Venture SHOWCASE

Event Report

November 26 | Robson Square

Summary UBC is home to a thriving community of entrepreneurs creating groundbreaking impact through research and innovation. As one of the top 40 research universities in the world, UBC attracts global leaders who are leveraging their insights and discoveries to solve some of the most pressing problems we are facing today across climate, human health, and social impact. Held on November 26, 2024, the fifth annual Venture Showcase highlighted entrepreneurs from our community who are set to be the next generation of leaders in impact and innovation. This event featured 11 ventures from across our pipeline ranging from up and coming "Ones-to-Watch" teams in the onset of their journey incubation, to our "Ready-to-Raise" HATCH Venture Builder teams gaining traction in the acceleration stage.

Goals



Build awareness for Innovation UBC supported ventures

Our goal was to highlight our venture pipeline at various stages in their journeys to our wider ecosystem who have varying interests in impactful ventures at an early stage.

Outcomes:

We saw 11 ventures pitch on stage at the Venture Showcase, and hosted venture display booths which allowed the presenting teams to connect and network with attendees throughout the event.



Bring together a diverse audience

Our goal was to create a showcase that engaged both our UBC network and the broader innovation ecosystem, generating widespread interest and enthusiasm from a diverse group.

Outcomes:

We welcomed over 250 individuals to our showcase, with 31% from UBC's community of students, staff and faculty and 13% from the investment and funding community.



Create value for early-stage ventures

We offered ventures in our community a meaningful opportunity to build relationships and demonstrate the traction they've built around their venture solutions.

Outcomes:

Presenting ventures have reported that they have set up 2+ follow-up meetings from the connections they built at the showcase.

Program Highlight

The 2024 Venture Showcase was hosted in person at UBC Robson Square. We welcomed 11 ventures: 7 in "Ones-to-Watch" and 4 in the "Ready-to-Raise" category.

The evening kicked off with opening remarks from Innovation UBC's Associate Director, entrepreneurship@UBC, **Dr. Sean Lumb**, who spoke about UBC's commitment to foster an environment where innovation thrives.

Dr. Lumb was followed by **Ally Bharmal**, Partner with Fasken, our Gold Sponsor, who noted the importance of nurturing startup communities and their impact on the wider ecosystem. This is the third year of Fasken's partnership with Innovation UBC.

This year's event was hosted by our resident MC's, **Michelle Sklar**, our Head of Marketing and Communications and **Chang Han**, our Lead Entrepreneur in Residence, who brought their signature sparkle to the stage. They engaged the audience speaking to the importance of the community investment in early-stage startups and showcases like this to bring awareness to these ventures.

We hosted our signature trivia game at the end of each pitch section, where the audience answered key questions heard in the venture presentations.

We welcomed 11 ventures

Ones to Watch

Ready to Raise



MYCOFOUNDRY









Needle-Free









skip the wait

Event Highlights

SHOWCASE

13% 50/50 **250** people attended gender parity on stage investors Of these registrants, 46% of attendees had never attended an Innovation UBC event before, demonstrating the widespread impact events like the Venture Showcase has on

building our pipeline and increasing our brand awareness across the innovation space.

Evaluation Committee

We were very fortunate to have an esteemed panel of evaluators to select the presenting ventures, representing a number of partners in the innovation ecosystem, including:



Angie SchickNew Ventures BC



Geoff PedlowFasken



William Johnson
Startup TNT

2024 People's Choice Awards

We held our People's Choice Awards at the end of the evening, where audience members could vote for their favourite presentation in the two categories based on their impressions of the evening.

The winners were:

Ones to Watch:

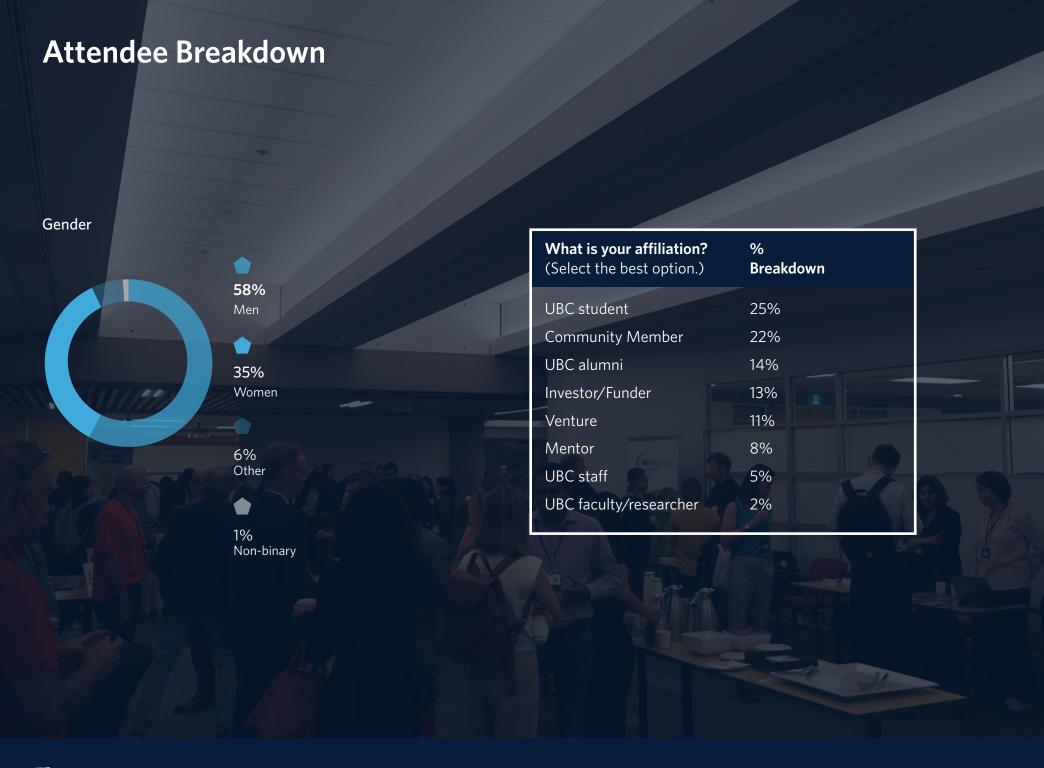
Tydra Labs

Ready-to-Raise: **Mitra Biotechnologies**









Investors/Funders

This year we welcomed 57 investors/funders from 50 firms. We know from last year that investors are looking to connect with ventures earlier in their journeys to learn about their solutions and help prepare them for their funding rounds. As such, we provided everyone with a one-pager overview of all the ventures that presented.

Firms included:

Access Planning
Active Impact Investments
Analusis Consulting
Backbone Digital Inc. / Expresia.
com Inc.
BDC

BDC BKR Capital Bonsai Growth Damo Al Diamonde Holdings DIGITAL Finitizer Front Row Ventures
Graphite Ventures
Harken / Atrium
Helenus Technology Fund LP
Innovate BC
IvyWay
Linde Equity
Matography
Mitacs
National Research Council of
Canada (NRC)
Nimbus Synergies

Nurami Medical
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP
RBCx
Richard K. Miller Strategic
Consulting
Romich Group
S& M Business Solutions
Salyx
Sandpiper Ventures
Sky Acres
Spring
Sprout Fund VC

Stratesol Consulting
Supernode Capital
Sustainability-X
The ReFrame Group
Tree Track Intelligence
UBC Venture Funds
Vine Capital
Wondershare Technology
WUTIF Capital
Yangtze River Consulting
Zenith Venture Studio



Survey Results

Overall, attendees thought the format of the event (networking, pitches and trivia) was above expectations.

NPS

95
from participating ventures

RQ

from attendees

"Extremely well-planned evening with well-curated suite of ventures that are "worth watching" and "ready to raise"." - UBC faculty/staff member

"Thanks for hosting these types of events and bringing the community together!"
- Innovation UBC Alumni Venture

"It is great to see the new start ups and learn what innovations are happening around us."

- Member of Industry



Get in Touch

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