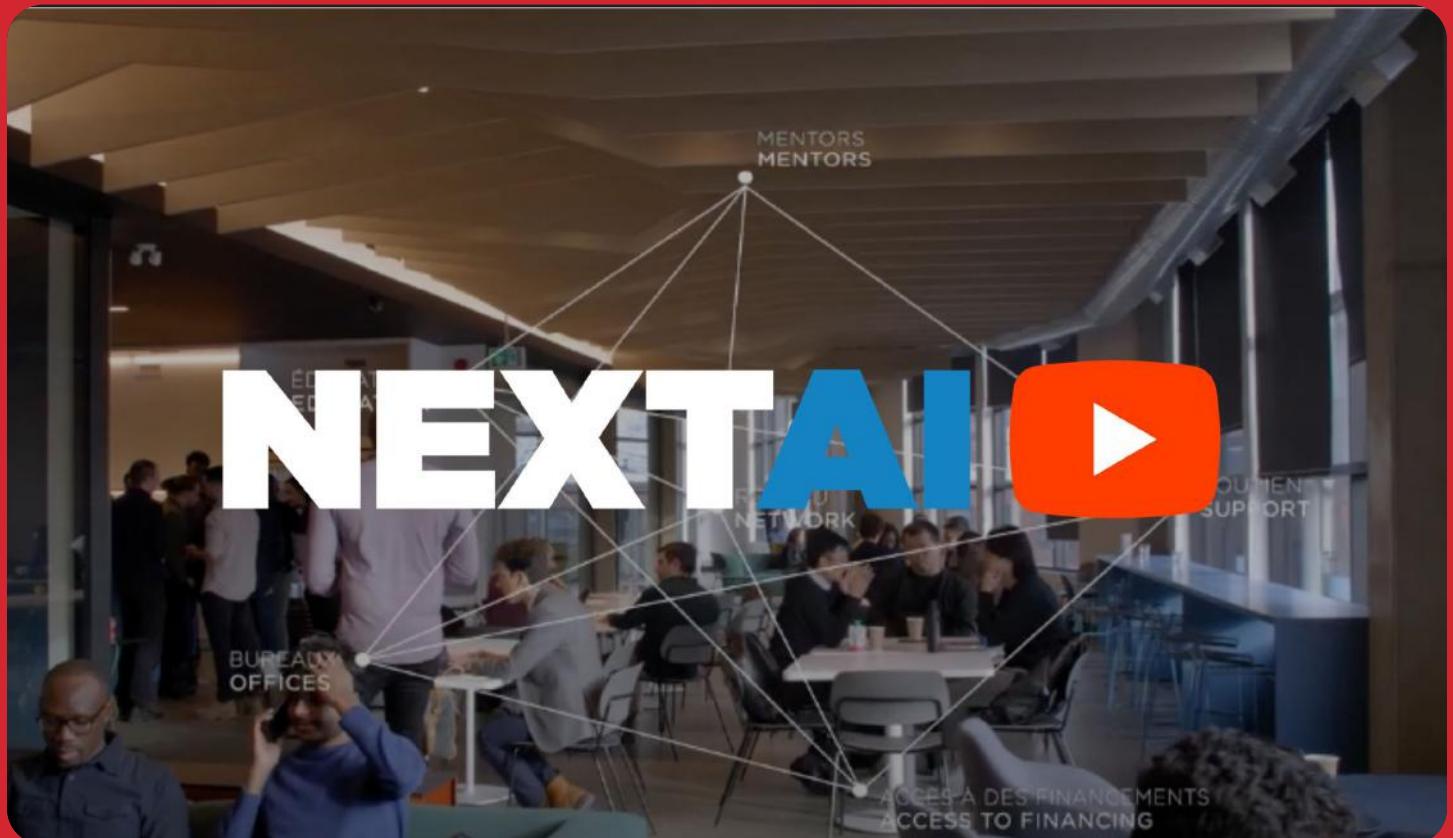


“

**MY FAVOURITE PART OF THE PROGRAM IS THE DAY TO DAY — CATCHING UP WITH OTHER FOUNDERS, DISCUSSING THEIR PROGRESS, AND TALKING THROUGH OURS AND THEIR CURRENT CHALLENGES. THE SAME GOES FOR THE NEXT TEAM; THE COMMUNITY AND TEAM MENTALITY SUPPORT HAS BY FAR BEEN THE HIGHLIGHT FOR ME.”**

**ANDREW SACCHETTI**

MIMIC



# 20 | AWARD 25 | WINNERS



**THE 2025 NEXT CANADA AWARDS** were presented at Venture Day held at MaRS Discovery District on August 15th, 2025, with the alumni awards presented at the Alumni Celebrations at the Eglinton Grand later the same evening. The award winners were also profiled in the Venture Booklet (linked above).



NEXT Canada

**THE SATCHU AWARD**

**Joe Noss**

NEXT AI, 2025

Selected from the Nanji Innovators by Reza Satchu, this award celebrates the outstanding entrepreneur who has demonstrated great potential to lead Canada's next generation of high-impact entrepreneurs.

NEXT Canada

**HATCH NEXT AI TOP ENTREPRENEUR AWARD:**

**Joe Noss**

NEXT AI, 2025

Nominated by their peers, this award celebrates the outstanding Next AI entrepreneur who has demonstrated great potential to lead Canada's next generation of high-impact entrepreneurs.

## **JOE NOSS**

**Publicus**

NEXT AI, 2025

**PUBLICUS** saves Canada's 35K government contractors time, money, and the headache of navigating public sector procurement. Our AI platform empowers contractors to identify, qualify, and respond to opportunities in 75% less time.

# 20 | AWARD 25 | WINNERS



NEXT Canada

## PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD

Succession AI

Voted by the audience on Venture Day, this award is a special recognition of the venture with the most outstanding pitch.

NEXT Canada

## EY WOMEN IN TECH AWARD

Avril Sun

This award celebrates the women in technology who are unstoppable entrepreneurs, shaping and advancing Canada's innovation economy and building a better working world. The award recognizes a high-potential female entrepreneur, building businesses within the tech community and supporting their peers.

## AVRIL SUN

Succession AI

NEXT 36, 2025

**SUCCESSIONAI** is tackling the Succession Planning Crisis by building AI agents that help sell small businesses through our proprietary succession planning toolstack and business marketplace.

NEXT Canada

## NEXT FOUNDERS TOP VENTURE AWARD

Cyder Inc.

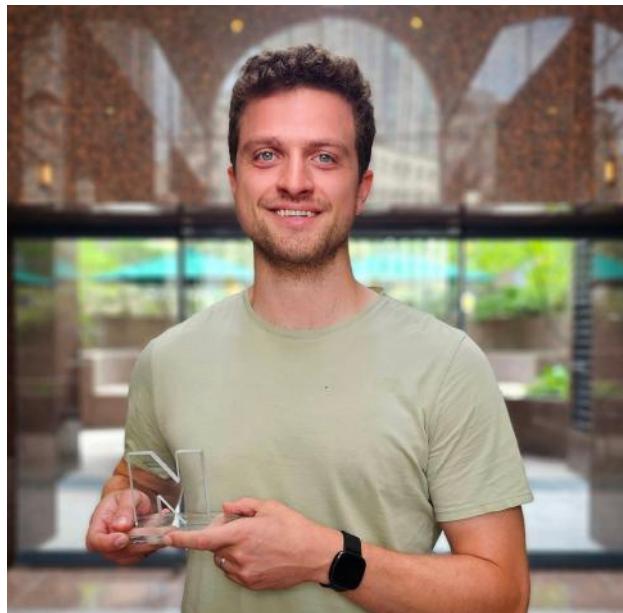
Nominated by their peers, this award celebrates the Next Founders venture that has experienced the most growth and success throughout the program.

## WILLIAM CHRISTODOULOU

Cyder Inc.

NEXT FOUNDERS, 2025

**CYDER** is a loyalty platform for Credit Unions. All the major banks have a platform, RBC (Avion), Scotia (Scene), TD (Aeroplan), CIBC (Aventura), BMO (Airmiles), however Credit Unions across north america do not have the resources or capacity to stand up their own internal platform. Cyder allows CUs to spin up their own loyalty program and retain and grow membership.





NEXT Canada

### THE HEPBURN VALEDICTORIAN

Thomas Tuchenhagen

Selected by their peers, this award acknowledges the individual who has elevated the program experience and has contributed the most value to the cohort.

## THOMAS TUCHENHAGEN

Atlas Appraiser Collective

NEXT 36, 2025

Of the 70,000 real estate appraisers who work in the US, 40,000 are about to retire. **ATLAS** upskills the remaining appraisers to fill the gap left by their predecessors.

NEXT Canada

### NEXT 36 OUTSTANDING ENTREPRENEUR AWARD

Kyle Stenberg

Nominated by their peers, this award celebrates the NEXT 36 entrepreneur who has experienced the most growth and success throughout the program.

## KYLE STENBERG

Icarus Sun Protection

NEXT 36, 2025

**ICARUS SUN PROTECTION** is a sunscreen brand with the goal of reducing skin cancer rates. We are currently targeting golfers by supplying private golf clubs with Canadian-made mineral sunscreen in a high-quality dispenser, which they provide to members as a free amenity.



NEXT Canada

### NEXT 36 OUTSTANDING VENTURE AWARD

CrashLabs AI Inc.

Nominated by their peers, this award celebrates the NEXT 36 venture that has experienced the most growth and success throughout the program.

## RYAN JUNEJO

CrashLabs AI Inc.

NEXT 36, 2025

**CRASHLABS AI** is an automated AI stress-testing platform that uncovers and addresses potential AI failures before they affect real users. By integrating seamlessly into existing workflows, it proactively identifies edge cases to ensure AI systems are more reliable, resilient, and ready for real-world deployment.



# 20 | AWARD 25 | WINNERS



NEXT Canada

## **NEXT FOUNDERS TOP ENTREPRENEUR AWARD**

**Nadia Ladak**

Nominated by their peers, this award celebrates the Next Founders entrepreneur who has experienced the most growth and success throughout the program.

## **NADIA LADAK**

**Marlow**

NEXT FOUNDERS, 2025

**MARLOW** is solving the gender pain gap starting with the first-ever lubricated tampon for smoother and more comfortable insertion.

It is the first-ever lubricated tampon, already received Health Canada/FDA approval, patented innovation.

NEXT Canada

## **HATCH NEXT AI TOP VENTURE AWARD**

**Xubin Aerospace Inc.**

Nominated by their peers, this award celebrates the outstanding Next AI venture that has demonstrated great potential to lead Canada's next generation of high-impact entrepreneurs.

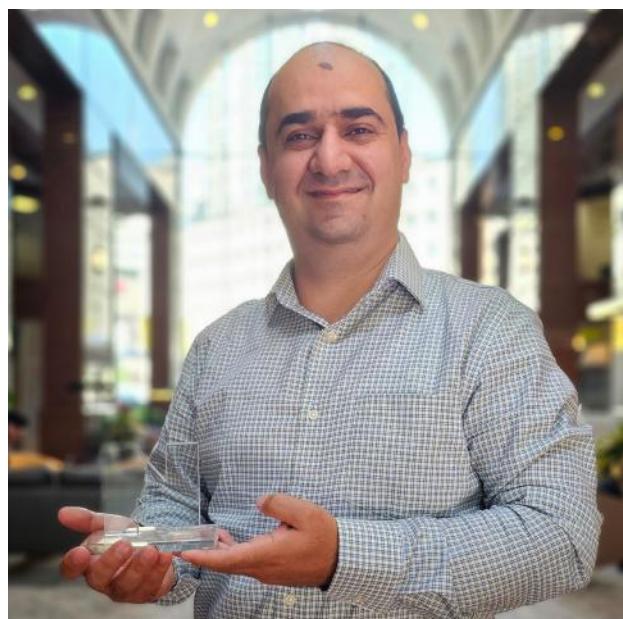
## **MOSTAFA NAJAFIYAZDI**

**Xubin Aerospace Inc.**

NEXT AI, 2025

**XUBIN AEROSPACE** focuses on leveraging cutting-edge technologies in aerospace, computer vision, AI, and optical hardware to develop Eagle Vision, a Counter Unmanned Aerial System (CUAS) detection system.

**HATCH**





NEXT AI MONTRÉAL

**2025 INNOVATION AWARD**

Marcelo Pedroza Hernandez

Offered by the **Ministère de l'Économie, de l'Innovation et de l'Énergie du Québec** to a company participating in the 2025 cohort of the NEXT AI Montréal program, for its economic impact and growth potential, and accompanied by a \$5,000 grant.

**READY PLAN GO**

Nima Jalalvandi & Marcelo Pedroza Hernandez

NEXT AI Montréal, 2025

NEXT AI MONTRÉAL

**AUDIENCE FAVORITE AWARD**

Parisa Golchoubian

Sponsored by **Draft & Goal** (NEXT AI Montréal alumni 2023).

**RETIDE**

Parisa Golchoubian & Reza Fazeli

NEXT AI Montréal, 2025



NEXT AI MONTRÉAL

**COMMUNITY PARTNERS AWARD**

Jean-François Djoufak

Presented by **Google Cloud**.

**MEDIRAI**

Alex Côté & Jean-François Djoufak

NEXT AI Montréal, 2025



# 20 | AWARD 25 | WINNERS

Named in honour of **CHIKO NANJI**, the CEO of Metro Supply Chain and NEXT Canada Board Member and donor, 'The Nanji Innovators' is a special recognition bestowed upon high-performing, talented individuals from the three cohorts – NEXT 36, NEXT AI and NEXT Founders.



**NADIA LADAK****Marlow**

NEXT FOUNDERS, 2025

**MARLOW** is solving the gender pain gap starting with the first-ever lubricated tampon for smoother and more comfortable insertion.

It is the first-ever lubricated tampon, already received Health Canada/FDA approval, patented innovation.

**JOE NOSS****Publicus**

NEXT AI, 2025

**PUBLICUS** saves Canada's 35K government contractors time, money, and the headache of navigating public sector procurement. Our AI platform empowers contractors to identify, qualify, and respond to opportunities in 75% less time.

**BRYN DAVIS WILLIAMS****DOUBL**

NEXT AI, 2025

**DOUBL** is reinventing apparel sizing by eliminating it altogether. We're a precision-fit AI platform that transforms a single smartphone scan into factory-ready, made-to-measure garment patterns – enabling brands to deliver custom-fit clothing without overhauling their supply chains.

**JOSH ROBINSON****DataCoach**

NEXT AI, 2025

**DATACOACH** offers personalized coaching for video games through AI. Gamers upload their gameplay and receive analytics and custom training plans to help them achieve their in game goals.

Josh Robinson, the Founder and CEO ranks in the top 0.2% skill distribution and is a paid coach.

**AVRIL SUN****Succession AI**

NEXT 36, 2025

**SUCCESSIONAI** is tackling the Succession Planning Crisis by building AI agents that help sell small businesses through our proprietary succession planning toolstack and business marketplace.

**KYLE STENBERG****Icarus Sun Protection**

NEXT 36, 2025

**ICARUS SUN PROTECTION** is a sun-screen brand with the goal of reducing skin cancer rates. We are currently targeting golfers by supplying private golf clubs with Canadian-made mineral sunscreen in a high-quality dispenser, which they provide to members as a free amenity.

NEXT Canada

**GEOFFREY TABER ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

Sameer Dhar

NEXT 36, 2014

This award recognizes the outstanding NEXT Canada alumnus' or alumnae's achievement and acknowledges their venture success. This award honours the late Geoffrey Taber, a Partner at Osler and a true champion, who was a true champion of entrepreneurship by way of his many contributions to NEXT Canada and to the Canadian tech community at large.



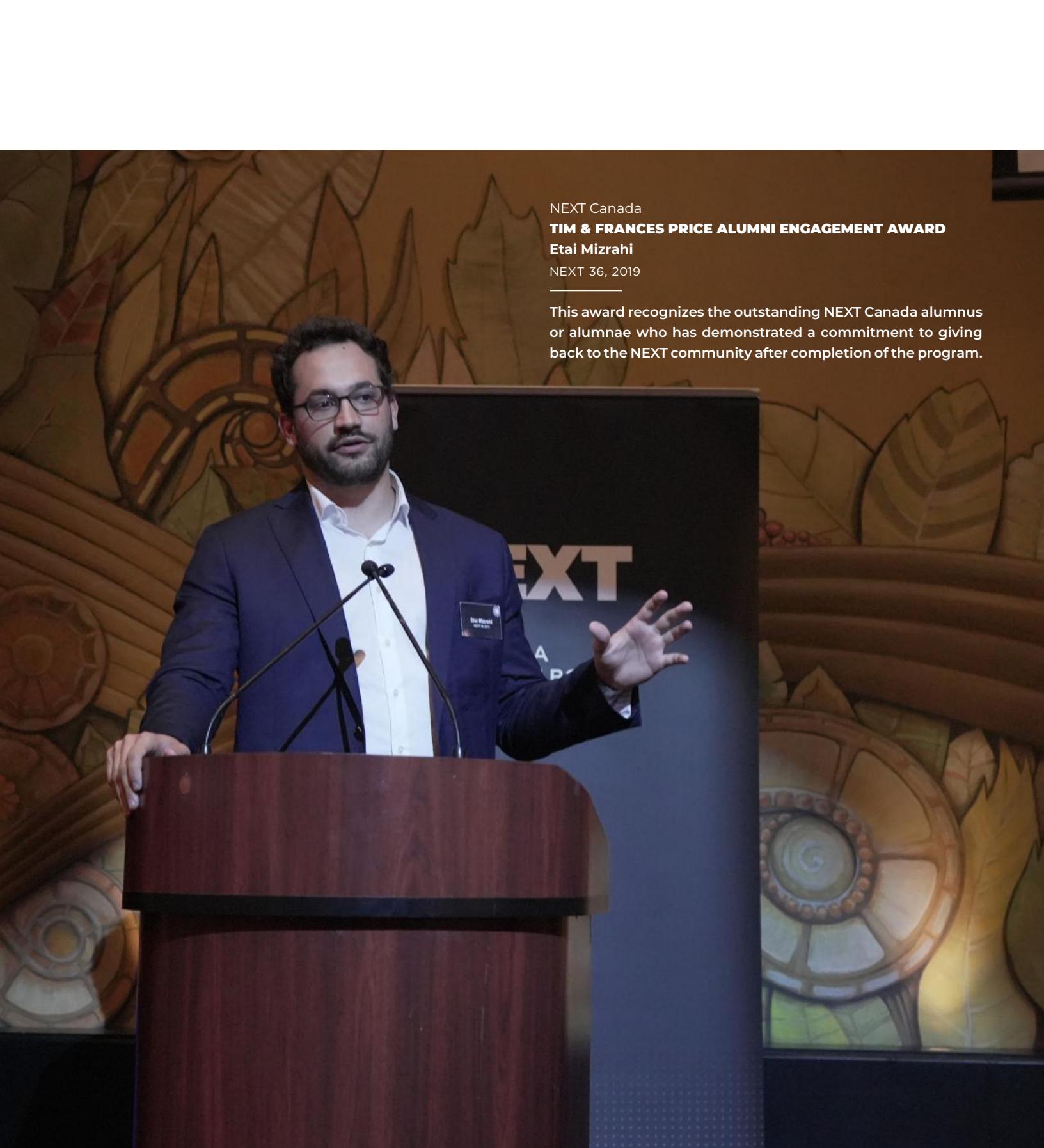
**SAMEER DHAR**

**Nia Health**

NEXT 36, 2014

**OSLER**

Osler, Hoskin  
& Harcourt LLP



NEXT Canada

**TIM & FRANCES PRICE ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT AWARD**

**Eti Mizrahi**

NEXT 36, 2019

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This award recognizes the outstanding NEXT Canada alumnus or alumnae who has demonstrated a commitment to giving back to the NEXT community after completion of the program.

## **ETAI MIZRAHI**

**Secoda**

NEXT 36, 2019

# NEXT CANADA MAKING HEADLINES

## OUR ALUMNI PLEDGED DONORS

Our alumni community continues to give back in powerful ways. Collectively, alumni have committed nearly \$1.5 million in pledged commitments over the next decade to support the upcoming generation of entrepreneurs—an extraordinary reflection of the



oct24 nov24 dec24 jan25 feb25 mar25

lasting impact of the NEXT experience. Through their generosity, leadership, and belief in paying it forward, these founders are helping ensure that future cohorts have access to the mentorship, capital, and community that shaped their own journeys. We are deeply grateful for the alumni featured below, whose continued support strengthens the NEXT Canada ecosystem (donations are detailed on page 43).

LEXI KAPLIN



MICHAEL HELANDER



KATE WALLACE

NIMA JALALVANDI



NIKITA TARAKANOV



ZAK LEFEVRE



DAN McCANN

MICHAEL SCHMIDT



LAUREN LAKE



RAVINA ANAND



STEVEN HEIDEL



STEVEN WELLMAN



PAUL SHENOUDA



RAFAL DITTWALD



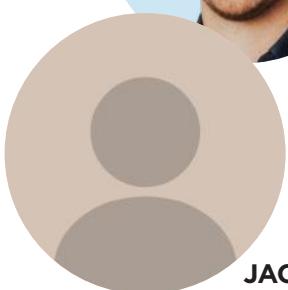
YILUN ZHANG



IAN BURGESS



ANDREW LAWRENCE



JACKSON AXLE

# **PARTNERS & DONORS HIGHLIGHTS:**

**WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL** to our donors and partners for their support. It is through their generosity of that we are able to make such a significant contribution to the Canadian economy through entrepreneurship.



**NANCY LOCKHART**  
Former Board Chair, Royal Ontario Museum

**NANCY LOCKHART** is a long-time champion of Canadian culture, education, and entrepreneurship. Her leadership and generosity have supported countless organizations, and her commitment to fostering innovation – especially among women founders – has made a lasting impact on the NEXT Canada community.

Over the years, Nancy has been an extraordinary supporter of NEXT, including a remarkable \$100,000 gift this year that reinforces her belief in the power of entrepreneurship to strengthen Canada's future. She has also graciously hosted NEXT's signature garden parties, bringing together donors, founders, and partners in the warm, inclusive way she's known for.

We are deeply grateful for Nancy's leadership, philanthropy, and the encouragement she continues to offer to the next generation of Canadian innovators.

## PARTNERS & DONORS HIGHLIGHTS:



### NIMA JALALVANDI

**CEO, Ready Plan Go**  
**NEXT AI Montréal Alum, 2025**

**NIMA JALALVANDI** exemplifies the spirit of NEXT Canada's alumni community – innovative, driven, and committed to giving back. As CEO of Ready Plan Go and a graduate of the 2025 NEXT AI Montréal cohort, Nima has continued to scale his venture while remaining deeply engaged with the NEXT ecosystem.

This year, Nima made a generous pledge of \$25,000 over five years to support future founders. His commitment reflects the impact the program has had on his own entrepreneurial journey and sets an inspiring example for fellow alumni. By choosing to invest in NEXT Canada, he is helping ensure that the next generation of entrepreneurs has access to the same mentorship, community, and opportunities that shaped his path.



## ALIM SOMANI

Managing Director, Digital, Hatch

**ALIM SOMANI** has been a driving force behind the strong and growing partnership between Hatch and NEXT Canada. As Managing Director of Digital, he has championed innovation within Hatch while helping deepen the company's connection to Canada's founder community.

This year, Alim played a key role in securing Hatch's renewed commitment of support over the next 3 years – building on their previous term and reinforcing Hatch's belief in NEXT's mission. His steady support, guidance, and advocacy have made him an invaluable partner throughout our multi-year relationship.

Alim has also helped create greater day-to-day collaboration between the two organizations. Hatch now uses 8-10 dedicated desks in the NEXT Canada office, allowing their team to work alongside founders and staff, sparking more ideas, conversations, and shared learning.

We are grateful for Alim's leadership, his generosity of time, and the genuine enthusiasm he brings to supporting Canada's next generation of innovators.

# NEXT CANADA

CELEBRATING  
15 YEARS  
OF IMPACT

PHOTOBOOTH FROM SNAPTOQUE





# PARTNERS & DONORS

## FOUNDING PATRONS

With immense gratitude, we would like to recognize our Founding Patrons, whose visionary gifts in 2010 created a cascade of generosity from individuals, corporations, foundations and governments. It is through their support that we continue to uncover Canada's next generation of entrepreneurs.  
(Click on the images below to read more)



PAUL DESMARAIS SR,  
PC OC OQ



JIMMY PATTISON,  
OC OBC



W. GALEN WESTON,  
OC OVC OONT

## PLEDGED SUPPORTERS

NEXT Canada has been able to provide a transformative experience to young innovators due in large part to the generosity of our supporters.  
With great thanks, we recognize our valued multi-year supporters who have made pledged commitment to NEXT Canada in FY25 (Sept. 1, 2025 – Aug. 31, 2025), or previous to this, and any new contributions/pledged received up until December 31 2026 (FY26):

### TRANSFORMATIONAL (\$2,500,000+)



TIM & FRANCES  
PRICE

### VISIONARY (\$1,000,000 - \$2,499,999)



POWER CORPORATION  
OF CANADA

REZA SATCHU &  
MARION ANNAU

ANONYMOUS

### PILLAR (\$500,000 - \$999,000)



Osler, Hoskin  
& Harcourt LLP

SOM SEIF

ANONYMOUS

### INNOVATOR (\$250,000 - \$499,999)



KLASS  
FOUNDATION



MORGAN WYATT

### LEADER (\$75,000 - \$149,999)



AIR CANADA



NANCY  
LOCKHART



STEVEN  
WELLMAN

ANONYMOUS

---

**BUILDER (\$50,000 - \$74,999)**

HENRY SHI  
MICHAEL HELANDER

MIKE MURCHISON  
NICOLA SAHAR

RONEN BENIN  
THE HUSSEIN & SALIMA JAMAL  
FOUNDATION

---

**BUILDER (\$25,000 - \$49,999)**

ASCENDANCE FOUNDRY  
DAN McCANN  
ELENA SAHAKYAN

EMILIE CUSHMAN  
IAN BURGESS  
JOSH DOMINGUES

KATE WALLACE & BLAKE CHASEN  
NIMA JALAVANDI  
THE NADIR & SHABIN MOHAMED  
FOUNDATION

---

**BUILDER (\$5,000 - \$24,999)**

AJAY AGRAWAL  
ALLEN & EVA LAU  
BRYAN ALTMAN  
DANIEL RODIC

DARIAN ZIGANTE  
JOSHUA LIU  
KYLE J. WINTERS  
LAUREN LAKE

MARYAM NABAVI &  
MOHAMMAD ZEIDI  
NIKITA TARAKANOV  
NOEL WEBB

PAUL SHENOUDA  
RAVINA ANAND  
YILUN ZHANG  
ZAK LEFEVRE

**F25 SINGLE YEAR SUPPORTERS**

NEXT Canada is pleased to recognize the valuable contributions made by the following contributors in our FY25 (September 1, 2024 – August 31, 2025) and any new contributions received up until December 31, 2025 (F26)

**\$10,000 - \$50,000**

RUSTOM SATCHU

THE FINKELSTEIN FAMILY  
FOUNDATION

**\$5,000 - \$9,999**

DAVID & TASHA RAWLINGS  
LEXI KAPLIN

LAUREN LONG  
TELUS (IN MEMORY OF  
NADIR MOHAMED)

THE CANNONBURY FOUNDATION  
COLLEEN McMORROW &  
BRIAN BAKER

**\$1,000 - \$4,999**

RICHTER CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

AMY & JEFF BARYSHNIK

EVE STASZCZYSZYN

**- \$999**

BRADEN REAM  
HEATHER GREGSON

LESLEY McCARROLL  
RAFAL DITTWALD

ZACHARY LEVY

**RETURN ON ACADEMIC PROGRAMMING**

OPEN SESAME (JAI MANSUKHANI & ANTHONY AZRAK), NEXT 36, 2024 (F26 BUDGET)

We are grateful for the generosity from all of our supporters and strive for accuracy in our listings. If you have any questions about the lists or would like to speak to our Development Department for more information about giving to NEXT Canada, please contact us.  
Updated: January 7, 2026

# LEADERSHIP VOLUNTEERS

**NEXT CANADA IS PROUD** to have a team of dedicated and experienced leaders who are committed to fostering entrepreneurship in Canada. Our Co-Founders, Board of Directors, and Emeritus Board of Advisors bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to our organization.

## CO-FOUNDERS



AJAY AGRAWAL



CLAUDIA HEPBURN



REZA SATCHE

Our Co-Founders, Ajay Agrawal, Claudia Hepburn, and Reza Satchu, a group of pioneering business leaders and entrepreneurs, have been vital in the success of our organization. Their support has enabled us to provide unparalleled educational opportunities to Canada's most promising entrepreneurs.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS



REZA SATCHE  
(CO-CHAIR)



JOSH DOMINGUES  
(CO-CHAIR)



AJAY AGRAWAL



AMY BARYSHNIK



MALLORIE BRODIE  
(OBSERVER)



IAN BURGESS



EMILIE CUSHMAN



LAUREN LAKE



COLLEEN McMORROW



CHIKO NANJI



SANDRA ODENDAHL



MICHEL PATRY



TIM PRICE



BRADEN REAM



SOM SEIF

NEXT Canada's Board of Directors, led by Founding Chairman and Co-Chair Reza Satchu, Managing Partner of Alignvest Management Corp., comprises experienced business leaders, entrepreneurs, and academics. They provide strategic guidance and oversight to ensure we deliver the best possible programs for our entrepreneurs.

## EMERITUS BOARD OF ADVISORS



PAUL DESMARAIS III



CHARLES FIELD-MARSHAM



JACQUI ALLARD



KEVIN SULLIVAN



JULIE DI LORENZO



JOHN KELLEHER

The Emeritus Board is chaired by Paul Desmarais III, Vice-President of Power Corporation of Canada, plays a vital role in providing strategic guidance and support to the organization, helping to shape the future of NEXT Canada and its mission to foster lifelong entrepreneurship.

Statement of Operations and Changes in Net Assets for the year ended August 31, 2025.

REVENUE	2025	2024
<b>Donations</b>	<b>\$1,449,401</b>	\$1,357,425
<b>Sponsorships</b>	<b>\$510,734</b>	\$508,333
<b>Grants</b>	<b>\$104,172</b>	\$200,406
<b>Interest Income</b>	<b>\$116,466</b>	\$152,857
<b>Return on Educational Programming</b>	<b>\$1,935</b>	\$11,981
<b>Amortization of Deferred Capital Contribution</b>	<b>\$5,992</b>	\$53,642
<b>Other Income</b>	<b>\$49,934</b>	\$18,896
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$2,238,634</b>	\$2,303,540
	<b>\$2,238,634</b>	<b>\$2,303,540</b>
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>		
<b>Staff and Contractors</b>	<b>\$1,255,011</b>	\$1,072,201
<b>Educational Programming</b>	<b>\$552,903</b>	\$699,774
<b>Administration</b>	<b>\$628,939</b>	\$596,609
<b>Marketing</b>	<b>\$5,409</b>	\$24,075
<b>Fundraising</b>	<b>\$18,568</b>	\$17,863
<b>Amortization</b>	<b>\$70,564</b>	\$62,531
	<b>\$2,531,394</b>	<b>\$2,473,053</b>
<b>Excess (deficiency) of Revenue Over Expenses for the Year</b>	<b>(\$292,760)</b>	(\$169,513)
<b>Unrestricted Net Assets - Beginning of Year</b>	<b>\$3,559,914</b>	\$3,729,427
<b>Unrestricted Net Assets - End of Year</b>	<b>\$3,267,154</b>	<b>\$3,559,914</b>

The summary financial information above is derived from the audited financial statements of NEXT Canada for the year ended August 31, 2025. The complete audited financial statements, including the related notes to the financial statements and auditors report thereon are available on request from [julie.vankessel@nextcanada.com](mailto:julie.vankessel@nextcanada.com).

## F25 FINANCIAL NOTES

Comparative figures have been changed to comply with the current year's financial statement presentation.

Other income includes fees from alumni for utilizing office space.

*This financial report reflects the activities of NEXT Canada. The NEXT AI Montréal program is managed separately by HEC.*

## GOVERNANCE NOTES

*Conflicts of interest have been declared with respect to a board member who is currently a contractor at Brainmaven (which provides academic consulting services to NEXT Canada). The board is mindful of this conflict and abstentions are exercised when appropriate and necessary.*

## MEET THE TALENTED TEAMS DRIVING NEXT CANADA'S MISSION FORWARD.

This page highlights the individuals whose dedication and expertise fuel our impact in both **TORONTO** and **MONTRÉAL**.



**JULIE VAN KESSEL**

*DIRECTOR OF FINANCE &  
OPERATIONS, NEXT CANADA*



**KYLE J. WINTERS**

*CEO, NEXT CANADA*



**RAPHAELLE  
D'AMOURS**

*LOGISTICS AGENT,  
NEXT AI, MONTRÉAL*



**CLARA BELGHAZI**

*LEAD OPERATIONS,  
NEXT AI, MONTRÉAL*



**TAREK AL SHAWA**

*VENTURE MANAGER,  
NEXT AI, MONTRÉAL*



**JASKARAN CHAUHAN**

*MANAGER OF STEWARDSHIP &  
OFFICE OF THE CEO, NEXT CANADA*



**ENG C. LAU**

*ART DIRECTOR, NEXT CANADA*



**ALEXANDRA  
McGREGOR**

*CHIEF PROGRAMS OFFICER,  
NEXT CANADA*



**KRISHA DAVE**

*PROGRAMS INTERN, NEXT CANADA*



**KAI RONCERIA**

*MARKETING COORDINATOR,  
NEXT CANADA*



**MAUD  
RAZAFINDRAMBOA**

*DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS,  
NEXT AI, MONTRÉAL*



**WILLIAM CHEN**

*PROGRAMS INTERN, NEXT CANADA*



**MISCHA HAMARA**  
DIRECTOR OF FOUNDER SUCCESS,  
NEXT CANADA



**BRIAN KING**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,  
NEXT AI, MONTREAL



**KIARA VILCHEZ**  
COMMUNITY MANAGER,  
NEXT AI, MONTREAL



**JOGRAL JEAN**  
SENIOR VENTURE MANAGER,  
NEXT AI, MONTREAL



**ANYA ABCHICHE**  
VENTURE MANAGER,  
NEXT AI, MONTREAL



**MARYAM NABAVI**  
VENTURE MANAGER (CONTRACT),  
NEXT CANADA



**STEPHANIA  
STEFANAKOU**  
SENIOR VENTURE MANAGER,  
NEXT CANADA



**SAMUEL PIERRE-GILLES**  
VENTURE MANAGER,  
NEXT AI, MONTREAL



**NYLAN RAUFASTE**  
COMMUNITY MANAGER,  
NEXT AI, MONTREAL



**RAFAL DITTWALD**  
IT & DIGITAL SECURITY CONSULTANT,  
NEXT CANADA



**BRENDA MINIACI**  
LOGISTICS AGENT,  
NEXT AI, MONTREAL



**CAMILLE PETIT**  
OPERATIONS INTERN,  
NEXT AI, MONTREAL

# NEXT CANADA NETWORK

**THANK YOU TO THE INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANIZATIONS** that gave their time and energy in support NEXT Canada and the 2025 cohort.

## FACULTY

Prof. Ajay Agrawal	David Emerson	Rob Khazzam	Fion Lee-Madan
Prof. Angel Chang	David Jamieson	Rob Snyder	Irene de Gooyer-Collins
Prof. Avni Shah	David Steinley	Ronen Benin	Jaclyn Ling
Prof. Erin Scott	Etai Mizrahi	Sam Ip	Jannine Krish
Prof. Frank Hutter	Ethan Jackson	Sanjil Shah	Jason Deglint
Prof. Graham Taylor	Eva Lau	Shawn Chance	Jean Amiouny
Prof. Kristina Kupferschmidt	Ferial Fekri	Shivon Zilis	Jennifer Daly
Prof. Marc Busch	Grant Wallace		Joshua Liu
Prof. Reza Satchu	Griffin Lacey		Julia Krouac
Prof. Shai Bernstein	Gui Laliberte		Julie Topp
	Henry Shi	Aditya Challapally	Kate Grant
	Irene de Gooyer-Collins	Alex Norman	KB Brinkley
	Jason Greenspan	Alexander Barclay	Lauren Arnold

## SCIENTISTS

### IN RESIDENCE

Aditya Jain	Jeff Bussgang	Ali Asaria	Lauren DeSouza
Erik Peterson	JN Delage	Amar Varma	Lauren Epstein
Spandana Chereddy	John Ruffolo	Ardalan Benam	Leslie Jamison
	Josh Domingues	Arron Lin	Lexi Kaplin
	Kevin Hill	Ben Yoskovitz	Matt Roberts
	Lauren Lake	Brendan Callaghan	Matt Schmidt
	Lexi Kaplin	Bryan Altman	Matthew Lombardi

## ENTREPRENEURS

### IN RESIDENCE

Daniel Benin	Mallorie Brodie	Craig Follett	Matthew Saunders
Janice Sousa	Marie Chevrier-Schwartz	Daniel Mulet	Michael Warshafsky
	Maryam Nabavi	Daniel Nieto	Michelle McBane
	Matt Roberts	Daniel Rodic	Mike McCarron
	Matthew Leibowitz	Danielle Graham	Nima Ayat

## GUEST SPEAKERS

Aditya Challapally	Mike Silagadze	David Jamieson	Omer Dor
Amy Baryshnik	Naren Shaam	David McPherson	Randy Frisch
Benjamin Yoskovitz	Nick Beam	Devon MacMurray	Richard Zuroff
Braden Ream	Omer Dor	Dwayne Forde	Sameer Dhar
Brice Scheschuk	Peter Carresica	Elena Sahakyan	Sarah Willson
Daniel Rodic	Prashant Matta	Fil Varino	Snita Balsara
	Rajen Ruparell	Filip Stoj	Tom Lowden



**ALUMNI ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Tricia Jose  
Tyler Handley  
Will Ma  
Zak Lefevre  
  
Aileen Agada  
Darian Zigante  
Daniel Rodic  
Henry Shi  
Julia Peng  
Katya Kudashkina  
Lexi Kaplin

Lauren DeSouza  
Michael Murchison  
Mariam Awara  
Morgan Wyatt  
Nadeem Nathoo  
Nuha Siddiqui  
Rafal Dittwald  
Ravina Anand  
Sokmean Nou

**NEXT CANADA STAFF**

Kyle J Winters  
Alexandra McGregor  
Julie van Kessel  
Mischa Hamara  
Stephania Stefanakou  
Fletcher McLaughlin  
Jaskaran Chauhan  
Eng C. Lau  
Rafal Dittwald  
Kai Ronceria  
Krisha Dave  
William Chen

**NEXT AI - MONTRÉAL STAFF**

Brian King  
Jogral Jean  
Maud Razafindramboa  
Tarek Al Shawa  
Kiara Vilchez  
Clara Belghazi  
Raphaelle D'Amours  
Brenda Miniaci  
Anya Abchiche  
Nylan Raufaste  
Samuel Pierre-Gilles  
Camille Petit



# NEXT CANADA

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NEXT AI – MONTRÉAL, 6795 RUE MARCONI BUREAU 200, MONTRÉAL, QUÉBEC H2S 3J9

[INFO@NEXTCANADA.COM](mailto:INFO@NEXTCANADA.COM) | [WWW.NEXTCANADA.COM](http://WWW.NEXTCANADA.COM)  
CHARITABLE REGISTRATION #: 81519 8403 RR0001