FUNDING THE ENTREPRENEURIAL ECOSYSTEM IN NORTH DAKOTA

Innovate ND provides entrepreneurs access to venture tools, resources and mentorship. Some of the benefits include:

- Access to a certified entrepreneurial center
- Assistance on the Business Model Canvas, including value proposition and customer identification
- Business planning tools
- Prototype development
- Access to the statewide entrepreneurial ecosystem

ENTREPRENEUR CENTERS

These centers have dedicated staff to support and mentor entrepreneurs through the Business Model Canvas:

- CTB (Bismarck)
- NDSU Research and Technology Park (Fargo)
- Jamestown Regional Entrepreneur Center (Jamestown)
- UND Center for Innovation (Grand Forks)

PROGRAM PHASES EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PHASES</th>
<th>ENTRY FEE</th>
<th>DOLLAR AWARD</th>
<th>MATCH CASH OR IN-KIND</th>
<th>PHASE LENGTH</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 - Voucher</td>
<td>$250</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td>Equal to 25% of award dollars reimbursed. Minimum of $5,000 by end of Phase 3</td>
<td>3 Months</td>
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<td>2 - Voucher</td>
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<td>3 - Voucher</td>
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<td>4 - Voucher</td>
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UPDATED 10/08/2021
EXAMPLES OF SUCCESSFUL PROGRAM ENTREPRENEURS

Be More Colorful (BMC) — a Fargo-based tech startup that develops digitally immersive virtual reality experiences. CareerViewXR is a recently-launched community education product that focuses on providing virtual career exploration to students and career-seekers. CareerViewXR is set to launch more than 12 virtual experiences in 2021, including an exciting prototype project with the Fargo Police Department. “We’re so excited about CareerViewXR, which wouldn’t have been possible without funding and support from Innovate North Dakota,” CEO Matt Chaussee said. “This product is the future of our company and has amazing potential to help North Dakota students and job seekers see a bright and shining future for themselves in our state, too.”

ELF Technology — the name stands for Electrostatic Lubricant Filtrations that filters lubricant reservoirs in power plants, wind turbines, marine vessels, among others using an electrostatic field. The result is a pristine lubricant reservoir that is cleaner than when it was new. The technology lowers maintenance costs and has a variety of additional industrial applications. ELF is currently in negotiations with the second largest utility in North America to trial two of its miniaturized units in wind turbines in North Dakota. Given the success of these trials, slated to begin in 2021, ELF expects to begin expanded production and sales from their North Dakota facility.

Healthy Oilseeds LLC — a Carrington processor providing quality flaxseed and hempseed products from North Dakota growers. The company exports to 23 countries and does business in 49 states. Healthy Oilseeds was featured on the North Dakota Trade Office website on Dec. 3, 2020, on LinkedIn and was named the North Dakota Exporter of the Year in 2012.

In the Potter’s Hand — a member of Pride of Dakota member located in Wildrose, ND. In the Potter’s Hand is a family-owned, farm-based business that offers unique, allergen specific products, including skin care, bath, baby and spa products while providing full disclosure on all ingredients used, providing a sense of confidence for those with allergies, multiple-chemical sensitivities or sensitive skin. The company is planning to expand current manufacturing capabilities in near future.

Mobile Recon Systems — a designer and manufacturer of commercial, heavy-lift UAVs that focus on carrying cargo and supplies from one point to another, delivering high-quality imagery and data and distributing materials like seeds, disinfectants and fertilizers. Initial emphasis is on payloads of 5 to 25 pounds, to fly within Part 107 weight requirements and prototypes that carry up to 200 pounds. Through Innovate ND, it has upgraded to a cutting-edge web presence and is beginning to implement a digital marketing plan to position itself as a thought leader in the market for heavier lift drones.

WeClean Local — a modern home cleaning-service, set out to redefine the cleaning industry. A human-centric tech company, WeClean offers easy online booking, instant quotes and task-based pricing while also investing in every community where they work.

For more information, contact Carla Valentine at crvalentine@nd.gov