

NEXTCANADA

VENTURE DAY

08.14.2025

A MESSAGE FROM KYLE J. WINTERS CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, NEXT CANADA



IT'S A PLEASURE TO WELCOME YOU to NEXT Canada's 15th annual Venture Day — a celebration of Canadian entrepreneurial ambition, ingenuity, and impact.

For the past 15 years, NEXT Canada has played a meaningful role in shaping the future of our economy by identifying and accelerating some of the country's most promising entrepreneurs. Our mission has always been clear: to increase Canada's prosperity by investing in exceptional individuals with the drive to build game-changing ventures. Today, more than ever, we're proud of the outcomes. Our alumni have created thousands of jobs, raised billions in capital, and contributed lasting innovations across sectors. That impact is real — and it's only growing.

This year, our three national cohorts — NEXT 36, NEXT AI (Toronto and Montréal/Virtual), and NEXT Founders — have once again demonstrated the depth of talent that exists across this country. These founders are tackling hard problems and building scalable solutions, many rooted in applied AI and advanced technologies. Their resilience, ambition, and ability to execute have impressed us from the very start, and we're thrilled to introduce you to them today.

Venture Day is your chance to get to know the ventures — and the visionary minds behind them. We encourage you to explore their profiles, watch their virtual pitches, and follow the links provided to learn more or make direct connections. These are leaders you'll want to know.

We'll be refreshing this virtual event program on September 30, two weeks after our Demo Day in Montréal, to include final updates from our NEXT AI Montréal and virtual cohorts. Be sure to check back then for the latest insights into their journeys.

As a registered charity, NEXT Canada exists because of the generous support of our donors, advisors, and partners. If you're inspired by what you see here and want to contribute — whether through philanthropy, mentorship, or collaboration — I would love to hear from you. Likewise, if you have ideas on how we can continue to improve our programs and grow our impact, please don't hesitate to reach out to me directly.

Thank you for joining us in celebrating 15 years of bold innovation and Canadian entrepreneurship. Welcome to Venture Day.

Warm regards,

Kyle J. Winters

Chief Executive Officer
NEXT Canada

A MESSAGE FROM PROFESSOR BRIAN KING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, NEXT AI MONTRÉAL / VIRTUAL COHORT



Warm regards,

Professor Brian King
Executive Director, NEXT AI
Montréal / Virtual Cohort
HEC Montréal

WELCOME, AND THANK YOU FOR JOINING US in celebrating this year's Venture Day. As a faculty member at HEC Montréal, I have the privilege of leading the NEXT AI Montréal program and serving as the key conduit between HEC — which houses the NEXT AI Montréal and Virtual cohort — and NEXT Canada.

Each year, the reach and impact of this program continue to grow — and 2025 has been our most ambitious and wide-reaching cohort yet. Founders have joined us virtually from every corner of the country, logging in to participate in world-class programming, mentorship, and AI-focused training designed to help them compete at the highest level. This national footprint, combined with our deep roots in the Montréal tech ecosystem, gives our program a unique energy — one that blends local strength with global ambition.

NEXT AI plays a central role in Montréal's vibrant innovation community — a city that continues to be recognized globally as a hub for AI research and commercialization. We're proud to contribute to that ecosystem by supporting founders who are building impactful ventures and advancing real-world applications of artificial intelligence.

While Venture Day offers a look into much of our national programming, the NEXT AI Montréal and Virtual cohort will mark the culmination of their journey at Demo Day on September 23 in Montréal. We would be thrilled to have you join us in person for what promises to be a dynamic and inspiring day. The digital booklet you're reading now will be updated and redistributed virtually on that date to include all participants from this year's Montréal and Virtual cohort — we hope you'll take a moment to revisit it then.

I'd also like to extend my deepest thanks to Maud Razafindramboa, our Director of Operations, whose leadership, dedication, and attention to detail have shaped every element of the participant experience. Her work ensures that founders feel supported, empowered, and connected — no matter where they are across Canada.

To our partners, mentors, and the broader NEXT community — thank you for your continued belief in our mission. And to the founders featured in this booklet: we are incredibly proud of what you've accomplished and can't wait to see what's next.

NEXT CANADA TEAM



Kyle J. Winters
Chief Executive Officer,
NEXT Canada



ALEXANDRA MCGREGOR
Chief Program Officer,
NEXT Canada



JULIE VAN KESSEL
Director of Finance and
Operations, NEXT Canada



MISCHA HAMARA
Director of Founder
Success, NEXT Canada



STEPHANIA STEFANAKOU
Senior Venture Manager,
NEXT Canada



FLETCHER MCLAUGHLIN
Program Manager,
NEXT Canada



JASKARAN CHAUHAN
Manager of Stewardship and
Office of the CEO, NEXT Canada



ENG C LAU
Design Director (Consultant),
NEXT Canada



KAI RONCERIA
Marketing Coordinator
(Contract), NEXT Canada



DAN MCCANN
Alumni Engagement Advisor
to the CEO (contract),
NEXT Canada



MARYAM MABAVI
Venture Manager,
(Contract), NEXT Canada



RAFAL DITTWALD
IT and Digital Security
Consultant, NEXT Canada



WILLIAM CHEN
Summer Intern 2025,
NEXT Canada



KRISHA DAVE
Summer Intern 2025,
NEXT Canada

NEXT AI MONTRÉAL TEAM



BRIAN KING
Executive Director,
Next AI – Montréal



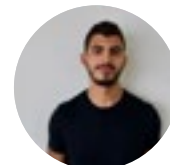
MAUD RAZAFINDRAMBOA
Director of Operations,
Next AI – Montréal



CLARA BELGHAZI
Lead – Operations,
Next AI – Montréal



JOGRAL JEAN
Senior Venture Manager,
Next AI – Montréal



TAREK AL SHAWA
Venture Manager,
Next AI – Montréal



SAMUEL PIERRE-GILLES
Venture Manager,
Next AI – Montréal



ANYA ABCHICHE
Venture Manager,
Next AI – Montréal



BRENDA MINIACI
Agente logistique,
HEC Montréal –
École des Dirigeants



RAPHAËLLE D'AMOURS
Agente logistique,
HEC Montréal –
École des Dirigeants



NYLAN RAUFASTE
Community Manager
Next AI – Montréal



KIARA VILCHEZ
Community Manager
Next AI – Montréal



CAMILLE PETIT
Operations Intern
Next AI – Montréal

IMPACT TO DATE

1,300
GRADUATES

700
VENTURES LAUNCHED

\$5.7B
CAPITAL RAISED

30+
INDUSTRIES

5,000+
JOBS CREATED

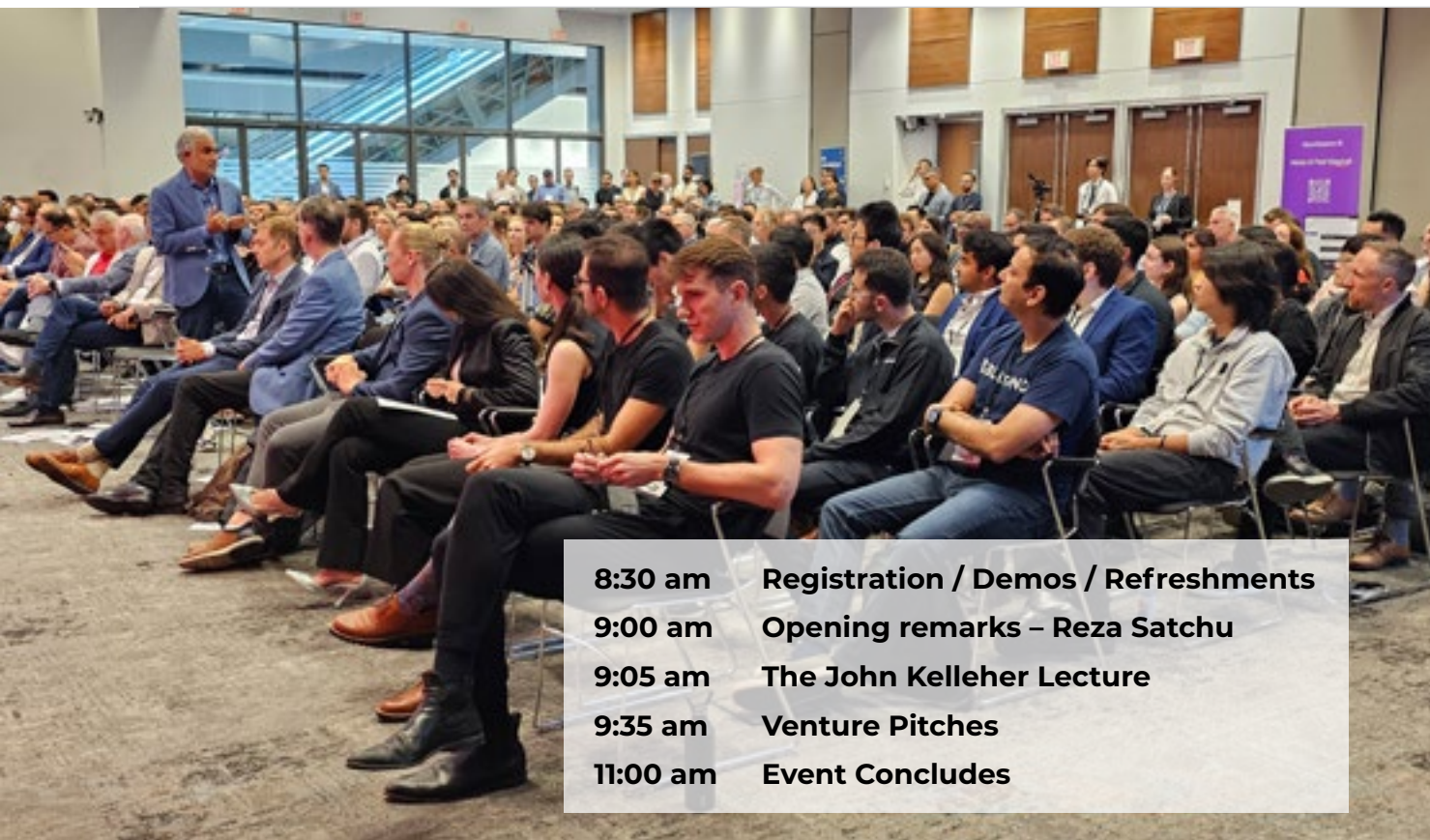




VENTURE DAY AGENDA



WE ARE doing what others thought was impossible.
WE ARE increasing Canadian competitiveness.
WE ARE making this country more prosperous.
WE ARE changing the face of the Canadian economy.



8:30 am **Registration / Demos / Refreshments**
9:00 am **Opening remarks – Reza Satchu**
9:05 am **The John Kelleher Lecture**
9:35 am **Venture Pitches**
11:00 am **Event Concludes**

THE JOHN KELLEHER LECTURE

In recognition of John Kelleher's unwavering support, visionary leadership, and enduring legacy, this annual thought leadership event stands as a testament to his impact. It serves as a dynamic platform for bold ideas and meaningful dialogue, featuring internationally renowned business leaders who continue to inspire and challenge the next generation of innovators.





John Kelleher

Managing Partner and
Global Head of Portfolio
Operations, CVC

JOHN KELLEHER IS A MANAGING PARTNER and Global Head of Portfolio Operations at CVC, a leading private markets firm with over €200 billion in AUM. He heads a global team that partners with CEOs across 150 companies to drive value through operational excellence and next-gen levers such as AI, cybersecurity, talent, and sustainability.

With experience leading more than 75 corporate transformations, John has held roles as a PE-backed CEO, PE investor, board director, Chief Transformation Officer, and operating partner across industries including aerospace, technology, consumer, healthcare, media, financial services, and industrials.

Before joining CVC, he was a Senior Partner and Global OpCo member at McKinsey RTS, where he served as an interim CEO, CXO, and Chief Transformation Officer, and co-led McKinsey's sponsor-backed portfolio company work globally. He also co-founded Private Equity CEO Alpha with Harvard Business School, the first global executive education program to train private equity CEOs for peak performance.

John previously served as CEO of several PE-backed firms, was a senior member of the PE operations group at Brookfield Asset Management and co-founded a middle-market PE firm. Earlier he worked at Goldman Sachs in New York.

He holds an Honors BA from Western University's Ivey School of Business (Gold Medalist), a Master in Public Administration from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard, and an MBA with Distinction from Harvard Business School.

PANELISTS



Nick Beim

Partner, Venrock

Nick is a Partner at Venrock, where he invests in artificial intelligence, fintech, and defense, backing companies such as Altruist, Dataminr, and Interos. He previously served as a Partner at Matrix Partners and worked in technology at McKinsey and Goldman Sachs. Passionate about global impact, he sits on the boards of the Council on Foreign Relations and Endeavor, and advises leading policy and competitiveness initiatives. Nick holds a Philosophy degree from Stanford and an M.Phil. in International Relations from Oxford.



Mallorie Brodie

CEO & Co-Founder, Bridgit

Mallorie Brodie is the CEO and co-founder of Bridgit, a Canadian construction-tech company she launched in 2012 (alongside Lauren Lake) to bring a people-first approach to workforce planning in the construction industry. Under her leadership, Bridgit's flagship product – Bridgit Bench – became a leading workforce intelligence solution. Brodie has earned recognition on Forbes' 30 Under 30, Best of Canada Forbes Under 30 Innovators, and Top 40 Under 40 in Canadian Construction lists, as Bridgit consistently ranks among Canada's fastest-growing companies.



Matt Roberts

Managing Director, VC Coverage, RBCX

Matt Roberts is the Managing Director of Venture Capital (VC) Coverage at RBCx, where he leads national engagement with venture funds across Canada. With over two decades of VC experience, Matt previously co-founded CMD Capital and served as Partner and General Partner at ScaleUP Ventures, investing in companies such as Sonder, Solink, Rewind, and Unsplash. Earlier in his career, he led tech investing at BDC Capital's IT Venture Fund and helped raise Seed and Series A funding for GaN Systems, which was acquired by Infineon in 2023.

PRESENTING VENTURES

2025

PRESENTING VENTURES



RYAN JUNEJO
CrashLabs AI Inc.

NEXT 36

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.



HANA RAHILI
Xpress Select

NEXT 36

Xpress Select is a pre-seed B2B SaaS company revolutionizing pharmacy operations by streamlining workflows and enhancing patient satisfaction. Our platform offers OTC recommendations and clinical services, including minor ailment prescribing, through in-pharmacy kiosks and QR codes, reducing administrative burdens for pharmacists.



AVRIL SUN
Succession AI

NEXT 36

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

PRESENTING VENTURES



JACK FEJER
CORDAX

NEXT 36

CORDAX is an AI-driven SaaS platform that automates the routing of mechanical, electrical, and plumbing (MEP) systems from 2D architectural drawings using mathematical optimization and machine learning. It generates collision-free ductwork, piping, and conduit layouts in minutes. This reduces material waste and rework while accelerating project timelines. CORDAX eliminates manual drafting bottlenecks and cuts MEP design costs.



ADNAN SHARIF
Lyrata Inc.

NEXT 36

Lyrata Inc. is revolutionizing hydroponic agriculture with SmartSoil, a biodegradable, recyclable grow-media ("grow-media") that drastically reduces carbon emissions. Unlike traditional grow-media like rockwool, which emit up to 2400 kg-CO₂e per ton, SmartSoil reduces this by up to 65 times. By engineering biopolymers and low-heat manufacturing, SmartSoil is positioned as the next-generation gold-standard standard for hydroponic farming grow-media [1].



JOE NOSS
Publicus

NEXT AI

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.

PRESENTING VENTURES



MOSTAFA NAJAFIYAZDI
Xubin Aerospace Inc.

NEXT AI

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.



AMJED KHADIM
Pippen AI

NEXT AI

Pippen AI solves the paperwork problem that family doctors face by automating charting, referrals, billing, and more.



RON GALEV
EmergConnect Inc.

NEXT AI

EmergConnect is a digital health company changing the way people think about same-day care with a fully integrated end-to-end patient, nursing and administrator platform for at-home and in-ed patient self-assessment, registration and individualized wait time predictions.

PRESENTING VENTURES



WILLIAM CHRISTODOULOU
Cyder Inc.

NEXT FOUNDERS

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.



JOSH GUTTMAN
SELLIT9

NEXT FOUNDERS

SELLIT9 is the software layer for trade-ins. We turn used household items into instant liquidity, either as a direct payout or instant store credit redeemable with merchants, brands, or loyalty programs using the SELLIT9 Trade platform. It works out of the box via one-click Shopify install or as a custom white-label solution. Our fully managed programs help our merchant, brand, and loyalty partners unlock hidden value, boost conversions, and support sustainability without any operational lift or need to handle inventory.



RASHMI PRAKASH
ARUNA REVOLUTION

NEXT FOUNDERS

Aruna Revolution is a fibertech company developing compostable absorbent materials from agricultural waste for the \$211B disposable hygiene market. We are launching Canada's first compostable menstrual pad and scaling our proprietary fibers into beauty, incontinence, and medical applications.



WARDS

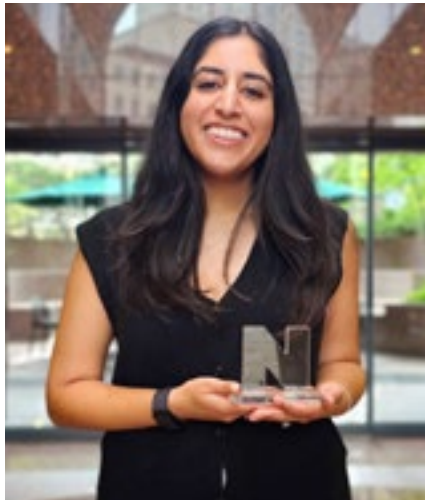
THE NANJI INNOVATORS

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



JOE NOSS

Publicus

NEXT AI, 2025



BRYN DAVIS WILLIAMS

DOUBL

NEXT AI, 2025



JOSH ROBINSON

DataCoach

NEXT AI, 2025



AVRIL SUN

Succession AI

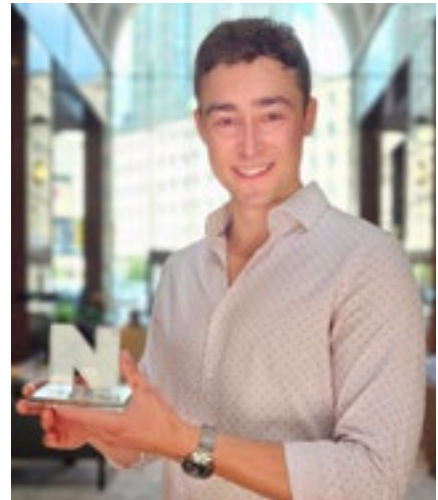
NEXT 36, 2025



KYLE STENBERG

Icarus Sun Protection

NEXT 36, 2025



THE SATCHU AWARD

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.

PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD

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

JOE NOSS

Publicus

NEXT AI, 2025



AVRIL SUN

Succession AI

NEXT 36, 2025



THE HEPBURN VALEDICTORIAN

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

NEXT 36 OUTSTANDING VENTURE AWARD

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

THOMAS TUCHENHAGEN

Atlas Appraiser Collective

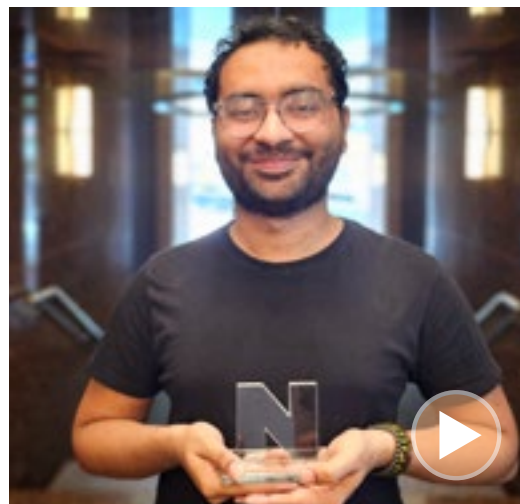
NEXT 36, 2025



CRASHLABS AI INC.

Ryan Junejo

NEXT 36, 2025

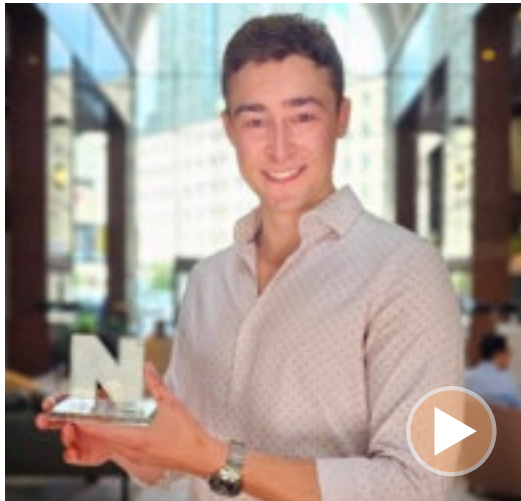


NEXT 36 OUTSTANDING ENTREPRENEUR AWARD

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



HATCH NEXT AI TOP ENTREPRENEUR AWARD:

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.

HATCH

JOE NOSS Publicus

NEXT AI, 2025



HATCH NEXT AI TOP VENTURE AWARD

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.

HATCH

XUBIN AEROSPACE INC.

Mostafa Najafiyazdi

NEXT AI, 2025



NEXT FOUNDERS TOP ENTREPRENEUR AWARD

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

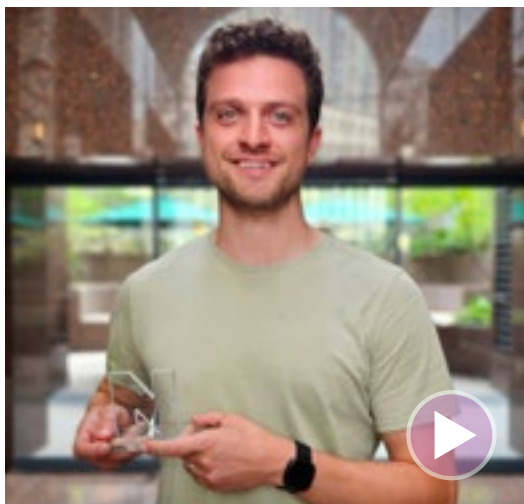


NEXT FOUNDERS TOP VENTURE AWARD

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

CYDER INC. **William Christodoulou**

NEXT FOUNDERS, 2025



EY WOMEN IN TECH AWARD

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



GEOFFREY TABER ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

This award recognizes the outstanding NEXT Canada alumnus' or alumnae's achievement and acknowledges their venture success. This award honours the late Geoff Taber, 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

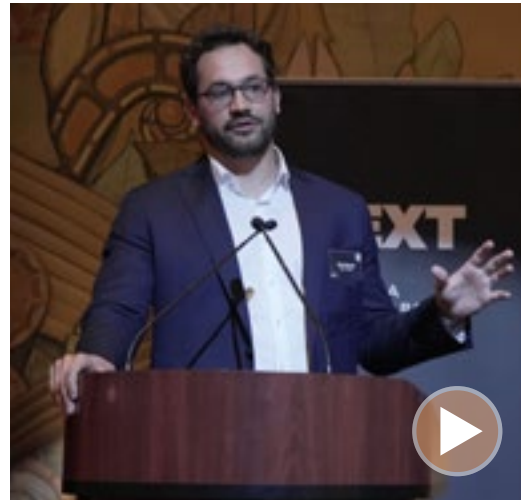


TIM & FRANCES PRICE ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT AWARD

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







**The NEXT AI Montréal award winners
will be announced at the
Montréal Demo Day and updated
after September 23rd, 2025**



COHORT

NEXT 36

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NEXT36

INTRODUCTION TO NEXT 36

NEXT 36 is NEXT Canada's flagship program for high-potential, early-stage founders building ambitious ventures from the ground up. Each year, we select a diverse group of entrepreneurs from across the country — from major innovation hubs to smaller communities — and immerse them in an intensive program designed to accelerate their growth as founders.

Tailored for entrepreneurs at the beginning of their journey, NEXT 36 offers access to a world-class academic curriculum, one-on-one mentorship from Canada's top business leaders, and opportunities to connect with investors and other key stakeholders. Whether they're launching a new idea or refining an existing venture, participants emerge from the program with stronger business models, expanded networks, and the confidence to take their startups to the next level.

AJNAMATERIALS



ABOUT

AJNA is a digital platform that simplifies sustainable procurement by connecting companies with verified eco-products – from raw materials to finished goods. Our proprietary AI-powered Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) engine provides real-time, science-based impact reports at checkout, helping businesses meet ESG goals, reduce greenwashing risk, and future-proof their supply chains.

KEY FACTS

- 95.6% of “green” products lack verification – most eco-claims aren’t backed by data.
- New laws demand scientific proof – up to \$15M CAD in fines or 14 years in prison under Bill C-59.
- AJNA automates LCA at checkout – making verified sustainability easy and accessible.

SUPPORT US

Sign up to AJNA and help us build a transparent, data-backed marketplace for eco-friendly materials. We’re also seeking industry partners – join us in shaping the new standard for sustainability.

FOUNDER



KIRTI SAXENA

MENTORED BY

Jaclyn Ling

INDUSTRY

Marketplace

STAGE

Validation



LOCATION

Mississauga, ON

CONTACT

kirti@ajnamaterials.com



ATLAS APPRAISER COLLECTIVE



ABOUT

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.

KEY FACTS

- Real Estate Appraisers generate \$12B in rev each year from commissions on their work.
- In the US, 60% of Appraisers will retire within the next 10 years (40,000/70,000 appraisers).
- Atlas is empowering the remaining appraisers to close this gap.

SUPPORT US

I am looking for connections with decision makers in commercial real estate – investors, developers, lenders, owners.

FOUNDER



THOMAS
TUCHENHAGEN

MENTORED BY

Kate Grant and Noel Webb

INDUSTRY

Proptech

STAGE

Discovery



LOCATION

Montréal, QC

CONTACT

thomas.tuchenhagen@
mail.mcgill.ca

THE HEPBURN
VALEDICTORIAN

ABOUT

BAVLIO replaces human SDR teams with an AI agent that runs the entire outbound flow – prospecting, deep research, and hyper-personalised outreach. It scrapes gated data to uncover unique talking points, writes one-to-one emails, and continuously learns from replies to maximise response rates at a fraction of today's cost.

KEY FACTS

- Generates rich sender profiles to match each outreach with genuine “uncommon commonalities.”
- Scrapes gated data (LinkedIn, PitchBook) and drafts one-to-one emails -no templates, no copy-paste.
- Saves lead profiles and past touches so every future campaign gets smarter automatically.

SUPPORT US

Seeking intros to B2B SaaS sales teams sending 500+ cold emails/month, and angel investors with expertise in deliverability or AI-driven outbound.

FOUNDER



ADAM BADAR

MENTORED BY

Matt Schmidt and
Aditya Challapally

INDUSTRY

SaaS

STAGE

Validation



LOCATION

Pickering, ON

CONTACT

adam@bavlio.com



CENTRO AI



ABOUT

CENTROAI is “Plaid for the rest of the internet.” We’re building an AI-powered data integration layer that gives companies access to user-permissioned data from websites that don’t offer APIs. By integrating our lightweight SDK, businesses can let users connect their accounts – from utility portals to payroll dashboards – and CentroAI’s agents handle the rest: logging in, navigating the site, and extracting structured, ready-to-use data.

KEY FACTS

- Currently working 1 on 1 with early pilot customers to build the exact integrations they need – eagerly looking for more pilots
- Focused mainly on high friction workflows such as reimbursements and verification from the source
- Initial market of Fintech apps who want to integrate more of their customers data

SUPPORT US

We’re looking to raise a pre-seed round to scale rapidly, hire and further develop the product.

FOUNDER



ARNAV GUPTA

MENTORED BY

Danielle Smith

INDUSTRY

Financial Services

STAGE

Discovery



LOCATION

Waterloo, ON

CONTACT

arnavgup@centrolink.ai



CLEARCUTAR



ABOUT

AR luminescence-guided wound debridement uses fluorescence imaging to visualize and target areas of bacterial load, improving wound healing by enabling more accurate and effective debridement for surgeons

KEY FACTS

- FDA 501k Pending
- Research device partnerships with leading hospitals in North America

SUPPORT US

Looking for mentors in medical device space!

FOUNDER



TONY JIANG

MENTORED BY

Filip Stoj and
David Jamieson

INDUSTRY

Medtech

STAGE

Discovery



LOCATION

Vancouver, BC

CONTACT

tonyjiang@mapmedar.com

ABOUT

CORDAX is an AI-driven SaaS platform that automates the routing of mechanical, electrical, and plumbing (MEP) systems from 2D architectural drawings using mathematical optimization and machine learning. It generates collision-free ductwork, piping, and conduit layouts in minutes. This reduces material waste and rework while accelerating project timelines. CORDAX eliminates manual drafting bottlenecks and cuts MEP design costs.

KEY FACTS

- Web-based SaaS for residential GCs and home-builders that converts 2D floor plans into clash-free, code-compliant MEP drawings in under 3 minutes.
- Since inception 12 weeks ago: 15/15 paid beta pilots, 42 signed LOIs, and a 100-user waitlist.
- Subscription (\$199/mo) + per-sq-ft pricing aimed at the \$5.4 B North American residential MEP market—first mover offering fully automated, multi-trade MEP design for housing.

SUPPORT US

Seeking experienced construction-tech mentors, strategic pilot partnerships, and seed funding (CAD 500k – 1M) to accelerate product roadmap and North American market expansion.

FOUNDER(S)



SIMON FUCILI



JACK FEJER



CAROLINE
THADANEY



NIKHIL SATCHU

MENTORED BY

Noel Webb and
Ardalan Benam

INDUSTRY

Contech

STAGE

Efficiency



LOCATION

Toronto, ON

CONTACT

jack@cordax.io



CRASHLABS AI INC.



ABOUT

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.

KEY FACTS

- CrashLabs does pre-production testing and evaluation for AI agents to catch failures before they reach users.
- We've secured paying customers and are actively growing ARR.
- Focused on reliability infrastructure as AI agents hit real-world deployments.

SUPPORT US

We're raising pre-seed funding and seeking intros to AI-first teams needing better agent testing before launch.

FOUNDER



RYAN JUNEJO

MENTORED BY

Arron Lin and Will Ma

INDUSTRY

Enterprise Software

STAGE

Efficiency



LOCATION

Toronto, ON

CONTACT

ryan@crashlabs.ai

**NEXT 36
OUTSTANDING
VENTURE
AWARD**



DILIGENT



ABOUT

A platform to reimagine venture capital workflows: from startup analysis to capital deployment, all in one platform.

KEY FACTS

- OS for venture capital
- Modular toolset from screening to market analysis to allow plug and play with pre existing workflows

SUPPORT US

We're seeking firms to support us by beta testing our platform and providing feedback to improve user experience and functionality

FOUNDE



**SAHARSH
SURYADEVARA**

MENTORED BY

Alexander Barclay

INDUSTRY

Finance

STAGE

Discovery



LOCATION

Pickering, ON

CONTACT

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GOSPONSORLY



ABOUT

GOSPONSORLY is an Airbnb platform for sponsorships. Our beachhead market is high school and university student clubs – by allowing them to connect with an exclusive community of amazing local SMB sponsors, streamlining the sponsorship process for both sides in a credible way. Student societies gain faster access to relevant, high-quality sponsorships, while sponsors enjoy a super simple onboarding experience, targeted inventory access, advertising and performance tracking through simple KPIs.

KEY FACTS

- We are a B2B AI-powered solution helping marketing teams with experiential marketing spend
- We're helping marketing teams spend their marketing budgets effectively by making it as easy as google ads to setup an experiential marketing campaign (like events) that hits their exact target audience & metrics
- As digital ads has reached peak saturation and fatigue, trends are reversed with a new generation focused on experiences and connecting with brands

SUPPORT US

We'd love to chat with anyone looking to invest in our mission and us. And intros to brands that sponsor digital / in-person events.

FOUNDER(S)



**RUPA
VEMULAPALLI**



**SELEN
ONCULOGLU**

MENTORED BY

Matt Roberts and
Dwayne Forde

INDUSTRY

SaaS

STAGE

Validation



LOCATION

Mississauga, ON

CONTACT

rupa@gosponsorly.com



ICARUS SUN PROTECTION



ABOUT

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.

KEY FACTS

- The First Bulk Natural Sunscreen Program in Canada
- Health Canada Approved
- Launched in 12 golf clubs across the country

SUPPORT US

If you or someone you know is a golfer at a private golf club, we would love an introduction!

FOUNDER(S)



KYLE STENBERG



MAXWELL CLARK

MENTORED BY

Elena Sahakyan,
Jean Amiouny and
Michael Warshafsky

INDUSTRY

Wellness

STAGE

Validation



LOCATION

Victoria, BC

CONTACT

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**NEXT 36
OUTSTANDING
ENTREPRENEUR
AWARD**

LYRATA INC.



ABOUT

LYRATA INC. is revolutionizing hydroponic agriculture with SmartSoil, a biodegradable, recyclable grow-media ("grow-media") that drastically reduces carbon emissions. Unlike traditional grow-media like rockwool, which emit up to 2400 kg-CO₂e per ton, SmartSoil reduces this by up to 65 times. By engineering biopolymers and low-heat manufacturing, SmartSoil is positioned as the next-generation gold-standard standard for hydroponic farming grow-media [1].

KEY FACTS

- SmartSoil is a patent-pending grow media that is up to 65× lower in carbon emissions than current alternatives.
- Co-Founder and President Adnan Sharif (Haru Ura) was named a Top-100 Scientist by Falling Walls 2024 for SmartSoil.
- Backed by \$1.3M+ in Canadian support from UofT Engineering, NRC, OMA-FRA, AAFC, Desjardins, and others.

SUPPORT US

We're seeking deep-tech cleantech investors to join our \$5M seed round, matched by \$700K+ in federal and provincial funding through 2028.

FOUNDER



ADNAN SHARIF

MENTORED BY

Jannine Krish, Noel Webb, and Julia Kirouac

INDUSTRY

Agriculture

STAGE

Efficiency



LOCATION

Toronto, ON

CONTACT

lyratahydroponics@outlook.com



MEDIUM AI



ABOUT

MEDIUM AI delivers a specialized medical voice agent for hospitals and surgical centres to automate patient post-operative follow-ups and generate substantial cost savings.

KEY FACTS

- Paid pilots launched with 3+ Canadian clinics and surgical centers to automate post-op follow-ups.
- Saves up to 500 staff hours and generates \$50,000+ in monthly revenue per site.
- Fully compliant with PIPE-DA/HIPAA and integrates with leading EMR systems.

SUPPORT US

We are seeking pilot partners, healthcare referrals, and investor connections to expand our impact across the Canadian Healthcare.

FOUNDER



KINO SONG

MENTORED BY

Will Ma and KB Brinkley

INDUSTRY

Medtech

STAGE

Validation

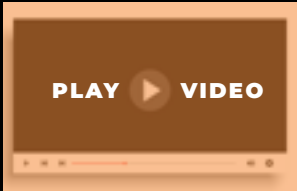


LOCATION

Toronto, ON

CONTACT

kino.song@mediumai.ca



MEISSNER



ABOUT

We use AI and quantum simulations to discover novel, rare-earth-free superconducting materials that operate above 77K. Our end-to-end platform rapidly identifies, evaluates, and validates candidates for use in power grids, aerospace, and quantum technologies.

KEY FACTS

- Building an AI-driven pipeline to discover rare-earth-free superconductors.
- Combines GNNs, AIRSS, and DFT to accelerate materials discovery and reduce R&D costs.
- Targeting high-value applications in aerospace.

SUPPORT US

We're looking to build a world-class technical team and connect with deeptech investors passionate about materials innovation and energy infrastructure.

FOUNDER



OLIVIA LENG

MENTORED BY

Alex Norman and
Tyler Handley

INDUSTRY

Energy | Energie

STAGE

Discovery



LOCATION

Toronto, ON

CONTACT

olivia.leng@mail.utoronto.ca

MOTIONUS



ABOUT

Our AI-powered recovery companion automates physio workflows for real-time efficiency and delivers a gamified patient app with social features to enhance engagement, adherence, and outcomes.

KEY FACTS

- Automates clinical workflows for physiotherapists via AI scribing and exercise prescriptions.
- Patient app uses gamification to accelerate recovery and improve adherence.
- Integrates webapp for providers with mobile app for patients.

SUPPORT US

We're seeking mentorship, partnerships, and funding to scale our AI-driven physio platform, enhance gamification features, and expand to clinics nationwide.

FOUNDER



**KOSARAN
GUMARATHAS**

MENTORED BY

Elena Sahakyan

INDUSTRY

Wellness

STAGE

Discovery



LOCATION

Brampton, ON

CONTACT

kos@motionus.ai



NERVIEW SURGICAL INC.



ABOUT

Founded on August 9, 2023, **NERVIEW SURGICAL** is revolutionizing surgery by preventing accidental nerve injuries with our non-invasive nerve visualization technology, NerveSense. Utilizing patent-pending technology and AI algorithms, NerveSense detects nerves in real-time without physical contact, enabling surgeons to accurately identify and protect nerves during procedures. We focus on building a solution that will make a difference in the lives of surgeons and patients, and ultimately elevate the standard of care, ensuring no parent, friend, or relative has to watch their loved one suffer from a preventable mistake. Learn more at www.nerview.com.

KEY FACTS

- Real-time, non-invasive nerve visualization during surgery
- Reduces nerve injury risk; improves surgical outcomes
- Patent pending technology backed by 30+ surgeons and 15+ academic and healthcare institutions across North America

SUPPORT US

We're seeking surgeon collaborators and strategic investors to help validate and scale our nerve-visualization technology.

FOUNDER



MANN PARIKH

MENTORED BY

Will Ma

INDUSTRY

Medtech

STAGE

Validation



LOCATION

Brampton, ON

CONTACT

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OMNI3D



ABOUT

Marketplace that connects clients to sellers who provide 3D printed parts. Essentially UberEats for 3D printing

KEY FACTS

- Omni3D is a marketplace that connects people who have 3D printers (sellers) to those who want 3D printed products (buyers)
- AI turns sketches or text prompts into print-ready files, auto-repaired, priced, and routed.
- Local same-day production replaces overseas shipping with next-door manufacturing.

SUPPORT US

We are currently trying to raise funds to hire a small team of full-time software devs. Any support on 3D printing, and to help raise funds would be amazing!

FOUNDER



RIDHAM GOYAL

MENTORED BY

Lauren DeSouza

INDUSTRY

Marketplace

STAGE

Validation



LOCATION

Brampton, ON

CONTACT

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RETROFIT.AI



ABOUT

RETROFIT.AI is an AI-powered software platform designed specifically for insulation contractors to automate their quoting and project management processes. The platform uses computer vision and machine learning to analyze job site photos, automatically calculate material requirements, all the while generating professional quotes & rebate applications in under 5 minutes.

KEY FACTS

- Retrofit.ai is an AI-driven SaaS platform that automates quoting and rebate application for insulation contractors.
- The business is a mobile-first company, where our app looks to provide deep AI specialization for insulation contractors workflow and built-in regulatory compliance features, a key pain point for customers.

SUPPORT US

We are seeking early stage seed funding to scale our sales and marketing efforts, and grow our team.

FOUNDER



**MATTHEW
OLVER**

INDUSTRY

SaaS

STAGE

Discovery



LOCATION

Toronto, ON

CONTACT

matthewolver@retrofitai.ca



SUCCESSION AI



ABOUT

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.

KEY FACTS

- Building AI agents to revolutionize the Business Brokerage industry, enabling small businesses to be sold more efficiently.
- We're currently working with 19 businesses under \$1M valuation in Service, Retail and Manufacturing industries, using AI agents to get them financially and operationally ready for sale.

SUPPORT US

Looking for connections in the Business M&A industry, preferably players engaging with businesses in the sub-\$10 million valuation.

FOUNDER



AVRIL SUN

MENTORED BY

Michelle Mcbane

INDUSTRY

AI

STAGE

Validation



LOCATION

London, ON

CONTACT

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KEY WOMEN
IN TECH
AWARD

SUMMINA

ABOUT

SUMMINA is a productivity and wellness platform designed to help women align their menstrual cycles with their work routines. By combining personalized insights with actionable strategies, Summina empowers women to optimize their energy, focus, and productivity throughout their cycle, transforming a common challenge into a powerful advantage.

KEY FACTS

- Most productivity tools ignore how a woman's cycle impacts her focus, energy, and mood. Summina fills that gap by helping women align their work schedules.
- In our two-month beta study, over 70% of women said their cycle meaningfully disrupted their work.
- We've built and launched our MVP – a personalized weekly email that helps women plan their work week based on where they are in their cycle.

SUPPORT US

Know a woman whose cycle affects her work, or is that you? Summina helps women plan with their hormones. Share it – it's the tool she didn't know she needed.

FOUNDER



SYLVIA GEHRING

MENTORED BY

Julia Kirouac

Summina

INDUSTRY

SaaS

STAGE

Validation



LOCATION

Toronto, ON

CONTACT

summina.contact@gmail.com



TOVVRA



ABOUT

TOVVRA is an early-stage venture exploring how AI can support regulatory teams in high-compliance industries.

KEY FACTS

- Towvra is a B2B SaaS regulatory and compliance automation platform that helps consumer goods companies get and stay compliant by automating label checks, claim reviews, and documentation workflows.
- Replaces outdated, manual processes with one streamlined, AI-powered workflow.
- Currently building MVP and testing with regulatory professionals across the CPG space.

SUPPORT US

Looking for connections to small to medium CPG startups, contract manufacturers, and regulatory or compliance professionals at consumer goods companies.

FOUNDER



**VALERIE
TUEDOR**

MENTORED BY

Julia Kirouac and
Fion Lee-Madan

INDUSTRY

SaaS

STAGE

Discovery



LOCATION

Toronto, ON

CONTACT

torisevalerie@gmail.com



ABOUT

ARTEMIS is a vet tech company providing medical devices to animal patients. This company is currently innovating custom airway implants, which are used to treat obstructive respiratory diseases.

KEY FACTS

- Obstructive diseases leading to heart failure is the “worlds biggest killer” [World Health Organization]
- We're building stem-cell wrapped implants called stents that hold the structure open and heal patients – starting in the veterinary space where there is less red tape so we can advance our tech faster, giving us a pathway to disrupt the bio-implant market (\$ 136B)
- Our MVP is already live in 3 hospitals in Ontario, Quebec and Oregon!

SUPPORT US

We're building our network of early adopters (surgeons and radiologists). Know anyone affiliated with a major health network in Canada or abroad? (ex. Mount Sinai, UHN) – Connect us!

FOUNDER



MEGHAN BRAR

MENTORED BY

Lexi Kaplin and Amar Varma

INDUSTRY

Life Sciences & Advanced Healthcare

STAGE

Efficiency



LOCATION

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CONTACT

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WILLOW



ABOUT

WILLOW handles what you'd rather ignore – starting with estate planning – by helping you create, securely store, and share your plans with those you trust, while also automating updates. Long term, there's a lot of important tasks people tend to ignore – if we're Amazon, wills are our bookstore.

Two-thirds of Americans don't have a will – because no one wants to think about death. Willow leverages new legislation to do the thinking for you, so all that's left to do is sign. From there, we keep it secure, accessible to your family, and automate updates – so you can enjoy life's next chapter.

KEY FACTS

- We interviewed families and built Willow around their needs. They can't wait to finally check “finish my will” off their to-do list once we're live in their state.
- Don't get confused – we're not just an estate planning platform. We're built to handle what you'd rather ignore – think retirement, healthcare directives, life insurance. Estate planning is our bookstore. (bold the bolded sentences)

SUPPORT US

We're currently getting in front of new parents in New York and Colorado—any intros to people connected to parent-focused groups/organizations would be appreciated.

FOUNDER



AARON
BURLACOFF

MENTORED BY

Julie Topp and
Matt Saunders

INDUSTRY

Legal Tech

STAGE

Discovery



LOCATION

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CONTACT

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com



XPRESS SELECT



ABOUT

XPRESS SELECT is a pre-seed B2B SaaS company revolutionizing pharmacy operations by streamlining workflows and enhancing patient satisfaction. Our platform offers OTC recommendations and clinical services, including minor ailment prescribing, through in-pharmacy kiosks and QR codes, reducing administrative burdens for pharmacists.

KEY FACTS

- Live in 14 paying pharmacies; enabled \$1,300+ in new billables in 2 weeks
- Automates OTC, minor ailments, and vaccine workflows to save pharmacist time
- Partnering with Merck to launch vaccine recommender in fall 2025

SUPPORT US

We are seeking fundraising and strategic network connections to scale our pharmacy platform and expand access to patient-led clinical care.

FOUNDER



HANA RAHILI

MENTORED BY

Tricia Jose and Nima Ayat

INDUSTRY

SaaS

STAGE

Efficiency



LOCATION

West Vancouver, BC

CONTACT

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NEXTAI

INTRODUCTION TO NEXT AI

NEXT AI is a world-class accelerator for ventures using artificial intelligence to solve meaningful, scalable problems. Delivered in both Toronto and Montréal (with a virtual option), the program attracts top-tier founders and technical teams from across Canada and around the world — all focused on refining their products and sharpening their competitive edge in the fast-evolving AI landscape.

Built for startups that have early traction or working prototypes, NEXT AI combines access to a global network of investors, mentors, and entrepreneurs with a rigorous academic curriculum that includes both core business content and a technical AI stream taught by leading experts. Founders benefit from one-on-one engagement with accomplished business advisors and Scientists-in-Residence who help guide experimentation, model development, and implementation. Whether optimizing an existing product or building out a new AI-driven platform, participants graduate from the program with deeper technical foundations, sharper go-to-market strategies, and the connections to grow globally.

ADVANCED CREATIVE LABS INC.



ABOUT

ADVANCED CREATIVE LABS is the AI-powered Creative Intelligence platform built for in-house marketing teams.

KEY FACTS

- 100+ users with paying customers generating \$4,500 MRR with proven market fit and zero churn
- Marketing domain-specific AI replaces entire workflows with a team of orchestrated agents
- v2 “Hi5” platform currently in testing with 50+ tools & workflows

SUPPORT US

Seeking \$1M USD in >\$3B Service obtainable market to scale toward \$1.4M ARR (233+ customers at \$500/month ACV) and \$3M seed round by May 2026.

FOUNDER(S)



GREG PONESSE



GREG SHORTALL

MENTORED BY

Mike McCarron

INDUSTRY

Marketing

STAGE

Validation

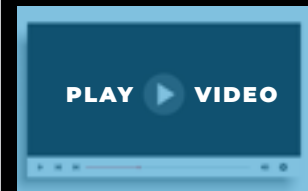


LOCATION

Toronto, ON

CONTACT

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CACHE

CACHE

ABOUT

CACHE turns closets into a liquid, tradable asset class by enabling seamless resale at the point of purchase. We eliminate friction in second-hand apparel commerce through AI-powered automation, making resale as easy as buying.

KEY FACTS

- We automate resale through automatic email receipt scanning, smart product valuation, and one-click resale listings across existing marketplaces (including a signed partnership with Poshmark).
- Our users have \$300,000+ of untapped product value in their email inboxes, uploaded 13,000+ items, and earned 20% higher commissions on average selling with us.

SUPPORT US

We're looking for connections to early-stage investors who are excited about consumer tech, AI, and unlocking the \$367B secondhand apparel market.

FOUNDER



DEVYN OLIN

MENTORED BY

Jennifer Daly and
Michael Warshafsky

INDUSTRY

E-Commerce

STAGE

Discovery

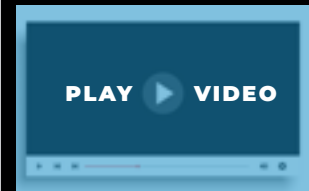


LOCATION

Toronto, ON

CONTACT

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com



DATA COACH



ABOUT

DATA COACH 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.

KEY FACTS

- DataCoach is AI coaching for video games with initial game support for Rocket League.
- Since soft launch last Sept, DataCoach has over 32K accounts created, ~\$3.5K MRR & growing and has Pro and Collegiate partnerships heading into this fall.
- With proprietary AI tech that is patent pending for all video games, we are currently developing the playbook for Rocket League with game expansion planned for later this year.

SUPPORT US

We are preparing for our pre-seed round this fall and are looking for investors as we roadmap to capture the \$100M ARR opportunity in video game coaching.

FOUNDER



JOSH ROBINSON

MENTORED BY

Omer Dor and
Irene de Gooyer-Collins

INDUSTRY

Arts and Entertainment

STAGE

Validation



LOCATION

Toronto, ON

CONTACT

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DOKSI



ABOUT

DOKSI is a generative AI platform that enables businesses to create product support assets like help articles, guides, and videos instantly – using just a link(url) to their platform, and a prompt. Doksi leverages agentic workflows to navigate a platform, like a human, and generate these assets.

KEY FACTS

- Eliminates need for manually creating product knowledge-base content like help articles, guides and videos
- Automatically updates product knowledge-base content when new product features are released
- Provides an AI first knowledge-base for end customers

SUPPORT US

We are looking 10 early users to validate and improve our offering.

FOUNDER



TAIMUR AYAZ

MENTORED BY

Sarah Wilson and Ben Yoskovitz

INDUSTRY

SaaS

STAGE

Discovery



LOCATION

Mississauga, ON

CONTACT

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DOUBL



ABOUT

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.

KEY FACTS

- Our proprietary AI fit engine, TAILOR, was trained on real-world feedback from over 300 women during our pilot, creating a closed-loop system that continuously improves accuracy.
- We're focusing on high-fit women's categories – bras, underwear, shapewear, swimwear, and activewear – segments where fit matters most and traditional sizing fails.

SUPPORT US

Our pre-seed round opens this September. Join us in re-inventing apparel manufacturing to drive profitability, resilience, and sustainability across the industry.

FOUNDER(S)



**BRYN DAVIS
WILLIAMS**



**JESSICA
BOSMAN**

MENTORED BY

Craig Follet and
Ben Yoskovitz

INDUSTRY

SaaS

STAGE

Discovery



LOCATION

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CONTACT

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EMERGCONNECT INC.

EMERGCONNECT

ABOUT

EMERGCONNECT is a digital health company changing the way people think about same-day care with a fully integrated end-to-end patient, nursing and administrator platform for at-home and in-patient self-assessment, registration and individualized wait time predictions.

KEY FACTS

- Fully developed end to end patient and clinician platform
- 1.3M CAD in signed ARR
- 13 hospitals currently using the platform

SUPPORT US

We're also looking for connections to clinical thought leaders who want to move the dial at their healthcare institution.

FOUNDER(S)



RON GALAEV



MARINA GAVRILO

MENTORED BY

Daniel Rodic and
Aditya Challapally

INDUSTRY

Medtech

STAGE

Efficiency

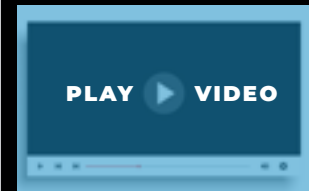


LOCATION

Barrie, ON

CONTACT

Ron@emergconnect.ca



FABRIC BIO



ABOUT

We help biotechs leverage AI agents in their image analysis workflows, enabling faster discovery of life saving therapeutics.

Founders and longtime collaborators Cam Rzadki (biotech researcher) and Ian MacPherson (AI PhD) bring years of bio and AI research experience, with a track record building production-ready analysis pipelines – ready to transform data-driven science at scale.

KEY FACTS

- We're using AI agents to automate key microscopy tasks – image processing and cellular feature extraction – helping bioscientists recover 1,000+ hours of annual data work and surfacing insights in complex datasets that humans miss, paving the road toward scientific superintelligence.
- In just weeks, 400+ discovery conversations have converted into enterprise partnerships, with multiple six-figure biotech pilots and 100+ researchers already leveraging our agents.

SUPPORT US

We're hiring founding ML engineers and AIxBio PhDs – intros to exceptional technical and entrepreneurial people would be appreciated!

FOUNDER(S)



CAM RZADKI



IAN
MACPHERSON

MENTORED BY

Daniel Mulet

INDUSTRY

Life Sciences &
Advanced Healthcare

STAGE

Discovery



LOCATION

Toronto, ON

CONTACT

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FLYING WOLF



ABOUT

FLYING WOLF provides AI solutions based on edge computing to commercial buildings for security management. The target client includes property manager and security companies.

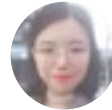
KEY FACTS

- Proprietary edge AI hardware enables fast, secure, on-site video analysis, delivering real-time alerts for critical security threats without reliance on the cloud or LTE infrastructure.
- Early market traction with a successful paid pilot and \$30K revenue.
- Setting a new benchmark in smart security: 10-watt edge AI devices that make autonomous surveillance scalable, secure, and sustainable.

SUPPORT US

We're seeking early adopters and strategic investors passionate about smart city and smart building projects to implement and scale our edge-powered autonomous surveillance systems.

FOUNDER



CINDY WU

MENTORED BY

Aditya Challapally

INDUSTRY

Data Management

STAGE

Discovery



LOCATION

Montreal, QC

CONTACT

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KIWI CHARGE



ABOUT

KIWI CHARGE is a Robotics and AI startup that is redefining EV infrastructure in buildings at 40% of the cost. Our autonomous charging solution delivers EV charging to users – this is a scalable, time and cost effective solution that can meet growing EV charging demand across North America, and provide personalized charging solutions for users.

KEY FACTS

- We are a robotics and AI startup that provides EV charging as a service, primarily focused on multi-residential buildings
- Our autonomous robots effectively navigate the parking lot and provide personalized charging sessions to users.
- We are bootstrapped with just over 2 years in operations, and have secured over 900k in non-dilutive funding. We have secured 5+ pilots with condo developer and automakers

SUPPORT US

We are looking to close our Seed round (\$2M CAD) in the next few weeks to accelerate growth and bring our units to buildings across Canada, and we'd appreciate connections for our fundraiser.

FOUNDER(S)



**JUMANA
FATHIMA**



**AAMIR
ABUBAKKAR**



ABDEL ALI

MENTORED BY

Brendan Callaghan,
Dwayne Forde, and
Jean Amiouny

INDUSTRY

Clean Technology

STAGE

Validation



LOCATION

Brampton, ON

CONTACT

abdel@kiwicharge.ca



MINDSPROUT



ABOUT

We use Agentic AI to help clinicians connect discharged patients with the most appropriate mental health resources based on their unique needs, location, and preferences.

We are addressing one of the Canadian government's top four healthcare priorities, as identified by CIHI: improving accessibility to mental health services.

KEY FACT

- We have a working MVP, refined through testing and feedback from clinical and innovation advisors.
- Our next step is to identify a viable path to commercialize this system-level solution, given that the primary incentive lies with the broader healthcare system rather than individual health centers.

SUPPORT US

We're seeking to fund this product. Any funding opportunities, government support, or connections to clinical decision-makers (in clinics or hospitals) who can offer guidance on commercialization or potentially become early adopters would be greatly appreciated.

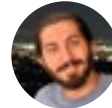
FOUNDER(S)



**AMIRMOHAMMAD
KAZEMEINI**



**SEDEF AKINLI
KOCAC**



**MOHAMMAD
NAVID MASAHATI**

MENTORED BY

Leslie Jamison and
Joshua Liu

INDUSTRY

Life Sciences &
Advanced Healthcare

STAGE

Discovery

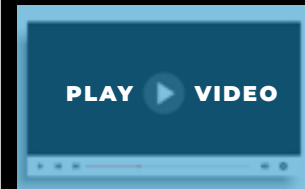


LOCATION

Toronto, ON

CONTACT

amir@mindsprouttech.com



CODiii by OQULI



ABOUT

CODiii is a project brain for buildings. It checks your documents for errors before they become expensive problems. Like spell check, but for design, construction, and operations. Visit codiii.com to learn more

KEY FACTS

- Co-Founders Dennis & Paige are Architecture & Tech pros with combined 36 yrs in the field.
- Launched "CODiii – The Design & Construction Brain" on July 08, 2024!
- Helping North America's Largest Architecture Firms to design more compliant projects.

SUPPORT US

Help us to expand our Architecture & Engineering Network across North America as CODiii evolves!

FOUNDER(S)



DENNIS DIXON



PAIGE REICHE

MENTORED BY

Ben Yoskovitz and
Lauren Epstein

INDUSTRY

Contech

STAGE

Discovery



LOCATION

Upper Tantallon, NS

CONTACT

dd@oquli.ca



PIPPEN AI



ABOUT

PIPPEN AI solves the paper-work problem that family doctors face by automating charting, referrals, billing, and more.

KEY FACTS

- Since launching in June, 2024, we have grown from 10 to over 780 doctors
- is revolutionizing hydroponic agriculture with SmartSoil.
- is revolutionizing hydroponic agriculture with SmartSoil.

SUPPORT US

We are raising \$750,000 in a SAFE round (\$250,000 have been raised in the last month from friends and family).

FOUNDER(S)



MARY AGLIPAY



AMJED
KADHIM-SALEH

MENTORED BY

Nima Ayat

INDUSTRY

Medtech

STAGE

Validation



LOCATION

Toronto, ON

CONTACT

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PUBLICUS



ABOUT

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.

THE SATCHU
AWARD

HATCH
NEXT AI TOP
ENTREPRENEUR
AWARD

KEY FACTS

- Platform for finding and qualifying contracts
- Started charging one month ago, now at \$14K ARR
- Solving the secret reason why government is inefficient – procurement.

SUPPORT US

Looking for strategic partners interested in disrupting the most inefficient marketplace in the world.

FOUNDER(S)



JOE NOSS



AKASH SHETTY

MENTORED BY

Matthew Lombardi and
David McPherson

INDUSTRY

SaaS

STAGE

Validation



LOCATION

Toronto, ON

CONTACT

joe@publicus.ai



QUIP MEDICAL



ABOUT

QUIP extracts optimized billing codes from our automated summary note to ensure that doctors are fully compensated for their care.

KEY FACTS

- Quip integrates directly into EMRs; no onboarding needed!
- We've built our own proprietary, non-LLM-based, billing optimization algorithms.

SUPPORT US

We'd appreciate any connections to family physicians (especially early-career), executive directors at clinics, and angel investors in the health tech space!

FOUNDER



BRIAN LI

MENTORED BY

Bryan Altman

INDUSTRY

Life Sciences &
Advanced Healthcare

STAGE

Discovery



LOCATION

Waterloo, ON

CONTACT

brian@quipmedical.org



REALDESK.AI



ABOUT

REALDESK.AI automates real estate operations with AI, eliminating inefficiency so brokers and agents can close deals faster and scale smarter.

KEY FACTS

- AI powered real estate management platform
- Fully integrated document management and financials

SUPPORT US

We would love introductions to investors in advance of kicking off our seed round in September.

FOUNDER



MARC SYKES

MENTORED BY

Kate Grant and Alex Norman

INDUSTRY

Proptech

STAGE

Efficiency



LOCATION

Toronto, ON

CONTACT

Marc@realdesk.ai

XUBIN AEROSPACE INC.



ABOUT

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.

KEY FACTS

- Detects drones by visualizing their aerodynamic signature
- NATO Innovation Hackathon winner, and invited by Canadian Department of National Defence and Canadian Armed Forces for 5-day a field trial in Ottawa through CUAS Sandbox 2025 of the IDEaS Program
- Hardware-software MVP launching August 2025 with dual-use market traction in defense, law enforcement, and 4 Prime Defence OEMs

SUPPORT US

We're seeking funding and strategic partners to pilot and scale our aerodynamic-based drone detection system across defense, urban security, and border control sectors.

FOUNDER



**MOSTAFA
NAJAFIYAZDI**

MENTORED BY

Richard Zuroff and
Kate Grant

INDUSTRY

Advanced Materials &
Advanced Manufacturing

STAGE

Discovery



LOCATION

Oakville, ON

CONTACT

mostafa.najafiyazdi@xubin-aerospace.com



**HATCH
NEXT AI TOP
VENTURE
AWARD**

The background is a purple-tinted photograph of a city skyline, likely New York City, with several skyscrapers visible. In the foreground, there is a large, three-dimensional, metallic-looking letter 'N' that is part of a larger architectural or artistic installation. The word 'NEXTFOUNDERS' is overlaid in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters across the center of the image.

NEXTFOUNDERS

INTRODUCTION TO NEXT FOUNDERS

NEXT FOUNDERS is designed for growth-stage entrepreneurs who are leading revenue-generating companies and ready to scale their ventures nationally or internationally. This program supports experienced founders who are navigating the complexities of rapid growth — from building teams and refining business models to raising capital and expanding into new markets.

Participants gain access to a world-class academic curriculum, one-on-one mentorship from sector- and stage-specific advisors, and a powerful peer community. These advisors have firsthand experience with the challenges of scaling and provide tailored, practical guidance. While the program does not include a technical stream, it delivers deep strategic and operational support — all within the broader NEXT Network, a community of high-impact founders, investors, and business leaders that continues to support participants long after the program ends.



APPETRONIX

ABOUT

We have developed a fully autonomous robotic restaurant that cooks made-to-order meals with zero onsite employees.

KEY FACTS

- In June 2025, Appetronix launched the world's first fully autonomous ai-robotic restaurant that cooks made-to-order meals with zero onsite employees. The machine was launched in the airport in Columbus, OH under the iconic Donatos brand.

SUPPORT US

We are preparing for our Series A investment to allow us to globally scale up – and also looking for manufacturing partners, food equipment suppliers, facilities management companies and retail partners to deploy the units.

FOUNDER



NIPUN SHARMA

INDUSTRY

Robotics

STAGE

Validation

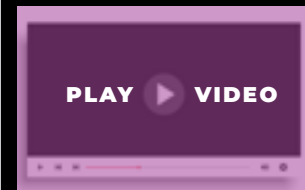


LOCATION

London, ON

CONTACT

nipun@appetronix.com



ARUNA REVOLUTION



ABOUT

ARUNA REVOLUTION is a fibertech company developing compostable absorbent materials from agricultural waste for the \$211B disposable hygiene market. We are launching Canada's first compostable menstrual pad and scaling our proprietary fibers into beauty, incontinence, and medical applications.

KEY FACTS

- Developed revolutionary technology to extract cellulose fibers from a variety of plants, that are high performance, compostable and safer for the body.
- With these fibers, we've created the worlds first truly compostable menstrual pad that is high performance, the first menstrual pad to actually be designed by women that are engineers.
- Aruna has been recognized internationally, including in Monaco, for it's cleantech and the impact it can have.

SUPPORT US

We're looking for support with the next steps, of taking this impact and scaling it into a global platform, where all products that need fibers are powered by Aruna fibers.

FOUNDER



**RASHMI
PRAKASH**

MENTORED BY

Lauren Arnold

INDUSTRY

Clean Technology

STAGE

Efficiency

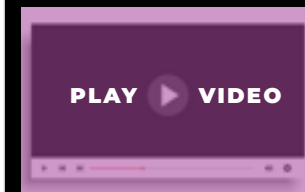


LOCATION

Waverley

CONTACT

rashmi.prakash@aruna
revolution.com



BUILDCHECK AI



ABOUT

BUILDCHECK™ is a venture-backed startup out of Stanford University that has built AI models to screen plans for real estate developers and general contractors, catching issues before they become change orders, RFIs or city comments. They have reviewed over 10,000 plans across the country with clients like Cressey, Wesgroup, and Beedie seeing a 20x to 40x ROI. See more at www.buildcheck.ai.

KEY FACTS

- AI construction drawing review platform for real estate developers and general contractors to find design issues before they cost them
- 40+ customers throughout Canada and the USA, including Cressey Development Group, Axiom Builders, and the University of British Columbia
- \$8M CAD raised from VC investors in Silicon Valley, and experienced founders/executives from OpenAI, EvenUp Law, Opendoor and CBRE

SUPPORT US

We are looking to expand to more customers in central/eastern Canada, and to speak with the most brilliant computer vision experts in the country.

FOUNDER



**ALEXANDER
MICHALATOS**

MENTORED BY

Dwayne Forde and
Dean Brauer

INDUSTRY

Proptech

STAGE

Scale

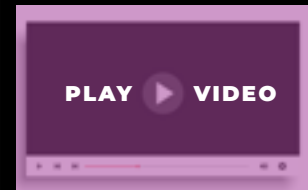


LOCATION

Palo Alto

CONTACT

alexander@buildcheck.ai



CLOUDAGENT



ABOUT

AI agents to fully automate cloud & security workflows: Configuration, compliance & operations – handled automatically, 24/7

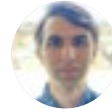
KEY FACTS

- Manage a fleet of agents to automate cloud, security and devops tasks for your organization
- Deploy from your favourite AI development tools and services to your own cloud environment
- Start for free at <https://cloudagent.io>

SUPPORT US

Looking for pre-seed/seed investors focusing on B2B, Cloud, Security & AI companies

FOUNDER



ABDUL KITTANA

MENTORED BY

Daniel Nieto

INDUSTRY

Security

STAGE

Efficiency

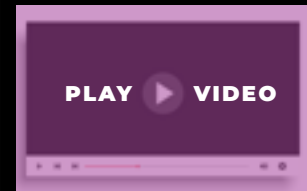


LOCATION

Toronto, ON

CONTACT

abdul@cloudagent.io



CYDER INC.



ABOUT

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.

KEY FACTS

- We have secured \$600k contracted ARR in 7 months
- We are working with 15 credit unions across north america
- The platform will be servicing +1M customers by January 2026

SUPPORT US

We are looking for investors to participate in our seed round.

FOUNDER



**WILLIAM
CHRISTODOULOU**

MENTORED BY

Tom Lowden

INDUSTRY

Financial Services

STAGE

Scale



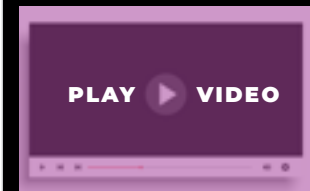
LOCATION

Toronto, ON

CONTACT

will@getcyder.com

**NEXT
FOUNDERS
TOP VENTURE
AWARD**



EVOCO LTD



ABOUT

EVOCO is a global innovation company creating scalable, plant-based chemistry and materials. Our mission is to help industry partners reduce toxins and carbon emissions in high-performance consumer and industrial products.

We've already commercialized a sustainable foam used in footwear, with applications expanding into seating, bedding, and other durable goods. Now, we're ready to commercialize a plant-based alternative to synthetic leather.

KEY FACTS

- Evoco develops high performance plant-based chemistry and materials that enable decarbonization at scale and integrates seamlessly into global supply chains
- Evoco's solutions are used by major global brands and are expanding into new product categories such as automotive and furniture.
- With R&D in Canada and manufacturing in Vietnam, Evoco is built for scalable, international impact.

SUPPORT US

We are looking for strategic partners to scale our technology and introduction to investors to support our Series B fundraise who are focused in sustainability, climate and materials.

FOUNDER



**NATALIE
ASHDOWN**

MENTORED BY

Michelle Mcbane

INDUSTRY

Advanced Materials &
Advanced Manufacturing

STAGE

Scale

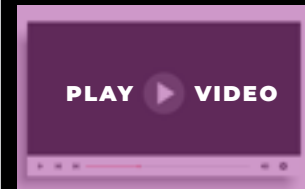


LOCATION

Toronto, ON

CONTACT

nashdown@evocoltd.com



MARLOW



ABOUT

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.

KEY FACTS

- \$1M+ in revenue from Amazon, DTC & retail including Whole Foods, Healthy Planet, and Sweat & Tonic
- Launching pilot into Shoppers Drug Mart this Fall
- Strong TikTok community of 135,000 through educational content strategy, allowing us to organically acquire customers
- \$2.5M raised to date from Dream Ventures, OCI, Rodeo Growth Partners, and leading consumer angel investors

SUPPORT US

We're raising our next round of financing to support our retail expansion and would love to connect with consumer or women's health funds that are interested.

FOUNDER



NADIA LADAK

MENTORED BY

Joe Parenteau and Sarah Willson

INDUSTRY

Retail

STAGE

Scale

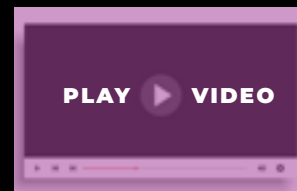


LOCATION

Toronto, ON

CONTACT

nadia.ladak@wearemarlow.com



NEXT
FOUNDERS
TOP
ENTREPRENEUR
AWARD



MESH SCHEDULING INC.

ABOUT

MESH SCHEDULING INC. is a healthcare software/ SaaS company based out of Kingston, Canada and San Francisco, USA. Built on a foundation of more than twenty years of academic and industrial research and development, thousands of healthcare providers in Canada, and the US.

Mesh AI is a powerful automated staff scheduling (SaaS) platform built for hospitals, clinics, and office practices. This rule- and template-based platform is designed to handle even the most complicated physician, resident, fellow, and preceptor call, clinic, and block scheduling tasks with ease using the latest progress in AI and gen-AI.

KEY FACTS

- Powering clinician scheduling in hospitals, academic centers, and healthcare systems with fairness and transparency.
- Embedded AI-driven engine and workflows to help with i) implementation of and ii) day-to-day scheduling needs of the most complex use cases.
- To integrate with EMRs and other healthcare systems to streamline workflows and make sales and implementation as easy as possible.

SUPPORT US

We are seeking partners and institutional customers to accelerate adoption, pilot new integrations, and support growth into broader enterprise and academic healthcare networks.

FOUNDER



**SHAHRAM
YOUSEFI**

INDUSTRY

SaaS

STAGE

Scale



LOCATION

San Francisco, CA

CONTACT

president@meshai.io



MIMIC

mimic

ABOUT

MIMIC is the first industry-specific GenAI tool that cuts down the time-consuming work of ideation, mockups, and versioning by generating content that teams and clients can co-edit live, and for manual edits, creatives can export layered outputs directly to any editing tool. mimic helps creative teams produce safe, on-brand content faster, without risking client or proprietary data. It

KEY FACTS

- Allows you to be the conductor of creative ideation with your brand's own private, on-brand AI image SLM, powered by our industry specific, and commercially safe foundational model
- We reduce the ideation process by ~80%, think of your mimic canvas like the cursor for creative teams
- Currently piloting with large enterprise clients like MediaOne, Wasserman, Republic Records, Sony Music, Roots, and launch early Fall to our waitlist

SUPPORT US

Actively raising, 2M (USD) in SAFEs. And also looking to connect with agencies and brand creative teams.

FOUNDER(S)



**ANDREW
SACCHETTI**



CARLY TRINIER

MENTORED BY

Mike McCarron and
Claire Fauquier

INDUSTRY

Enterprise Software
(includes AI/big data tools)

STAGE

Validation

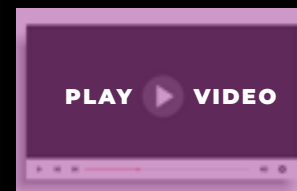


LOCATION

Toronto, ON

CONTACT

carly@yourmimic.com



OPPOS



ABOUT

OPPOS is an AI-powered compliance platform that helps businesses meet cybersecurity and privacy standards like SOC 2, ISO 27001, and HIPAA with less time and cost. We simplify regulatory audits through automation, serving digital media, SaaS, and real estate firms. Our U.S. arm, Tech-ComplyNexus, focuses on expansion into federal and enterprise markets.

KEY FACTS

- Oppos is a Toronto-based cybersecurity assessment company offering penetration testing, risk assessments, and compliance services.
- Oppos helps SMEs protect against ransomware, secure data privacy, and meet regulatory/ISO standards.
- Founded in 2019, serving both public and private sectors.

SUPPORT US

We seek strategic partnerships and funding to expand our service delivery, scale cloud-native compliance offerings, and grow our client base across industries.

FOUNDER



DARACE ROSE

MENTORED BY

Brendan Callaghan

INDUSTRY

Security

STAGE

Efficiency

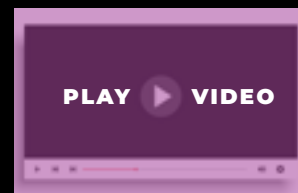


LOCATION

Markham, ON

CONTACT

darace.rose@getoppos.com



OTTAWA INFOTAINMENT

ABOUT

OTTAWA INFOTAINMENT delivers a modular, software-defined electronics platform that enables automakers to develop digital cockpits, instrument clusters, and infotainment systems at up to 90% lower cost compared to traditional automotive suppliers

KEY FACTS

- Key customers include automotive Tier 1s (e.g., Yazaki, \$20B+) and OEMs like ULV, with growing traction in EVs, SDVs, and accessible mobility.
- Generated \$1.2M USD in revenue in 2024, with a strong pipeline projecting \$2.5M USD in 2025.
- Team includes former engineers and execs from Blackberry QNX, Subaru, Aston Martin, and McLaren, bringing deep automotive domain expertise.

SUPPORT US

We're looking for strategic partners who can help us scale as we solve one of automotive's biggest challenges: modernizing vehicle software architecture.

FOUNDER



SEAN HAZARAY

MENTORED BY

Dwayne Forde and Noel Webb

INDUSTRY

Transportation

STAGE

Scale

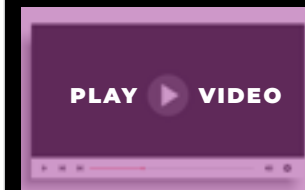


LOCATION

Ottawa, ON

CONTACT

sean@ottawainfotainment.com



RESONANCE



ABOUT

RESONANCE is the leading provider of market intelligence across deep technology verticals such as quantum, space, immersive, climate and AI. The business serves hundreds of clients – ranging from startups to national governments – with its SaaS subscription intelligence, strategic advisory and marketing offerings.

KEY FACTS

- Owns and operates The Quantum Insider, Space Impulse, and other leading deep tech intelligence platforms.
- Serves national governments, Big Tech, and startups with strategic insights and market activation.
- Grown 100% year-on-year through proprietary platforms and consulting work.

SUPPORT US

We welcome collaboration with clients seeking deep tech market intelligence and strategic ecosystem support.

FOUNDER



ALEX CHALLANS

MENTORED BY

Will Ma

INDUSTRY

Enterprise Software

STAGE

Scale

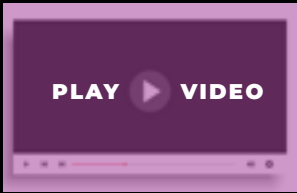


LOCATION

Toronto, ON

CONTACT

hello@resonance.holdings



SAMOS INSURANCE SOLUTIONS



ABOUT

SAMOS INSURANCE SOLUTIONS is a VC-backed insurtech offering first-of-its-kind, digitally embedded insurance products that protect individuals undergoing surgery or childbirth: providing peace of mind for them and their loved ones when it matters most. Delivered directly, through employers, or via enterprise private-label partnerships with insurance companies and financial institutions, Samos Insurance Solutions' proprietary underwriting engine and seamless user experience platform make coverage accessible, affordable, and human without the complexity or bureaucracy of traditional insurance.

KEY FACTS

- Award-winning, modern insurance powered by human-centred AI technology
- Launched the world's first surgical risk and birth coverage insurance
- Platform built to develop and scale modern, embedded, and accessible insurance solutions

SUPPORT US

We're seeking distribution partners and warm introductions to financial advisors, employers, carrier partners and investors reshaping the future of customer-first insurance.

FOUNDER



**LEON
PUNAMBOLAM**

MENTORED BY

Lauren Arnold and
Julia Kirouac

INDUSTRY

Financial Services

STAGE

Efficiency

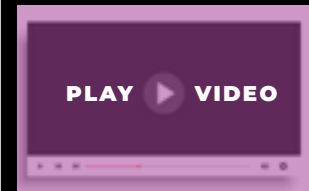


LOCATION

Kitchener, ON

CONTACT

partnerships@samos.com



SELLIT9



ABOUT

SELLIT9 is the software layer for trade-ins. We turn used household items into instant liquidity, either as a direct payout or instant store credit redeemable with merchants, brands, or loyalty programs using the SELLIT9 Trade platform. It works out of the box via one-click Shopify install or as a custom white-label solution. Our fully managed programs help our merchant, brand, and loyalty partners unlock hidden value, boost conversions, and support sustainability without any operational lift or need to handle inventory.

KEY FACTS

- Turning used household items into instant liquidity (cash, credit, or points)
- ~1.2M GMV annualized with ~17% MoM growth
- Approved Shopify App; already powering trade-ins across 5 live stores

SUPPORT US

We are looking for intros to eCommerce, loyalty, and retail partners who want to grow revenue, build loyalty, and drive sustainability through trade-ins.

FOUNDER



JOSH GUTTMAN

MENTORED BY

Noel Webb

INDUSTRY

E-Commerce

STAGE

Scale

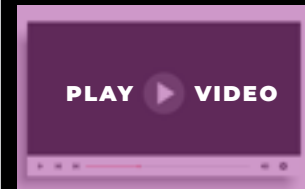


LOCATION

Toronto, ON

CONTACT

josh@sellit9.com



SPECTRA PLASMONICS



ABOUT

SPECTRA PLASMONICS makes technology that enables lab grade chemical analysis by anyone, anywhere. Spectra's products are currently deployed across North America to help first responders combat the opioid crisis by accurately detecting dangerous substances like fentanyl. The company's technology is also being piloted for other high impact industrial use cases in food and natural resources.

KEY FACTS

- Commercial sales across 5 provinces and 7 US states within industries of national importance: public safety (narcotics analysis), food, and mining.
- Solution comprised of patented hardware, and foundational AI models built from proprietary data
- On track to building the world's largest real-time chemical fingerprint dataset of illicit drugs to power breakthrough advancements in molecular spectroscopy

SUPPORT US

We are looking to connect with strategic customers, channel partners, as well deep tech investors to help accelerate our next phase of growth.

FOUNDER



MALCOLM EADE

MENTORED BY

Noel Webb

INDUSTRY

Life Sciences and Advanced Health

STAGE

Efficiency

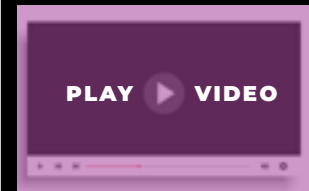


LOCATION

Waterloo, ON

CONTACT

malcolm@spectra
plasmonics.com



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TRANSFORMATIONAL



VISIONARY



THE SIXTY THREE
FOUNDATION



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INNOVATOR



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LEADER & BUILDER



ANONYMOUS

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OUR F25 AND PLEDGED ALUMNI DONORS



Morgan Wyatt



Noel Webb



**Michael
Schmidt**



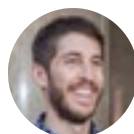
Ronen Benin



Lexi Kaplin



Sameer Dhar



Bryan Altman



**Nikita
Tarakanov**



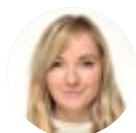
Kate Wallace



Daniel Rodic



Nicola Sahar



Emilie Cushman



**Josh
Domingues**



Zak Lefevre



Steven Heidel



Dan McCann



Mallorie Brodie



Lauren Lake



Braden Ream



Steven Wellman



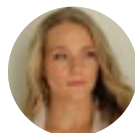
Viler Lika



Maryam Nabavi



Ravina Anand



**Nicole
Baranowski**



Ian Burgess



Mike Murchison



Paul Shenouda



Henry Shi



Hussein Fazal



Yilun Zhang



Lauren Long



Gordie Best



**Michael
Helander**



**Andrew
Lawrence**



Jackson Axle



Rafal Dittwald



NEXT CANADA 15

NEXT CANADA, 175 BLOOR STREET EAST, SOUTH TOWER, SUITE 1800, TORONTO, ON M4W 3R8
NEXT AI - MONTREAL, 6795 RUE MARCONI BUREAU 200, MONTREAL, QUEBEC H2S 3J9

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