

The TELUS Technology Accelerator

BY KERRI SAVAGE

The TELUS Technology Accelerator (TTA#2) is back for a second year, bigger and better than ever. For this second iteration, TELUS and Innovate Calgary have partnered with the innovation ecosystem across Alberta and British Columbia to identify high-growth potential startups to participate in this unique program.

The TTA#2 is a six-month program focusing on priority areas where TELUS could use, integrate or commercialize startup technology including Industrial Internet of Things and big data, digital health and wellness, seamless communication and entertainment experience, smart fleet and transport, and smart cities.

“TELUS understands the importance of enterprises and startups collaborating towards the common goal of growing their business and contributing to the diversification of the economy in provinces like Alberta and B.C.,” states Rogelio Ferreira, technology strategy and innovation manager at TELUS. “We believe industry-focused accelerators are a vital component of the entrepreneurial ecosystem in Canada. For this reason we are proud to support the TELUS Technology Accelerator program for high-potential startups in Alberta and B.C., in conjunction with Innovate Calgary and its strategic partners in Western Canada.”

After a rigorous selection process, six companies were selected to participate in this second cohort. Veerum is a global Industrial Internet of Things (IIoT) technology solution focused on improving the viability of energy projects and eradicating rework. The MindfulGarden is a therapeutic device built on a custom software platform that responds to movement and sound, and uses biosensor input

(heart rate, galvanic response, respiratory rate) to trigger a multilayer interactive “garden” experience that reduces anxiety, agitation and aggression in hospitalized patients experiencing delirium/dementia. Routeique combines a powerful cloud-based software platform with mobile applications as well as Industrial Internet of Things (IIoT) devices for vehicle tracking, asset tracking, signature capture and remote invoice printing. UrbanLogiq is a platform that aggregates government data, adds external information sources and applies machine-learning analytics to automate city workflows and provide urban planning intelligence. SafetyTek software removes safety paperwork and optimizes the safety process on a digital platform. FieldCap streamlines the way oilfield services track, approve and bill jobs faster and more accurately.

Innovate Calgary will help strengthen the teams’ business model and founding team effectiveness, TELUS will offer technology mentorship, and innovation ecosystem partners will assist in building each startup’s operational backbone. The company demonstrating the most progress throughout the program will receive \$30,000 and an additional 50 hours of mentorship from TELUS.

The conclusion of the accelerator will be marked by a demo day – an event that will see the cohort present to TELUS executives, investors and high-profile entrepreneurs from the community, and others. The aim is for the graduates to receive valuable advice and feedback from high-level business people to increase the probability of their overall success and investment in the future.

To learn more about the TELUS Technology Accelerator, visit innovatecalgary.com. **B**