

LaunchHub

LaunchHub Startup Roadshow in Markham Civic Center

– A Successful and Well-attended Event



(Toronto) On January 26th, LaunchHub Incubation Canada once again held its startup roadshow with great success. Markham Civic Center was chosen to be the venue to accommodate the large number of participants to this event. The Honorable Mary Ng, Minister of Small Business & Export Promotion, Michael Parsa, MPP and Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade (Small Business) in Ontario, Markham Mayor Frank Scarpitti, and Dr Rui Wang, the Deputy Provost of York University's Markham Center Campus all came to the event and expressly showed their support.



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In her speech, Minister Mary Ng gave a detailed explanation of the initiatives by Government of Canada to help SMEs. Many entrepreneurs among the audience were delighted to learn that starting from January 1st this year, the federal small business tax rate is lowered to 9%, one of the lowest rates in the world.



Michael Parsa also brought encouraging news to the audience by mentioning Ontario's short-term goal of reducing 25% of its more than 380,000 regulatory requirements. According to Mr. Parsa, this is aimed at providing a more open and easier business environment for investors and SMEs in the province.



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Markham Mayor Frank Scarpitti managed to come to the roadshow despite his busy schedule. He gave high praises to the aspiring young entrepreneurs and cordially congratulated Wei Hua and David Laliberte, Co-CEOs of LaunchHub, on their meaningful endeavor.



Members from LaunchHub: Liming Dong, Zen Mao, Wei Hua, David Laliberte, and Jovial Si.



LaunchHub members with Chairman of Tianjin Keybos Technologies (the 2nd from the left).

LaunchHub held its first startups competition in Toronto last October and then its startups roadshow in Shanghai last November. The event this time was the first of a series of

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roadshows planned by LaunchHub for 2019. An audience of two hundred listened to the pitches of twelve startups mostly created by Chinese Canadians. By demonstrating their spirit of cooperation and innovation, the young entrepreneurs of these startups not only received support from government bodies at all levels, but also aroused interest from financial institutions and investors.



An unequivocal proof of that was the intentions of support and partnership expressed by business elites in the audience, including the executive director of Asia-Pacific, Scotiabank, the partner of UCOMMUNE Venture Investment Company from China, and representatives from PwC Canada and several other banks and investment institutions. At the same time, these seasoned business leaders put forward constructively critical questions and insightful comments for the young entrepreneurs to ponder.



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A couple of MOUs were signed during the event for past startup projects and the establishment of a venture capital fund. LaunchHub also entered into a strategic partnership agreement with Tianjin Keybos Technologies Co., Ltd., which specializes in pharmaceutical industry in China.



Focusing on solutions for today yet forward looking, the twelve startups in the roadshow this time come from fields like AI, advanced manufacturing, fintech, medical science, Internet of Things and blockchain. Their engaging pitches draw enthusiastic responses from the audience. During the Q&A session, more than one questioner already demonstrated their eagerness to prepare the startups for practical challenges and help them develop real-life application scenarios.

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As is mentioned above, LaunchHub is planning to set up a startup fund to provide financial support to promising startups identified in its roadshows. It will also bring such companies to China to help them gain access to Chinese investors and markets through roadshows across multiple cities.



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A trophy commemorating Canada Trade Booth at 1st China International Import Expo (CIIE) was presented at the roadshow to the Honorable Mary Ng.



Project Demonstrations outside the roadshow venue.