



Future Star Award Competition 2019



World Trade Centre, Toronto
September 22, 2019

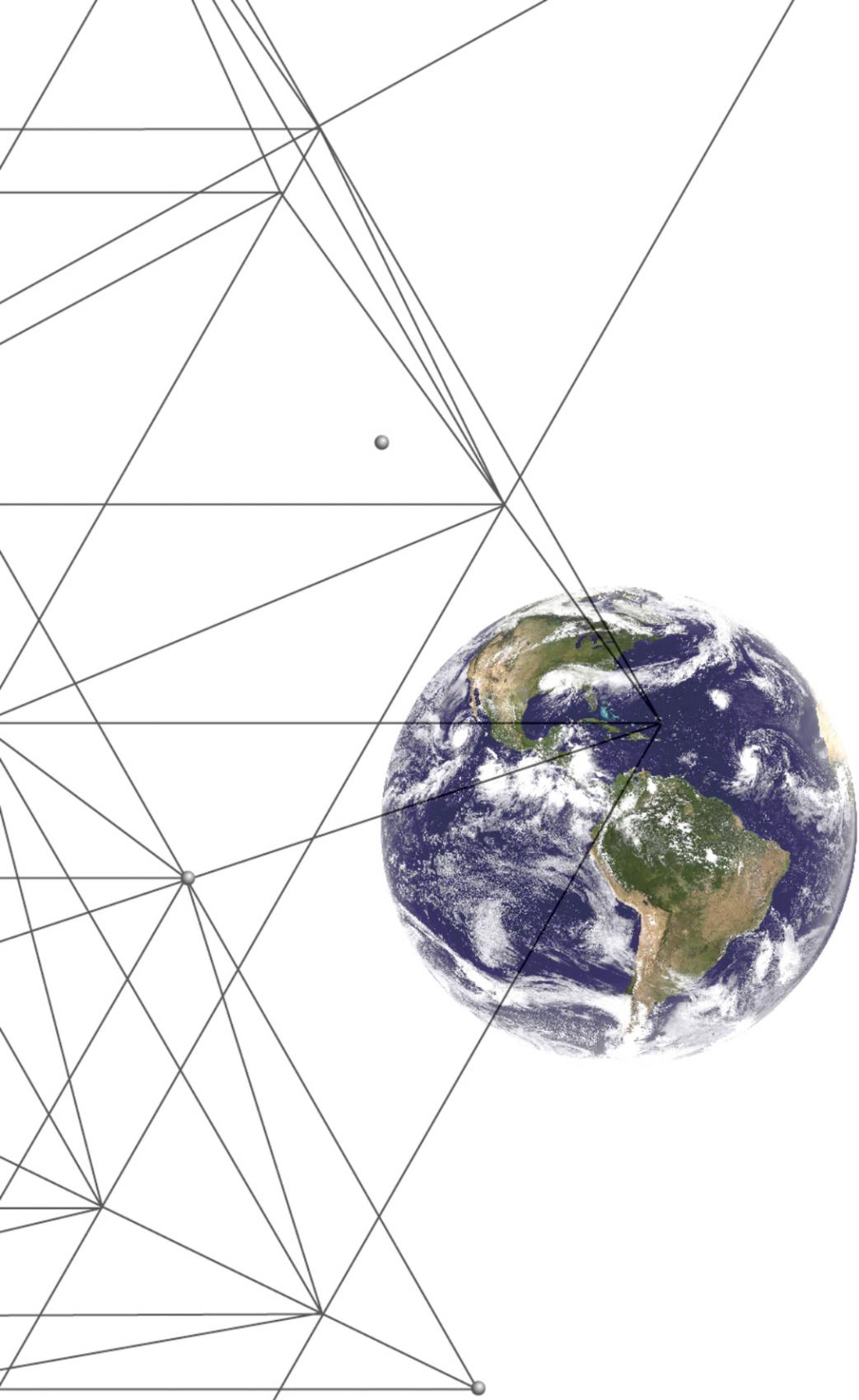


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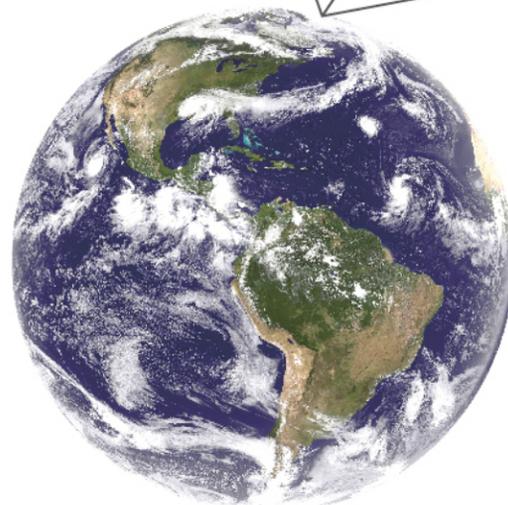
Future Star Award Pitch Competition

The Future Star Award aims to motivate SMEs to develop a global view of their business and bring Canadian innovation and culture to the global marketplace.

This award is a \$20,000 cash prize, and the deadline for the award application was June 7, 2019. Over 80 companies signed up for an opportunity to win this exciting award.

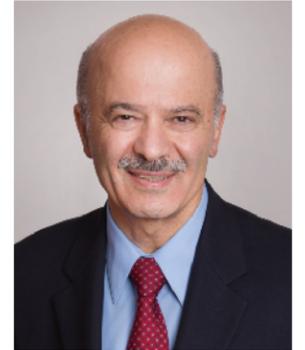
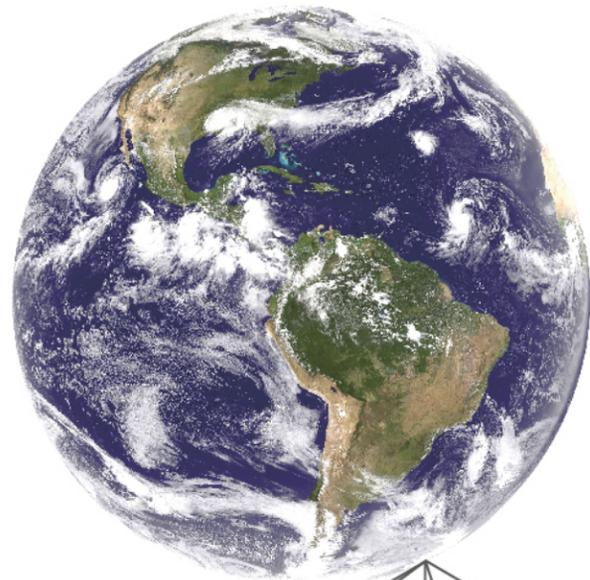
The applications were screened by CISA and the top ten (10) applicants were selected to enter the next round as finalists.

Each finalist will deliver a 5-minute presentation to a panel of judges about their company and their innovation. The judges are from a cross-section of the business community, and will select the winner based on what they think is the most innovative and valuable contribution to Canada's economy that can also scale globally.



Agenda

- Registration
- Opening remarks
- Presentations
 - Linda Kaleis: A4i
 - Rick. R. Fu: Aminoasis
 - Stefano Piccone: Conavi
 - Ian R. McGregor: Drystill
 - James Larsen: e-Zn
- Coffee break
- Presentations
 - John Fielding: Earthwise Global information
 - Hamed Layssi: FPrimeC Solutions
 - Mohammad Ali Amini: Nanology Labs
 - Eliav shaked: RetiSpec
 - Mark Elias: Steadiwear
- Judges deliberation
- Announcement of the winner
- Presentation of the award
- Closing remarks



Letter from the Chair

CISA, Honorary Advisory Board

Dear Participants,

It is my great pleasure to welcome you to the Canada Innovative SMEs Association's (CISA) Future Star Award Pitch Competition. This is CISA's first time offering this event, and we think you will be extremely impressed with the calibre of companies who will present today. It should be a heated competition!

When we decided to form CISA, it was because we knew of the great potential of highly innovative Canadian companies, and the number of international investors who wanted to encourage them to open chapters overseas. This presents a great opportunity, yet it is not an easy task to be accomplished by many SMEs alone.

Having been in business internationally for several decades, CISA's founders understand this space. Canadian innovation is highly sought worldwide, especially in fields such as AI, biomedical sciences, advanced manufacturing, energy and the environment, and the agri- food industry.

We wanted to build a platform where we could connect with Canadian SMEs- specifically with those companies who wish to grow overseas- and understand the challenges they face in global expansion.

We hope you enjoy the event, but more importantly, we hope you feel inspired by the talented companies who will present today. Please continue to engage with Canadian innovation, and let us know how we can continue to help Canadian SMEs expand abroad.

Good luck to today's presenters!

Yours sincerely,



Reza Moridi, PhD



THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OF ONTARIO
LA LIEUTENANTE-GOUVERNEURE DE L'ONTARIO



September 22, 2019

I extend a warm welcome to everyone taking part in the inaugural Future Star Award Pitch Competition of the Canada Innovative SMEs Association.

This deliberately forward-looking conversation gets to the root of how humanity may creatively and collaboratively navigate the great challenges wrought by the change and uncertainty of our times.

The calibre and diversity of the ideas to be presented are both humbling and encouraging. To each applicant I say, no matter the outcome of this competition, you may rightly take pride in your willingness to engage and your drive to build a more resilient world. This is your time to shine.

As Her Majesty The Queen's representative, and on behalf of a grateful province, I commend the many organizers, sponsors, participants, and audience members for coming together for this most fruitful and promising dialogue. Please enjoy!

Elizabeth Dowdeswell



Premier of Ontario - Premier ministre de l'Ontario



September 22, 2019

A MESSAGE FROM PREMIER DOUG FORD

I want to extend warm greetings to everyone taking part in the Future Star Award Pitch Competition. Best of luck to the ten innovative companies making a pitch.

One of the things that make Ontario great is the innovative spirit of our small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). In advanced manufacturing, health care, energy, agri-food and other major economic sectors, Canadian innovations hold the potential to improve productivity and output, and enhance our quality of life.

I thank the Canada Innovative SMEs Association for its commitment to helping our innovative SMEs grow and find success in today's competitive global markets.

I want all of you to know that our government is working hard to make it easier to do business in Ontario. We're getting out of the way of our job creators, cutting through the red tape that holds businesses back, lowering business costs, and sending a clear message to the world that Ontario is open for business, open for jobs.

Have a great day and an exciting competition. And congratulations to the winner!

Doug Ford
Premier



August 20, 2019

Dear friends,

I am delighted to extend my warmest greeting to everyone taking part in the Toronto Board of Trade SMEs competition.

By organizing such events, it allows Canadian companies to grow within their own industries and an opportunity to excel. Collaboration, innovation, and networking allow firms to further their development and maximize results.

I would like to applaud the Canada Innovative SMEs Association for organizing this wonderful event. Thank you for your hard work and dedication and wish the competing companies success.

Best wishes,

Hon. Navdeep Bains, P.C, M.P

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Robert Oliphant

M.P. for Don Valley West
 Député de Don Valley-Ouest



September 22, 2019

Canadian Innovative SMEs Association
 Future Star Award Pitch Competition 2019

On the occasion of the Canadian Innovative SMEs Association's Future Star Award Pitch Competition, I am delighted to welcome ten innovative companies to the World Trade Centre Toronto.

This event demonstrates the difference it will make for numerous Canadian SMEs as these companies seek to expand their activities beyond our borders. The expertise, connections and networking opportunities that CISA's group of seasoned entrepreneurs will provide to numerous Canadian SMEs are invaluable; the opportunity before these ten companies today is one that I know they do not take for granted.

As Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, I commend CISA's vision of helping innovative SMEs expand into the global market. I am proud that CISA has recognized how much Canada's SMEs have to offer our valued trading partners and is striving to facilitate these crucial international connections.

I wish the best of luck to each and every one of the innovative companies in attendance today and I greatly thank CISA for the work they are doing to realize a more widely connected and prosperous Canada of the future.

Robert Oliphant, MP
 Don Valley West

House of Commons The Valour Building, Room 1200 Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6 Tel: 613-992-2855 Fax: 613-995-1635	Constituency 1670 Bayview Ave., Suite 310 Toronto, Ontario M4G 3C2 Tel: 416-467-7275 Fax: 416-467-8550	Chambre des Communes Édifice de la Bravoure, Pièce 1200 Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6 Tel: 613-992-2855 Fax: 613-995-1635	Circonscription 1670 Ave Bayview, Pièce 310 Toronto, Ontario M4G 3C2 Tel: 416-467-7275 Fax: 416-467-8550
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**A Message from the
Associate Minister of Small
Business and Red Tape
Reduction**



SEPTEMBER 22, 2019

2019 Future Star Award Competition

Congratulations to the 10 Canadian companies selected to showcase their innovations at the inaugural Future Star Award Competition.

This event is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate and recognize the incredible achievements and contributions of Canada's many small and medium-sized businesses. Their work provides opportunities for hardworking Ontarians and plays an integral role in the economic development and growth of our province.

Ontario recognizes the importance of helping entrepreneurs and business leaders seize opportunities for growth so that they can succeed in both domestic and global markets. Our government has a clear, modern vision to drive economic development in the province through our focus on attracting investment, restoring Ontario's competitive advantage, and fostering an environment where good jobs can be created.

In Ontario, one of our greatest assets is our people. Proudly home to an inspired, innovative and talented population, this competition promotes the wealth of ingenuity found across the country.

Thank you to CISA for celebrating Canada's innovative entrepreneurs and giving business the chance to connect directly with investors to build and strengthen their networks. Please accept my best wishes for an enjoyable and successful competition.

Sincerely,

Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria
Associate Minister



Message from the Mayor

It is my pleasure to extend greetings and a warm welcome to everyone attending the Future Star Award Pitch Competition hosted by the Canada Innovative SMEs Association.

Congratulations and best wishes to the talented and innovative small and medium sized companies that have won a spot in today's pitching competition. This event is a great opportunity to promote your companies while networking with business professionals.

As Canada's largest city and the fourth largest in North America, Toronto is a global centre for business, finance, arts and culture and is dedicated to being a model of sustainable development. I welcome everyone to our city and encourage you to enjoy Toronto and learn about our vibrant neighbourhoods.

On behalf of Toronto City Council, please accept my best wishes for an informative and enjoyable event.

Yours truly,

John Tory
Mayor of Toronto

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
100 QUEEN STREET WEST, TORONTO, ONTARIO, M5H 2N2



September 22, 2019

Personal Message from Mayor Bonnie Crombie



Dear Friends,

On behalf of the City of Mississauga and Members of my Council, I would like to extend my best wishes to the leadership, contestants and all those attending CISA's Future Star Award Pitch Competition.

Mississauga is proud to be home to over 94,000 businesses, 95 per cent of which are small businesses. I can think of no better place than Mississauga to host such an innovative and exciting event.

While the saying is true that innovation can happen anywhere, at any time, in Mississauga, we are working to enrich our innovation ecosystem so that our City is not only a place where great ideas are born, but where discoveries can be advanced and fully commercialized.

I am proud of the Canada Innovative SMEs Association for helping Mississauga's most innovative small and medium enterprises expand globally. We are working together with industry and our business community to ensure that Mississauga is not only a place where innovators can come up with the big ideas but where they can also bring them to life.

I'd like to congratulate all of the nominees and winners of this year's Future Star Award Pitch Competition.

It's important that we shine a light on the achievements of entrepreneurs and the small and medium business owners across our nation who are helping revolutionize and change our world for the better.

Warmest Regards,

Bonnie Crombie, MBA, ICD.D
Mayor, City of Mississauga



Frank Scarpitti
Mayor

September 22, 2019

MESSAGE FROM MAYOR SCARPITTI

On behalf of Members of Council and the City of Markham, I am pleased to extend our best wishes to everyone attending the *Canada Innovative SMEs Association (CISA) Future Star Award Pitch Competition*.

Markham and York Region make up Canada's second largest tech cluster, we are home to industry leaders and exciting scale-ups and innovators. Markham is not just evolving in step with the digital economy, we're leading it. The skilled and diverse talent that we've attracted to Markham is what companies are looking, in order for them to succeed, they need the best and the brightest.

I would like to commend the team at Canada Innovative SMEs Association for your work in helping Canada's most innovative SME's expand and compete locally and globally.

I would like to thank organizers and volunteers for strengthening social, cultural and economic ties between different levels of government, entrepreneurs and the business community. Thank you for providing a platform for networking and for exchanging knowledge and expertise; while connecting innovators to the services and investments they need to succeed. Congratulations to the all the participants on sharing their vision toward a better world.

As the Mayor of Markham, Canada's High-Tech Capital, I would like to wish you success and prosperity as you help drive Canada's economy forward on the global stage.

Sincerely,

Frank Scarpitti
Mayor



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Hon. Maurizio Bevilacqua, P.C.
Mayor



**Thank You for
Attending CISA's Future
Star Award Pitch Competition**

September 22, 2019

I am pleased to extend greetings to everyone attending the Canada Innovative SMEs Association's Future Star Award Pitch Competition.

The Canada Innovative SMEs Association(CISA)is a non-profit organization that focuses on pairing start-ups, scale-ups and established SMEs with global market resources and investors to support Canada's future prosperity and international competitiveness. CISA's Future Star Award Pitch Competition will provide a platform for innovative SMEs to develop a global view of their business and bring Canadian innovation to the global marketplace.

The City of Vaughan is committed to business excellence and building on our position as an economic leader in the Greater Toronto Area and beyond. With more than 12,000 businesses that employ more than 220,000 people, Vaughan has the talent, businesses, networks and transportation connections to help companies of all sizes scale and expand.

We are reaching unrivalled potential as an emerging world-class city and continue to press ahead with important city-building initiatives. Vaughan promotes diversity, innovation and opportunity for all citizens and organizations like the Canada Innovative SMEs Association continue to position Vaughan and Canada as places of smart investment.

Please accept my best wishes for a successful event.

Yours sincerely,

Hon. Maurizio Bevilacqua, P.C.
Mayor

CISA Board of Directors



Robert Bao

Robert Bao is a veteran entrepreneur whose company has over 10,000 employees in China, with a primary focus on textile manufacturing and international trading. Robert and his family immigrated to Canada in 2010 and call Toronto their new home. He is an angel investor who has supported high-tech start-ups both in North America and in China.



Max Xiong

Max Xiong is a successful entrepreneur with extensive business experience. Before moving to Canada with his family in 2018, he was the Chairman of Evergrande Group's Southwest Division for 18 years. During his time with Evergrande, he grew his division from scratch, to sales of \$8 billion. Evergrande's Southwest Division's net profit in 2017 was \$1.4 billion, leading Evergrande Group to become the largest real estate company in China. Over the years, Max has developed a deep knowledge and strong connections with the business community. Max holds a Master's Degree in Business Management from Sun Yat-sen University in China.



Jerry Liu

Jerry Liu is a senior financial expert with widely-recognized expertise in financial services, and has worked with multiple financial consultancy companies including London Life. Jerry is also committed to social responsibility programs, focused mainly on youth community leadership development. For his outstanding contributions, Jerry was awarded the Canada 150 Medal – a special commendation medal for the 150th Anniversary of Canada- in 2018.

CISA Honorary Advisory Board

Reza Moridi Chair

Dr Moridi is a former Cabinet Minister in Ontario, Canada, and as both the Minister of Research, Innovation and Science and Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities, he was instrumental in transforming the innovation ecosystem in Ontario.

While in government, he led numerous science, technology, research, and nuclear energy trade missions around the world, including to the USA, Europe, and Asia, showcasing Ontario's innovation talent and encouraging business partnerships with Ontario.

He initiated the establishment of Campus Linked Accelerators in all Ontario universities and colleges, expanded the mandate of the Ontario Capital Growth Corporation, and helped establish a number of venture capital funds. By securing substantial government funding for the expansion of MaRS Discovery District, he helped it grow into one of the largest innovation commercialization hubs in North America.

Through this sustained focus on growth and support for Canadian innovation, Ontario has consistently had one of the highest rates of foreign direct investment in North America, and its innovative workforce is a much sought-after talent pool worldwide.

Dr. Moridi holds graduate degrees from Tehran University and Brunel University London. He received an Honorary Doctorate from Odlar Yurdu University, Baku, Azerbaijan.

Prior to entering politics, he worked for 17 years at the Radiation Safety Institute of Canada where he was the Vice-President and Chief Scientist. He also worked in the electrical industry as an executive and in academia as a professor and administrator.



The Honorable John McCallum

The Honorable John McCallum is one of Canada's most distinguished citizens, having served as a politician, diplomat, respected academic, and banking executive. He was Canada's Ambassador to the People's Republic of China, and served as a Member of Parliament for Markham for 17 years.

Over the course of his political career, he held six ministerial portfolios, including National Defence and Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship. As Minister of Immigration he was responsible for welcoming 40,000+ Syrian refugees to Canada.

He is currently a Senior Strategic Advisor at McMillan LLP, and will serve as a Distinguished Academic Visitor at Queens' College, Cambridge in January 2020.

Prior to his political career, John McCallum served for almost 2 decades in academia, as Dean of the Faculty of Arts at McGill University, and as an economics professor at the Universite du Quebec a Montreal, Simon Fraser University, and the University of Manitoba.

After academia, he served as the Senior Vice President and Chief Economist at the Royal Bank of Canada for 6 years.

John McCallum has an MA from Queens' College, Cambridge, Diplome d'Etudes Superieures, Universite de Paris, and a PhD from McGill University. He is married to his wife Nancy Lim McCallum and has three sons.



Brad Duguid

Mr. Brad Duguid is a well-respected Canadian business and political leader, currently serving as Vice President of Corporate Affairs for CFFI Ventures. He held elected public office for over 30 years serving on as Ontario Minister of Economic Development, Infrastructure, Research and Innovation, Energy, Training Colleges and Universities, Aboriginal Affairs, Labour and Accessibility.

He led Team Ontario during the successful national negotiations for the new Canada Free Trade Agreement, the most ambitious free trade agreement in Canadian history. During this time, he was responsible for US engagement, which included negotiating MOU's with US State Governments, providing strategic advice on NAFTA and Buy-America Policies. Mr. Duguid has been recognized for lifetime achievements in reducing red tape for businesses, and accomplished this while managing ministries with budgets of up to \$1 billion.

His current work involves providing strategic advice, government relations and communications expertise to a number of CFFI owned companies, building partnerships with Indigenous communities and organizations, and engaging in Ontario and Canada's innovation technology sector.

Mr. Duguid graduated from the University of Toronto with a Bachelor's degree in Commerce.



Ozan Isinak

Ozan is an active investors and serial entrepreneur with over 25 years of international experience within the angel investment, venture capital and private equity sectors. Based out of Silicon Valley during the first dotcom boom in the 1990's, Ozan worked closely with Fortune 1000 companies in San Francisco, Los Angeles, Seattle, New York, Toronto, Hamburg, Stockholm, London and Istanbul. Ozan later acted as General Partner in various angel investment and private equity practices.

He is currently the President of Keiretsu Forum Canada, the world's largest angel investment network operating on four continents. The global network specializes in syndication of deals and invested over \$84 million USD into 180 early stage companies in 2018 alone. Ozan also holds a Partner position in Trendwell Ventures Inc., a Toronto based boutique M&A practice. He actively participates in portfolio investment decisions and helps technology enabled companies scale through hands-on management toward exit transactions.

Ozan received his MBA in Finance from the University of San Francisco – McLaren School of Business in 1998 and holds a double major in Economics & Political Science from the University of Western Ontario (1994). He speaks English, Turkish and French.



Competition Judges

CISA is honoured to have the following distinguished panel of judges provide their expertise and wisdom for today's Pitch Competition:

Dr. Saeid Babaei

Dr. Babaei's track record includes over 23 years of academic and corporate experience, during which he has led a number of novel and first-in-class product opportunities to either commercialization or to late-stage development.

Dr. Babaei is currently the Chairman and CEO of Orpheus Medica, a Canadian biopharmaceutical engaged in R&D and commercialization of novel compounds for "Orphan Diseases". Prior to Orpheus, he founded AbCelex Technologies that had successfully developed a series of antibody-based products for animal health. He has closed over 15 licensing and strategic partnership transactions, and raised over \$50 million in equity and debt financing.

Dr. Babaei holds a PhD and an executive MBA, from the University of Toronto. He is currently a Sessional Lecturer in MBA Entrepreneurship Program at Schulich Business School, York University. He is former Chairman of the Board of Directors of BriaCell and Vaxil Bio.



Mira Sirotic

Mira is an experienced business professional, speaker and entrepreneur who has contributed over 20+ years to a diverse range of organizations in a wide variety of industry sectors, including oil & gas, financial services, med-tech, retail, education, hospitality and global trade. As a CPA, CMA with a solid foundation in strategic management accounting, she sees the big picture and understands how all parts of an organization – from operations & marketing to finance, human resources & technology – must work together to create real value and achieve results.

As Vice President for the Canadian operations of Keiretsu Forum – the world's largest and most active early stage investment community (as ranked by Pitch-Book!) - Mira manages a diverse range of relationships and activities with investors, partners/sponsors and entrepreneurs. In addition to her role as Chair of Keiretsu Forum Canada's Deal Screening Committee, Mira coordinates multiple monthly investor meetings across central Canada and also helps to manage Keiretsu's annual Investor Capital Expo and the Keiretsu Academy Angel Investment Simulator Program, along with the growing "Keiretsu Women" portfolio, in partnership with Powerful Women Today.



Dr. Steven Moore

In 2018, Dr. Steven Moore founded Episome, a network of industry experts and partners to both design and implement solutions for life science companies launching corporate, clinical and commercial operations into North America to accelerate their drug development strategy.

Dr. Moore has a PhD in medical genetics and finished a fellowship at Harvard Medical in 2005. Experience includes 10 years in research, 8 years in Healthcare IT, and 12 years in the pharmaceutical industry. He launched 7 therapeutics, founded a cloud-based software company in 2003, and through a patent and leadership, launched a clinical trial technology acquired by IBM in 2015.



Dan Wasserman

Dan Wasserman, CEO, Mammoth Health Innovation Inc., started in advertising, then built a competitive intelligence business (sold to AC Nielsen), co-founded an entertainment technology company (3 years in Hollywood), then returned to create the hugely successful Sympatico™ Oreo™ promotion (generated \$25M+). In 1999, relocating to DC, over 11 years he worked with Pentagon brass, "3-letter agencies," the Joint Terrorism Task Force and in 2006 was 1 of 3 "Innovation of the Year" finalists for the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP).

Returning In 2010, he became a ventureLAB EIR (6 years), and created the Healthcare Ecosphere.

He is also the Vice-Chairman of ReMAP, a BL-NCE.





Company: App4Independence (A4i)
Presenter: Linda Kaleis, Lead Data Scientist



A4i is a joint venture between MEMOTEXT Corp., a leader in machine learning driven patient engagement, and Canada's leading mental health teaching hospital CAMH. A4i is a multi-feature app with demonstrated feasibility that uses mobile feed, text-based, and provider portal functions co-designed with users to enhance provider engagement and illness self-management for individuals living with schizophrenia or psychosis. Currently, A4i is being studied with CAMH, and the early psychosis service. A4i has raised an initial seed round to develop the system and undertake early commercialization activities. The (iOS and Android) app & portal make up the platform, helping patients by connecting virtually and anonymously and providing patient-coded tools and features to: a) reduce isolation, b) improve care coordination and support and c) gather data towards predictive modeling and improved insight into relapse risk.

A4i, the App4Independence, aims to solve a number of problems along the schizophrenia (SCZ) care continuum. An evidence-based, patient-to-patient mobile app and provider portal, A4i enhances illness self-management and provider engagement to support recovery, medication adherence and community functioning while using machine learning to predict and reduce relapse risk for people living with schizophrenia and psychosis. Early feasibility testing shows significant improvements in several symptom domains, with published results available in PLOS One. A4i combines multiple frameworks (social activation, stress, anxiety, motivation and cognition) to dynamically engage, collect data, tailor and deliver (anonymized) peer-to-peer and evidence-based content. A4i uses interactions, usage and ambient sleep monitoring, pioneering the use of a machine learning and hypothesis-driven content feed and data analysis to combine subjective and objective data elements for real-time personalization. These key functions of A4i are tailored to the specific needs and preferences of individual users. They were developed from a rigorous process of iterative and incremental development that involved reviews of the academic literature and building from proven e-health strategies. Most importantly, active participation of end-users and key stakeholders engaged as advisors throughout the course of iterative testing.



Company: Aminoasis
Presenter: Rick R. Fu



Aminoasis is start-up founded in early 2019 to commercialise technologies developed at the University of Toronto. We use chemistry as our engine for innovation to create novel catalysts for greener chemical syntheses, antimicrobial agents, and biodegradable plastics. Our goal is to help businesses produce important commodities in a sustainable and environmentally friendly manner.

Product Description

Amino acids are important building blocks for pharmaceuticals, functional materials, and biodegradable plastics. Despite its ubiquity in important commodities, current syntheses of amino acids lack generality and are limited to the few that nature can make. We have developed a novel method of amino acid synthesis that generates more diverse products than current methods. As well, our products are purer, synthesized faster, and are less costly to make. Our diverse library of amino acid building blocks allow us to rapidly assemble novel drug and material candidates for applications in antibiotic resistance, biodegradable & biocompatible materials, and carbon dioxide capture & utilization.



Company: Conavi
Presenter: Stefano Piccone, Vice President of Finance and Business Development



Conavi is a medical device company that develops technologies to image the heart during procedures. The company has developed two products, both of which have FDA clearance and Health Canada approval. Conavi also has distribution agreements with large partners in Japan and China. We were founded by a team of physicians and scientists based on research conducted at Sunnybrook and have a large IP portfolio including 53 issued patents. Conavi employs 90 staff, including 40 in manufacturing, at a 20,000 square foot, ISO-certified facility. Our goal is to improve heart health by making procedures simpler, faster, safer and more cost-effective.

Our first product is the Novasight Hybrid system which uses ultrasound and optics to image inside the arteries that supply the heart with blood. Our second product is the Foresight ICE system which uses ultrasound to image the chambers and structures of the heart. The current global market for competing technologies is \$950 mil USD, and due to several growth drivers, has the potential to double over the coming years. Broadly speaking, relative to the competition, our products are designed to provide better visualization at a lower cost. The company was co-founded by Dr. Brian Courtney, who in addition to serving as President & CEO, is also a practicing cardiologist and researcher at Sunnybrook. Both technologies were developed based on the experience and observations of Dr. Courtney and his colleagues in treating patients and performing procedures.



Company: Drystill
Presenter: Ian R. McGregor, CEO



Drystill is a privately held Canadian technology provider. Drystill has invented and is bringing to market a device called a SAM. It is the main component of an advanced industrial distillation system called TIEGA, which operates at low temperature using less than half the energy of conventional systems. Drystill has built several successful prototypes in industrial and academic settings. One of its current activities is using Aspen Plus to model the application of TIEGA to the cellulosic ethanol production in cooperation with Universities. Drystill seeks to both strategic partners and investors with a passion for Climate Change abatement.

SAM is a first-of-a-kind Canadian invention covered by a portfolio of 33 international patents. The need for it is worldwide and urgent. Distillation uses 10% of the energy used in the world for any purpose, and the energy it uses comes mostly from the combustion of fossil fuels in industrial boilers. Companies presently using conventional distillation equipment can reduce fuel costs GHG emissions by retrofitting with TIEGA. In certain industries the chief attraction of TIEGA is its capability to boil liquids at room temperature. In food and beverage processing this can preserve delicate aromas and flavours. In the biofuel industry it can be utterly transformative. It would enable ethanol to be removed from living fermentation broth without harming yeast or enzymes, and this in turn would to higher productivity, higher yield, and lower capital costs as compared to conventional techniques.



Company: e-Zn
Presenter: James Larsen, CEO



As the global energy grid continues to increase its use of renewable energy, there is an exponential increase in demand for low-cost and flexible, long-duration energy storage. This is the market targeted by e-Zn, the first in the world to “metalize” electricity. Founded in 2012 and based in Toronto, e-Zn has a proprietary energy storage system that is up to 80 per cent less expensive than comparable lithium-ion systems for long-duration applications. e-Zn is targeting the remote and resiliency markets, with a focus on microgrids, mining operations, telecommunications, military bases, data centres, remote communities, island nations, and more.

e-Zn has developed a breakthrough technology that “metallizes energy” - storing energy in zinc metal. This ultra-low-cost and long-duration energy storage solution provides a platform for the world’s energy markets to be 100% supplied by renewable energy, enabling a zero-carbon energy future. e-Zn’s technology can provide energy storage that is much less expensive than current incumbents, such as lithium-ion, and can deliver energy for applications ranging from hours to days, weeks, or even seasons of duration. Importantly, its energy storage system can cycle without degradation in capacity (i.e., usable capacity does not change over time), it can operate in temperatures ranging from -30°C to 60°C, it is fire resistant, made of fully recyclable materials, does not rely on precious metals, and has fast response time. Moreover, the technology can be deployed anywhere and at any scale (residential systems (kW) to grid-scale systems (MW)).



Company: Earthwise Global information
Presenter: John Fielding, CEO



Earthwise Global AquaTech solutions enable higher yields for the Aquaculture and Agriculture sectors.

Sustainable food production is one of the top challenges facing the world. Current monoculture industrial food production relies heavily on synthetic fertilizers and pesticides that have proven to be not sustainable and have significant environmental impacts.

Farming challenges include low or plateaued yields and farming inefficiencies only solved by significant capital and depletion of natural resources; heavy reliance on chemical-based fertilizers and pesticides; disease outbreaks that send economic ripples through the food supply chain. Earthwise Global customized AquaTech solutions tackle many of these challenges.

Through innovative application of ultra-fine bubbles and sensor networks, Earthwise Global customized AquaTech solutions tackle many of Aquaculture and Agriculture sector challenges through optimizing dissolved oxygen in water and the natural cleaning properties of the bubbles.

The value proposition for aquaculture is increased fish density and decreased mortality rates enabling up to 40% yield increase and improved meat quality while decreasing operating costs, feed and the use of pharmaceuticals.

The value proposition for agriculture is up to 25% increased seed germination and plant growth rates and up to 30% increase in fresh weight all while decreasing the requirement for fertilizer and pesticides.

Sensor networks provide ecosystem feedback enabling customized and optimized solutions maximizing overall yield impact.



Company: FPrimeC Solutions
Presenter: Hamed Layssi, CEO



FPrimeC Solutions is an award winning technology startup in Durham region. FPrimeC is specialized in the design and development of innovative non-destructive testing solutions for construction market. With customers in more than 17 countries, FPrimeC is committed to developing and commercializing technologies that will improve the safety and reliability of civil infrastructure, while optimizing life-cycle costs for the owners and managers of capital-intensive assets.

FPrimeC iPile is an innovative wireless sensor for enhanced quality control and quality assurance of deep foundations. Concrete is the most widely used construction material in the planet. Almost every major construction project requires solid foundations to carry the weight and load of the structures, such as bridges, dams, oil and energy infrastructure, transmission lines. Since these elements are generally buried under layers of soil, engineers, and quality control specialist are constantly looking for innovative solutions that can help them assess the quality of foundations in a cost-effective method with minimal intervention. iPile was developed to address this demand in the market.

iPile is the most advanced wireless instrument for evaluating integrity in deep foundations and piles that reduces the inspection timeline up to 20%. iPile benefits from artificial intelligence based mathematical core that eliminate the lengthy wait time for analysis and reporting. It is the first and only integrated cloud-based integrity testing platform for real-time data recording, data storage, analysis and preparing technical reports.



Company: Nanology Labs Inc.
Presenter: Mohammad Ali Amini, CEO & President



Nanology Labs is a University of Toronto spin-off company in pharmaceutical space, located at 60 St George St., Toronto, Canada. The company has been established in early 2018 and since then has received substantial interest and investment from governmental and private institutions, namely FACIT from Ontario Institute of Cancer Research and Ontario Brain Institute. In 2019, Nanology Labs was awarded as the 1st ranked in MaRS Health Kick and RBC (later-stage company category) pitch competitions.

Nanology Labs' theranostic technology (Manganescan) performing as a sensitive MRI contrast agent and a reactive radio-sensitizer simultaneously offers enhanced precision and accuracy, maximizing patient safety and minimizing risks involved through real-time MRI imaging and radiation therapy. It works as an innovative low toxicity MRI contrast agent that circumvents the limitations of other MRI contrast agents currently available. This exciting nanoparticulate system leverages manganese to illuminate early stage tumors, including those in the brain, in a manner that allows clinicians to make better treatment decisions. Concurrently, it produces oxygen molecules in the tumor which enhances therapeutic efficacy of irradiation.



Company: RetiSpec
Presenter: Eliav Shaked, CEO

RetiSpec

RetiSpec is a medical imaging company developing a screening tool for accurate detection of Alzheimer's disease markers in the eye using machine learning. RetiSpec's patented technology provides a non-invasive, low-cost, and more widely available solution for the early detection of Alzheimer's disease than current methods of assessment. RetiSpec's eye test opens a window of opportunity for timely and specific therapeutic interventions, so the progression of the disease may be slowed or even prevented.

RetiSpec has developed a non-invasive, label-free retinal imaging technology that can uniquely detect Alzheimer's biomarkers – namely, signatures of A β aggregates. The combination of non-invasive hyperspectral imaging and machine learning may be a quick, simple, and cost-effective method that can be used to identify AD retinal biomarkers years before the emergence of clinical symptoms.

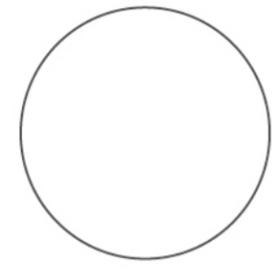
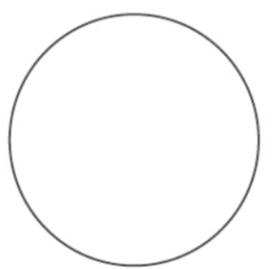
The company is headquartered in Toronto, Canada, and is part of the Ontario Brain Institute (OBI), Biomedical Zone, NEXT Canada, Ontario Bioscience Innovation Organization (OBIO), Ontario Centre of Excellence and The Centre for Aging and Brain Health Innovation (CABHI)'s network of companies.



Company: Steadiwear
Presenter: Mark Elias, CEO

Steadiwear.

Our flagship product, the Steadi-One, is a battery-free glove that intelligently stabilizes the wrist joint in Essential Tremor & Parkinson's disease patients. Such tremors are debilitating & render the simplest daily activities such as eating, drinking & writing a real challenge. The Steadi-One is a Class I medical device based on cutting edge stabilization technology inspired from earthquake mitigation design & will allow users to go about their daily activities with significantly less frustration thereby restoring their independence & improving their quality of life.



CISA in the innovation community

Since the Canada Innovative SMEs Association (CISA) was formed in 2018, the goal of the organization has been to build up the membership and make solid connections with the innovation community in Canada.

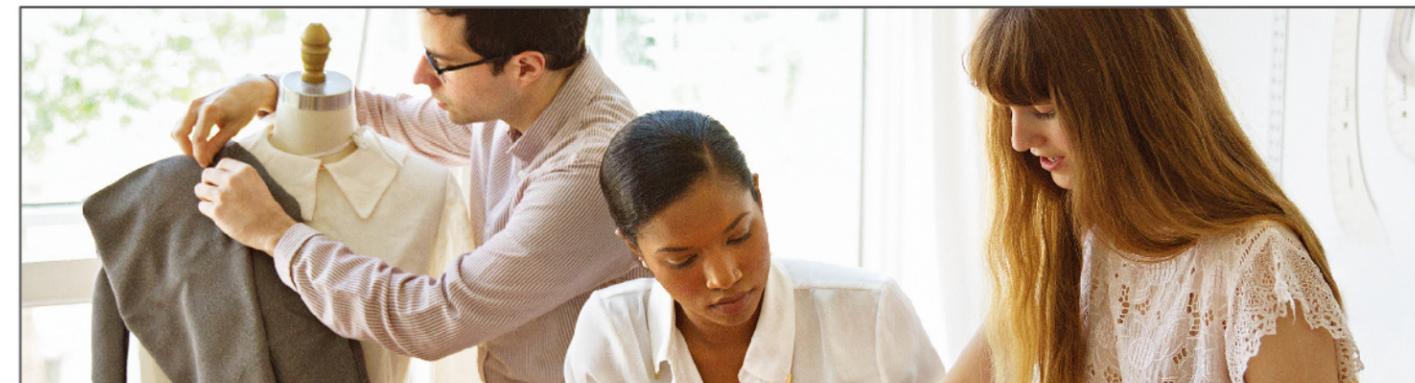
Below is an overview of the events that have transpired since its formation:

MaRS Health Innovation Week: April 1-5, 2019

The MaRS Health Innovation Week is Canada's largest gathering of health start-ups, investors and the health ecosystem. Hosted by MaRS, one of the largest launch pads for start-ups in North America, Health Innovation Week attracted nearly 400 technology start-ups and investors in the healthcare field. A CISA delegation attended the event and had a draw for three cash prizes of \$1,000 each to any Canadian SME who applied for the draw.

OCE Discovery Conference and Expo, Toronto, May 13-14, 2019

A CISA delegation attended the OCE Discovery Conference and Expo. Discovery is an annual event hosted by Ontario Centres of Excellence (OCE). Discovery brings together key players from industry, academia, government, and the investment community, as well as entrepreneurs and students to collaborate. Garnering over 3,600 attendees and more than 550 exhibitors in 2019, Discovery is a showcase of leading-edge technologies, best practices and research and innovation from sectors such as life sciences, manufacturing, digital media and cleantech. CISA had a draw for ten cash prizes of \$1,000 each to any Canadian SME who applied for the draw.



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