



First Canadian Global Impact Competition seeks to improve the lives of 1 million Canadians through technology

Deadline for applications this Friday, February 28, 2014

February 25, 2014 (Guelph, ON) – Singularity University’s first Canadian Global Impact Competition will bring Canadian innovators in the fields of health, education, development, environment and food to Guelph this April.

The competition is open to Canadian citizens who can answer the formal challenge: *“How can we improve the standard of living of one million Canadians in the next five years through the use of technology?”*.

Five finalists selected by a team of **academics, scientists, and entrepreneurs from across the country will travel to Guelph to pitch their idea** in front of a panel of distinguished judges at the competition’s evening gala on April 2nd, 2014 (location to be announced). The **competition winner will earn entry and tuition-free enrolment in Singularity University’s 10-week Graduate Studies Program** at the prestigious NASA Research Park in San José, California – an estimated prize value of \$30,000 USD.

“The spirit of the competition is to bring together academics, scientists, and entrepreneurs from across Canada who are ready to transform their big ideas into reality. It’s ideal for people with a healthy disrespect for the impossible,” said Dr. Adam Little, GIC Canada organizer and spokesperson, and Singularity University graduate.

The deadline for competition entries is midnight on Friday, February 28, 2014. Applicants can visit www.buildingabettertomorrow.ca to learn more about the competition requirements and access the entry form.

“Innovation Guelph is proud to help make Canada’s first Global Impact Competition happen,” said Dr. Jamie Doran, Chief Operating Officer of Innovation Guelph, local host organization for the competition. “The Global Impact Competition aligns with our vision to spearhead innovative approaches to prosperity and community wellbeing.”

The Global Impact Competition program was created by Singularity University co-founder Dr. Ray Kurzweil, Chief Google Architect and Dr. Peter Diamandis to address the grand challenges facing the world. The competitions take place all over the world, and act as a platform identify outstanding entrepreneurs, leaders, scientists and engineers who propose the most innovative project to positively impact one million people in their country or region in the next three to five years.

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ABOUT SINGULARITY UNIVERSITY

Singularity University’s mission is to educate, inspire, and empower leaders to apply exponential technologies to address humanity’s grand challenges. The campus itself is located in the heart of Silicon Valley, around innovative organizations such as Google and NASA. It’s founding offering is the Graduate Studies Program, which brings together 80 students, from all-over the world, for a 10 week immersive program.

ABOUT INNOVATION GUELPH

Innovation Guelph (IG) spearheads innovative approaches for prosperity and community wellbeing. Our goal is to be the Guelph regions’ central institution for the support of entrepreneurship. Since launching in October 2010, Innovation Guelph has seen 450 companies come through its doors for business advisory services, and maintains about 100 active clients monthly. IG has a team of nine Entrepreneurs-in-Residence who have played a part in the creation of more than 200 new jobs, and helped our clients retain an additional 300 jobs. IG has also helped to channel over \$12 million into our client companies over the past three years; with an additional \$10 million in angel investment into 17 companies on the table for 2013/2014. Our location on the third floor of Guelph’s historic Granary Building at 111 Farquhar St. has welcomed more than 5,000 people who have utilized the space for events, workshops, networking, and community meetings. Visit www.innovationguelph.ca to learn more about how Innovation Guelph helps ideas start, grow, and thrive by cultivating entrepreneurs, developing powerful partnerships, and supporting innovative initiatives.

CONTACTS

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[#canadagic](https://twitter.com/canadagic)

Fast Facts

- Competition is open to Canadian citizens who can answer the formal challenge: *“How can we improve the standard of living of one million Canadians in the next five years through the use of technology?”*
- On April 2nd, 2014, academics, scientists, and entrepreneurs from across the country will travel to Guelph, ON, to pitch their idea
- The competition winner will earn entry and tuition-free enrolment in Singularity University’s 10-week Graduate Studies Program

Key Dates

- **February 28, 2014** – Application Submission Closes
- **March 15, 2014** – Finalists Notified
- **April 2, 2014** – GIC Gala Event. Winner will be declared. Location and event details to be announced.
- **June 14 to August 24, 2014** – Singularity University Graduate Studies Program