

August 14, 2020

NexStream competition finale Sept. 9: Tune in for results of global technology challenge

Of the original 40 participants in Campbell River's NexStream competition, seven have made it to the finals. The winners of this global technology challenge, vying for cash prizes, will be announced in an online presentation. Mark your calendar and tune in at techatchery.ca at 10 a.m. Sept. 9

The stakes are high, with prizes ranging from \$45,000 to \$75,000 and the potential for more seed capital if angel investors determine winning innovation warrants further investment.

"The NexStream competition is a forward-thinking collaboration between the City's economic development department and Campbell River Area Angel Group. It has helped establish Campbell River as a high-tech growth area, a community that welcomes and supports innovation," says Mayor Andy Adams. "We're looking forward to hearing the results of the winners in each category – and potentially to seeing these tech solutions implemented to assist with local industry challenges."

NexStream is a series of competitions seeking solutions to industry challenges in the host city, Campbell River, B.C. Individuals and businesses around the world come up with innovative solutions tailored to meet the needs of the local business ecosystem.

The categories for NexStream 1.0 are: Energy, Wildlife Monitoring, Food Security and Wildcard.

Challenge participants spent approximately six months to produce prototypes to present to the panels of expert judges. Through the initial phases, the NexStream process includes mentorship and skill development in business strategy, prototype development and marketing.

"We've been very pleased by the range of high-quality entries that we have received in this initial round of NexStream contests, and it has been especially rewarding to watch the development as they participated in the support programs provided by Spring and the mentorship opportunities through CRAGG," states David Baar, one of the angel investors.

Due to COVID-19, plans for the finale of the first round of the NexStream competition have transformed from an in-person demonstration and awards ceremony into a virtual event.

In addition to revealing the winning inventors and their creations, the finale will include a special announcement about the upcoming NexStream 2.0 competition.

Visit <u>https://nexstream.is/</u> for more information about the NexStream Tech Competition. Find out more about Campbell River's technology initiatives at TECHatchery.ca.

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Please note: 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.