

April 22, 2021

EIGHT TEAMS ADVANCE TO THE FINAL STAGES OF THE NEXSTREAM TECH COMPETITION **Teams vying for a share of up to \$300,000 in total funding and services tackle challenges inspired by Campbell River, B.C.**

More than 60 teams from around the world applied to participate in the second round of Campbell River's NexStream Tech Competition. Now, as NexStream passes its midpoint, eight teams are advancing to the competition's final stages. Over the next few months, they'll complete the Rapid Prototyping phase and progress to Review & Demo Days—their final opportunity to wow the judges before this year's winners are selected. Up to \$300,000 in total funding and services are up for grabs this year.

"From the very beginning, we've been impressed with the calibre of teams participating in this year's NexStream Tech Competition. They've certainly set the bar very high," says Dana Kammergard, angel investor and co-founder of the [Campbell River Area Angel Group](#) (CRAAG). *"These eight teams in particular hooked us with their innovative ideas and solid business plans. It's been a privilege to watch them progress through the competition, and we're looking forward to seeing how their projects evolve over the next few months."*

The eight teams that will be continuing in the competition are:

- Ania Wysocka, [Rootd](#) (Vancouver Island, B.C.)
- Gordon Anderson, [AazeinTx](#) (Calgary, A.B.)
- Kim Lawrence, [Ideon Technologies](#) (Richmond, B.C.)
- Julie Angus, [Open Ocean Robotics](#) (Victoria, B.C.)
- Valerie Song, [AVA Technologies Inc.](#) (Vancouver, B.C.)
- Cassandra Hui, [Heal Mary](#) (Vancouver, B.C.)
- John Barclay, [ABOzymes Biomedical](#) (Vancouver, B.C.)
- Jenn Zee and Colin Sullivan, [MintGreen](#) (Burnaby, B.C.)

"NexStream is drawing international attention to Campbell River, and showcasing the culture of innovation, creativity and collaboration that thrives in our community," says Mayor Andy Adams. *"These teams are applying technology in ways that are relevant to industries and businesses here in Campbell River—and beyond. It's exciting that NexStream and Campbell River can be part of their entrepreneurial journey."*

CRAAG has committed to providing continued business-development support to six businesses that demonstrated tremendous merit.

Those teams are:

- Jen Lee and Rob Lee, [Smith & Lee Local Butcher](#) (Campbell River, B.C.)
- Damien Gillis, [ProjectDome](#) (Campbell River, B.C.)
- Landon Sheck, [aux box](#) (Parksville, B.C.)
- Lauren Ellis, [IV ME](#) (Vancouver Island, B.C.)
- Fiona Rayher, [Hoovie](#) (Vancouver, B.C.)
- Paige Whitehead, [Nyoka Design Labs](#) (Vancouver Island, B.C.)

COVID-19

Please note: We have new procedures in place to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

We are gradually – carefully – resuming in-person services and limited public access to City facilities. For the most recent information on City services, please see our website ([campbellriver.ca](#)). Reach us with general inquiries by email (info@campbellriver.ca) or telephone **250-286-5700**.

“We want as many teams as possible to receive value from participating in the NexStream Tech Competition,” says Rose Klukas, the City of Campbell River’s economic development officer. “In the Rapid Prototyping phase, for example, teams have been working with mentors and attending skill-building workshops. And six enterprising businesses will benefit from the additional support that CRAAG is offering. Opportunities like these help NexStream participants make connections and strengthen their business skills.”

Visit <https://nexstream.is/> for more information about the NexStream Tech Competition.

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About the NexStream Tech Competition

The NexStream Tech Competition was founded in 2019 through a partnership between the City of Campbell River Economic Development and the Campbell River Area Angel Group. Based in Campbell River, B.C., this international competition aims to cultivate creative solutions to challenges faced by the region’s industries, with a focus on clean, sustainable technology. These challenges are relevant to industries worldwide. Challenge categories vary each year.

This year, NexStream innovators are tackling four industry-related challenges inspired by Campbell River’s coastal region: health and emergency preparedness, sustainable resource innovation, food security and a wildcard category.

Winners of the first NexStream Tech Competition have already received commitments of investment funding with a combined value of more than \$700,000.

Websites:

- Campbell River Area Angel Group: <https://craag.ca/>
- Rootd: <https://www.rootd.io/>
- AazeinTx: <https://aazeintx.com/>
- Ideon Technologies: <https://ideon.ai/>
- Open Ocean Robotics: <https://openoceanrobotics.com/>
- AVA Technologies Inc.: <https://avagrows.com/>
- Heal Mary: <https://healmaryapp.com/>
- Smith & Lee Local Butcher: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/category/Butcher-Shop/Smith-Lee-Local-Butcher-115919403128057/>
- aux box: <https://www.auxbox.ca/>
- Hoovie: <https://hoovie.movie/>
- Nyoka Design Labs: <https://www.lightbynyoka.com/>

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