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MEDIA RELEASE

Advisory: Finalists face off in SFU's largest entrepreneurship competition

February 14, 2018

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Contact:

Pauline Leoncio, communications coordinator, Coast Capital Savings Venture Connection, 778.782.8101; vc_comms@sfu.c

Entrepreneurs from the SFU community will compete on February 15 in the Coast Capital Savings Venture Prize. They'll be looking to claim the title of Best Overall Venture along with \$35k+ in cash and in-kind prizes.

The annual event recognizes entrepreneurial excellence at SFU. Competitors will pitch their start-up ventures in a Dragon's Den-style competition. Judged by a panel of external industry experts, winners are selected based on the quality of their business concepts, current progress and future plans, and presentation skills. The top finalists include:

Biointeractive Technologies, (BIT) a technology company that has developed TENZR, a gesture recognition wristband controller, for the Virtual Reality and Augmented Reality industry;

Daily Delivery, a crowd-sourced, same-day/on-demand delivery service that extends the reach of e-commerce platforms, multi-chain stores and omnichannel and retailers to provide their customers with an exceptional shopping experience;

MovIt, which has developed a unique intelligent thread that can be seamlessly integrated in any piece of clothing to allow wearers track every activity of the body. MovIt can make everything you wear 'smart';

Mr. Arancino: Mr. Arancino's risotto balls, called arancini, are an innovative take on a traditional Sicilian recipe;

Piva Concepts, Canada's leading cannabis edibles product development firm;

RMoney: Rmoney is a platform for cross-border payments and money transfers serving individuals and businesses in emerging economies;

ZenneaTechnologies, a 'sleep wearable' company that reduces snoring, tracks quality of sleep, and helps make decisions to improve overall health for chronic snorers.

Six others are up for an Idea Prize, awarded to the individual or team demonstrating vision for a great idea for a venture. These are poised to turn their ideas into a viable opportunity. The award is judged on the quality of the idea as well as the plan for carrying it out, not necessarily the current business results.

This year will feature additional category awards for Top Science Venture, Top Technology Venture and Top Small Business. All six finalists are also eligible for the attribute awards which includes a Female-Founder Award, SFU Alumni Award, Social Impact Award, and the Penguin Pivot prize.

All winners will be announced at an awards ceremony and reception following the final pitches.

Media are welcome to attend. To RSVP: Pauline Leoncio (vc_comms@sfu.ca) and register on arrival.

WHAT:

Coast Capital Savings Venture Prize competition

WHEN:

Thursday, February 15, 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

WHERE:

Borden Ladner Gervais LLP, 1200 Waterfront Centre, 200 Burrard Street, Vancouver

LEARN MORE:

- Coast Capital Savings Venture Prize Competition
- Coast Capital Savings Venture Connection program

ABOUT SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY:

As Canada's engaged university, SFU is defined by its dynamic integration of innovative education, cutting-edge research and far-reaching community engagement. SFU was founded more than 50 years ago with a mission to be a different kind of university—to bring an interdisciplinary approach to learning, embrace bold initiatives, and engage with communities near and far. Today, SFU is Canada's leading comprehensive research university and is ranked one of the top universities in the world. With campuses in British Columbia's three largest cities – Vancouver, Burnaby and Surrey – SFU has eight faculties, delivers almost 150 programs to over 35,000 students, and boasts more than 150,000 alumni in 130 countries around the world.

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