

Global Entrepreneurship Week Ottawa: Invest Ottawa Announces 2013 Ottawa Entrepreneurial Rising Stars

Today Invest Ottawa, on behalf of the community organizing committee of Global Entrepreneurship Week Ottawa (GEWOttawa), announced Ottawa's 2013 Rising Stars. Rising stars are entrepreneurs from across the city. Their companies represent a broad cross-section of sectors from technology to retail to social enterprise. Recipients will be celebrated on November 21st as part of Global Entrepreneurship Week Ottawa.

Global Entrepreneurship Week, the world's largest celebration of innovators and risk-takers that drive economic growth, create solutions and transform the way we live, runs from November 18-24th. Locally, the community's entrepreneurs will be invited to participate in a variety of events ranging from bootcamps to webinars hosted by more than 25 organizations throughout the week.

Who are Ottawa's Rising Stars, you ask?

They are the force of change, visionary leaders who are involved in their community and demonstrate entrepreneurial spirit, integrity and sound leadership. Bruce Lazenby, President and CEO of Invest Ottawa says that "They are our neighbours and friends who are finding better ways of doing things. They are risk-takers who prefer to create a job rather than find a job. Ultimately, they are the people who are responsible for driving economic growth within our city."

"Global Entrepreneurship Week is our opportunity to provide entrepreneurs the well-deserved recognition for taking a risk to make a difference and create change," said Kevin Carroll, Managing Director of Innovation at Invest Ottawa. "It's also a great way to bring the entrepreneurial support ecosystem together to explore opportunities to work together in order to promote entrepreneurial growth."

Given the volume and quality of nominations, the adjudication committee was faced with a formidable task. This year, Ottawa's Rising Stars cover the gamut from growing exciting startups and social enterprises to non-profit organizations. Below is the list of this year's honourees:

Sandy Ahluwalia, Secureship
Weggon Allen, Ottawa Print Hub
Brad Bezan, Spark* Lifecare
Danielle Cantin, Brewer Park Community Garden
Jay Conohan, Ronyn Inc.
Jesse Cressman-Dickinson, HUB Ottawa
Jay Garlough, Hidden Harvest
Shahzad Khan, Gnowit Inc.
Katie Miller, HUB Ottawa
Dan Monafu, Soup Ottawa
Julien Northey, Frontier Agri-Science Inc.
Marie Cecil Nottaway, Wawatay Catering

Ananth Seshan, 5G Energy Limited
Katrina Siks, Hidden Harvest
Mehran Talebinejad, NeuroQore Inc.
Bettina Vollmerhausen, SMAKK
Walter Willet, HorseCountry
Jean-Paul Yovanoff, Flashpoint Photobooth
Amir Zagari, Babes & Gents Clothing

GEW is more than just an awareness campaign. It is a platform for connection and collaboration—engaging all players along the entrepreneurship spectrum in strengthening ecosystems around the world. For more information on the events and activities planned in Ottawa visit gewottawa.ca.

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About Invest Ottawa:

Invest Ottawa delivers export-oriented economic development programs and initiatives that increase entrepreneurial momentum, wealth and jobs in the City of Ottawa and its surrounding region. Its goal is to make Ottawa the best place in Canada to start and grow a knowledge-based business. Invest Ottawa services include startup incubation and mentorship, acceleration for existing companies, global business attraction and local business retention, targeted sector development, commercialization, and marketing Ottawa's diversified economy and high quality of life.

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