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EDMONTON START-UP WINS TINSEL TOWN PITCH COMPETITION

GozAround prevails over 100+ international applicants and claims over \$80,000 in services to drive growth.

EDMONTON, AB, JUNE 29, 2015 – Edmonton-based start-up GozAround, was selected as a winner of the 2015 Thunderstruck Start-up Competition in L.A. June 5, 2015. Their growing social network, designed to make it quicker and easier to get involved in the community by connecting volunteers with community needs, was selected from over 100 international applicants. “It was a bit of a whirlwind” commented GozAround founder and CEO Ben Block. “We found out we were selected as a finalist only a week before the pitch day. We were given the option to pitch online, but I felt the chance to be there in person and connect with the judges couldn’t be passed up” added Block.

The competition was organized by Beverly Hills, California based Thunderbolt Studios. “We were very happy to have Ben here to present GozAround to our judges. They ended up scoring far and above all the other competitors and we are looking forward to working with them” commented competition organizer and Digital Producer Kent Speakman. As a result of the win GozAround will share in \$250,000 USD of software development, design and digital marketing services provided by Thunderbolt Studios. “This could be a game changing opportunity for our company. We have some exciting new features in development and working with the Thunderbolt team will open new doors and accelerate our growth” commented Block. In addition to technical services, the winning companies will receive PR and legal consulting services and access to Expert Dojo, the largest free expert listing site in the world.

With over 1,400 individual volunteers and 200 organizations already registered GozAround hopes to be the go-to social network connecting the volunteers of the world with those who need their help. “We are working to become the leading hub for individuals and socially-conscious businesses to find community service opportunities, and better yet, to track their impact over time” explained Block. “The start-up journey is a hard one with plenty of uncertainty, so it means a lot to have our concept validated by expert judges in a market rich with other would-be success stories.”

The Thunderstruck judging panel included financiers, PR experts, technology lawyers and start-up veterans like Galen Buckwalter, co-founder of eHarmony and Brian MacMahon, founder of Expert Dojo.

“It was actually pretty emotional when GozAround was read out as a winner. It was a big decision to drop everything to make the trip and being selected by an impressive panel of impartial judges means a lot.”

About

GozAround is an Edmonton, Alberta-based internet start-up providing a social network for volunteers with a fun twist. GozAround allows volunteer organizations and individuals to post and respond to requests for assistance, earning points in the process to track their impact. For more information, visit gozaround.com.

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