Hamilton Health Innovation Check-up: Meeting Minutes

May 2020

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STANDING AGENDA TOPICS:

- **Guest Speaker Discussion**: insights around the experience and expertise of an invited speaker, focusing on a subject that may be of interest to the broader community
- **Communicate**: share recent successes, upcoming events, innovation pipeline and new products, health innovation trends, etc.
- **Collaborate & Accelerate**: welcome new members to community, partnership opportunities, discover programming and resources available to the community, discuss market gaps and challenges, learn about potential funding opportunities, new RFPs issued, etc.

Facilitator & Note Taker	Alex Muggah, Director, Synapse Consortium
Virtual Location	Join Zoom Meeting: https://zoom.us/j/405351918 Dial in: +1-647-558-0588,,405351918#

Next Monthly Check-up: June 29 | 9:00 – 10:00am | McMaster Innovation Park
Please sign up to our mailing list to receive meeting minutes and other important updates.

Finding collaborative partners for health companies and researchers can be difficult. Synapse has created the Health Innovation Partnership Portal (HIPP) to facilitate finding new partners within Canada's leading health research and educational ecosystem located in in Hamilton, Ontario.

Minutes for our monthly check-up meetings are not published and are for reference purposes only. We do our best to ensure all information is accurately portrayed, and that no privileged/private information is inappropriately disclosed. Past meeting minutes can be access through a public Dropbox, using the following link.

For additional information on any subject, to contact a presenter directly, or should you have an adjustment to make to the notes made here, please contact: Alex.Muggah@SynapseConsortium.com. Updates will be reflected in a revised version of the monthly minutes.

Our Synapse Consortium partners are at the forefront of addressing COVID-19 in the City of Hamilton, and across Ontario: doctors and nurses caring for patients, public health officials coordinating city-wide responses, conducting epidemiological research at Canada's leading research hospitals, and innovative companies developing products to provide needed supplies and services.

Throughout all of this, Synapse remains committed to our core goal of facilitating connections across the Hamilton health ecosystem, bringing public- and private-sector actors together to enable innovation and resolve pressing health challenges. While Synapse staff are not in the office, we're still providing support virtually – so please continue to reach out and find out how we can help!

If you want to get in touch, please contact Alex Muggah, Director of the Synapse Consortium. Separately, we've assembled links to information that has been compiled by organizations across Ontario (and Canada) to assist you with navigating the COVID-19 pandemic.

Learn More About COVID-19: Online Resources

Synapse Consortium partners have put together a significant amount of information and updates on the status and activities related to containing and addressing COVID-19 for both businesses and citizens in the region:

Hospitals and Research Centres

- Hamilton Health Sciences: COVID-19 Updates
- St. Joseph's Healthcare: Research Institute and Hospital Update
- McMaster Institute for Infectious Disease Research: News and Updates
- McMaster University: COVID-19 Update
- Mohawk College: COVID-19 Update

Hamilton Community Partners

- City of Hamilton: City Response and Resources
- Hamilton Public Health: Learn more about COVID-19
- Innovation Factory: COVID-19 Info Centre
- Hamilton Chamber of Commerce: Resources for businesses
- Hamilton Spectator: What you Need to Know in Hamilton
- Buy-Local (Hamilton): Hometown Hub

Government and Agencies

- Health Canada: COVID-19 Information and Resources
- OCE: Collaboration Platform
- Government of Ontario: COVID-19 Information for Ontarians
- Government of Canada: Business Support
- Centre for Disease Control: COVID-19 Resources
- World Health Organization: COVID-19 Updates

For Companies Making COVID-19 Related Medical Products

- Call for Suppliers (Ontario)
- Call for Suppliers (Canada)
- Health Canada: Expedited Review of Health Product Submissions and Applications for COVID-19
- Health Canada: Applications for medical devices under the Interim Order for COVID-19 use
- Health Canada: Expedited Access and Authorization to make COVID-19 personal protective equipment
- Health Canada: Diagnostic devices for use against coronavirus (COVID-19)

As a result of the COVID-19, all in-person conferences and meetings have been cancelled. We are trying to track down events that will be held virtually and will try to keep our calendar up to date.

If you have an event that you would like listed here, please contact us at: info@synapseconsortium.com

Hamilton Health Innovation: Calendar Highlights

Check out Synapse's online calendar

May & June

- May 26: Re-imagining the Future of Work in a post COVID-19 World (McMaster Collaboratorium)
- May 27: Mohawk Business Support Forum - Ask an Expert (Burlington EcDev)
- May 27: Webinar Wednesday: Canadian FHIR Baseline Profiles – a FHIR Implementers Community Initiative (Digital Health Canada)
- May 27: Leveraging a Burning Platform: Innovation in a Time of Disruption (McMaster Collaboratorium)
- May 28: LSO Virtual Webinar Series: COVID-19 and the Future of Our Health Research and Innovation System (Life Sciences Ontario)
- May 28: OBIO Hosts Xontogeny Chairman & CEO (OBIO)
- May 28: Research + Innovation Showcase: Data-Driven Scorecards for Educating Physicians (Digital Health Canada)
- May 28: Learning to Be Agile: Adopting a Strategic Foresight Approach in Healthcare (Collaboratorium)
- June 2: Reimagining Audit and Risk in Economic Uncertainty (McMaster Collaboratorium)
- June 8-10: Digital RESI (RESI)
- June 8-12: BIO International Convention (Virtual) (BIO)
- June 11: LiONS LAIR Meet & Greet (Innovation Factory)
- June 16: The Future (of Work) is Now: Re-Learning in the Era of COVID-19 (Communitech)
- June 18: AGE-WELL National Impact Challenge - Atlantic Canada (AGE-WELL)
- June 18: LSO Knowledge and Networking Breakfast (Life Science Ontario)
- June 29: Hamilton Health Check-up (Synapse Consortium)

July and Beyond

- July 19: AGE-WELL National Impact Challenge – ON, QC & NU (AGE-WELL)
- July 27: Hamilton Health Check-up (Synapse Consortium)
- Aug 3: Business Incubator (The Forge)
- Aug 9-22: Emerging Leaders Program (Health Leadership Academy)
- Sept 17: Startup School (The Forge)
- Sept 17: Demo Day – Showcasing the Summer Startup Academy (The Forge)
- Oct 5-7: The MedTech Conference (AdvaMed)
- Dec 7-8: Canada Regulatory MedTech Conference 2020 (Medtech Canada)

On Demand

- Coronavirus (COVID-19): Managing the impact on global supply chains (EDC)
- COVID-19: Measures to Increase Availability of Disinfectant Products on the Market (Yordas Group)
- COVID-19 Webinar Series (multiple videos) (Digital Health Canada)
- Current COVID-19 Research in Canada, featuring McMaster VPR Dr. Karen Mossman (CENE)
- The McMaster University Collaboratorium – Seminar Series

Time allotted | *20 Minutes*

Topic: **Guest Speaker Discussion**

Insights around the experience and expertise of an invited speaker, focusing on a subject that may be of interest to the broader community

Guest Speaker Discussion
Guest Speaker(s): • Peter Kalra President & CEO, Bay Area Health Trust • John Hands Director, Business Development, Bay Area Health Trust • Kaitlin Guarasci Business Development Manager, Bay Area Research Logistics • [presentation slides used, and are available for download in Health Check-up drobox folder]

[the following is a synopsis of the discussion, and has been lightly edited for length and clarity]

Discussion

Introduction

Hello everyone, I am John Hands, the director of the business development office at Bay Area Health Trust (BAHT). I'm joined by Peter Kalra (President & CEO) and Kaitlin (Business Development Manager for Bay Area Research Logistics) who works with the research logistics business unit within our trust.

Thank you for the opportunity for the chance to give an update. First time we can introduce the trust, and what we're working on.

At the intersection of health, life sciences and business, Bay Area Health Trust is an example of a successful partnership between hospitals and the for-profit private sector. Leveraging its unique affiliation with Hamilton Health Sciences, McMaster University and the other members of the Synapse Life Science Consortium, Bay Area Health Trust promotes entrepreneurship and invests in growth-oriented businesses to support patient care.

Thriving in a New Environment.

We're all faced with the impact of the covid-19 pandemic. We are looking for opportunities to meet unmet demand, and that is the core focus of today's presentation. BAHT was established in 2002, as a for-profit independent private sector entity who is depending on delivering value for its beneficiaries. We have 6 business units, and we hold and maintain a relationship with Hamilton Health Sciences (HHS), the HHS Foundation and McMaster University. The business lines are: Research Logistics, Records, Realty, Energy, and Health Care Solutions (HCS).

HCS is a catch-all consultancy that allows us to engage with a wider range of opportunities that come our way – including the one that we'll be talking about today. While our Records business digitally scans digital forms back into digital records for use by several Hospital clients (Joseph Brant, HHS, etc.). Our Energy group has developed the largest energy cogeneration project supporting health care facilities in all of Canada. Finally, the Realty group managers over 100 properties, buildings and leases on behalf of Hamilton Health Sciences.

Guest Speaker Discussion

Kaitlin is going to speak to the Research Logistics group in a little more detail, and start to outline what we are doing as we pivot in response to the covid-19 environment.

Bay Area Research Logistics (BARL) – Clinical Trial Logistics

BARL is a specialized research trial partner that provides packaging of solid doses, as well as all aspects of storage and distribution as part of a clinical trial. We have the capacity to manage any storage condition – whether its ambient or ultra-low frozen, including the associated packaging and distribution logistics needed to maintain temperature until it arrives at the clinical site and is provided to your patient.

Our expertise emerged from experience supporting clinical trials in the academic space (through our partnership with Population Health Research Institute). Since our inception we have grown significantly and now serve the pharma and bio-tech industry.

With COVID-19's arrival, it was no surprise that there would be negative effect on our industry and our customers. At the beginning of the pandemic, there was significant disruption to ongoing clinical trials, with regulatory agencies making the decision to pause any research being done on therapies or studies that did not meet "exceptional need". The goal was to avoid having unnecessary visits by patients into hospitals, allowing critical infrastructure to focus on a COVID-19 response. Given the mix of studies by our customers, this slowed down our activity quite a bit. Even still, we had several clinical trials that were deemed exceptional (i.e., oncology), so we had to make ourselves available to our customers. We quickly adapted our space for both our staff and customers. In some cases this meant we were even more available (e.g., 7 days a week) to accommodate unique needs flowing from having to respond to COVID-19.

One benefit of this lower workload was it allowed us to dedicate staffing to new COVID-19 clinical trials. Most of you have heard of some of the research, including through PHRI, McMaster, and HHS. Our capacity allowed us to support the ACT Covid research trial (led by PHRI and BAYER). Our experience and expertise meant we were able to expedite the study start-up in record time. We had drug product arrive on a Monday and were ready to distribute completed kits (including packaging, labelling, bottling) on Thursday – this is extremely fast in the clinical trial packaging world. We feel good about playing a small part in this important research.

We have an additional nine (9) other trials that are in the pipeline related to addressing COVID-19 in some way. Three (3) of them are already up and running (possible because of BARL's expedited process). We have two vaccine therapy studies in our pipeline which have promising results that may lead to promising results in the coming months.

One last change is a result of patients (and clinical trial recruits) being encouraged to not go into hospitals. Clinical studies still want to enroll patients into trials, but not by bringing them into hospitals. As a team, BARL looked at existing regulatory requirements, and then developed an onboarding process that is compliant with patient confidentiality to allow us to engage participants in their own home. While only available in the Hamilton/Toronto region at present, we see this as a unique service that we've spun up and will continue to offer. Moving forward, we expect clinical trials to move towards keeping patients out of the hospitals – and to adopt this approach as part of standard clinical trial protocol development.

BAHT's COVID-19 Response

There is a PPE shortage in Ontario (and beyond), and in particular we see a high demand for N95 masks. The Globe and Mail recently reported that 8 million recently procured N95 masks did not pass safety standards, while orders dropped by nearly 50 million due to supply issues. We don't think the PPE shortage will be resolved any

Guest Speaker Discussion

time soon. Procurement will continue to be a challenge, whether it is price gouging from vendors, other sectors using PPE for the first time to protect their employees and customers, or the environmental impact resulting from throwing out single-use PPE.

Early on in our experience dealing with the pandemic, BAHT saw these challenges as an opportunity to stand up a new business line. We moved quickly to undertake a business assessment (not without risk, given the enormity of the task to stand up a new business line), and took the decision to launch **SteriRight**. Through this unit, we will offer products and services that reduce contamination risk in a safe, sustainable, effective and accessible manner.

Our offering will satisfy an unmet need – supporting companies looking to decontaminate N95 masks and other PPE for our potential clients, allowing employees to multiply the number of times they can use certain types of PPE. We see SteriRight as a portfolio basket of services.

We'll start with repurposing n95 masks and electrostatic decontamination. We acquired a PPE reprocessing unit and have made it mobile (i.e., put into mobile unit / trailer) to allow us to travel to our customers. Our expectation is that we will go beyond just N95 mask reprocessing. We will also provide electrostatic sanitation – not a new technology, but something that adds to our portfolio.

We're currently pre-commercial then we will be operational by the end of the month, we have a roadmap to expand our service offering in the coming months. First we hope to expand the types of PPE that we can sanitize / repurpose. One example is interest from the Toronto EMS who want to sanitize equipment that isn't single use. We're also looking at vendors who we can partner with to sell multi-use PPE to our customers. As we go out a little future, we see workplace risk-place mitigation as an opportunity, since managing risk will be an issue for companies looking to support employee safety (e.g., temperature monitoring, facilities, industrial lines, etc.). We're looking at opportunities to fold these elements into our product portfolio.

In the long run we will want to find partners to join us in deploying a "return to work" consultancy. There are a host of experts at HHS, Mohawk College, and McMaster University that we can leverage in supporting SteriRight in some capacity. We hope to leverage these relationships to develop a service that will help companies ready themselves, and their employees, to return to work in a safe and effective manner.

Feed your Frontline

Separate from SteriRight, BAHT has been active in an initiative called "Feed your Frontline". This is an initiative that aims to help the community support frontline healthcare workers by connecting them with local restaurants that have committed to providing prepared meals in a safe and responsible manner.

In speaking with some of our community members, including Dr. Crocco, the Chief of Pediatric Emergency at McMaster's Children's Hospital, we heard about kind people bringing food to feed frontline staff. However, the challenge was that these meals were often dropped off at the emergency intake, or might only be given to certain wards or physician groups. It became apparent that there wasn't a fair recognition of all the staff who are working to provide care to the community (e.g., nurses, administrators, receptionists, cleaning staff, etc.). As well, there were concerns about ensuring that all of the food that was received was safe to distribute to frontline employees. So, in collaboration with Dr. Crocco, our BAHT web designer, and SYATT Media, we worked to develop a website that will match community restaurants on one side with frontline workers on the other.

Our goal is to deliver food and recognition in a safe manner and support local businesses. If people want to recognize specific staff – or hospital in general. We've got hospitals signed up from Hamilton, Windsor, and even one in the UK. We would encourage everyone to visit the website to register their unit and/or show support.

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Question & Answers

Question: Do you have a sense of the size of the market for SteriRight's business?

Answer: This week is our coming out party, but we have some leads that include large food processing companies that have thousands of employees and they will be incorporating PPE into their operations going forward. Additionally, the environmental component is an important consideration for those concerned around risks involved with everyone using single-use PPE. Together, this makes the market sizing opportunities look quite promising. The wide variety of companies who have expressed interest has also been amazing – from single dental offices to large industrial employers and everything in between. The size of the prize is limitless. Our ability to serve the market will be an issue initially (as we are starting with one repurposing unit), but we expect to scale our business.

Questions: Do you have an initial target site lined up?

Answer: We can't disclose our customers at this time, thought we're deep in the process and have had multiple discussions to sign them up. The interest is there, and we don't think it will be a challenge to sign additional contracts. That said, I'm curious about whether the demand will skew towards single-office health affiliate / healthcare adjacent organizations (e.g., long term care, dental office, allied health professionals) or do we see more pick up from non-healthcare organizations who employ thousands of people.

Question: How are you going to charge on the service?

Answer: Our initial go-to market strategy is to use a time-based model. We're finalizing the costing model as we speak – but it will be based on how long we're there performing repurposing / sanitization services. And of course, the more our customer needs, the cheaper the cost. For example, if we're looking for a company with 30 employees, our break-even is 150 masks.

Question: How large is the device that will be doing the repurposing.

Answer: Our repurposing unit is a stand-alone device which is about 8.5 by 3.5 feet. We've made it mobile by putting into a 17-foot trailer, which will give us enough space to set up a repurposing process with good airflow throughout. To be clear, we're not going to use a batch process to repurpose masks – we'll be using a chain of custody process, more like putting your bag on the screener at airport security. We expect the process to take about 30 minutes from end to end. The vendor has said that we can do hundreds of masks per hour, though initially we don't expect to be testing the upper limit of our capacity.

Question: Mohawk College (and others) have applied research clients who are in the infection control business. For example, we have some in air handling and others in hand hygiene assessments. To what extent are you looking for new partners? Are these connections that we can help make and broker on your behalf?

Answer: We are extremely interested. We're getting into the short strokes of standing up the initial suite of services, but we're committed to having the next set of conversations to expand our product portfolio. It's fascinating from a business perspective, and this is the fun part of building a business. For example, how do we thinking about education/training, how do we go deep on how a lab work (so we can fit into their operational flow), how will businesses adjust when serving their customers. We're also interested in exploring how to leverage the expertise in Hamilton and use that to help businesses open up and get going.

Guest Speaker Discussion
We have had to make the decisions in weeks on sizeable investments (fortunately we have a very supportive board of directors). We are now laser focused on operationalizing this. Thinking about expanding is going to be interesting – especially as we think about the workload on our existing staff. *Question: Have you thought about the concept of a dry-cleaning type model, where customers would go to drop off and then pick up their masks when they are clean (i.e., batch processing)?* Answer: That's a concept that is on our road map. That type of service requires a different Health Canada regulatory license. We're securing one that allows for chain-of-custody repurposing; with tracing of an individual's mask throughout the entire process from start to finish – so you end up with the mask you started with. The alternative is batch processing which could be part of a Phase II, though it will require additional operational considerations to implement. *Question: Can you speak to how your working with McMaster University and Hamilton Health Sciences (HHS), Mohawk College, and others helped to enable standing up SteriRight?* Answer: This business line wouldn't be possible without the strengths of the Hamilton ecosystem. We've tapped into HHS for the clinical expertise, McMaster from testing and research and Mohawk from talent side. We've been able to pick up the phone and get people to help out. More specifically, I've been in conversation with the Innovation Office and the PPE reprocessing group at HHS to better understand their value proposition. The McMaster Industry Liaison Office has been stellar to connect us with labs and validation. And Mohawk College has been an invaluable contribution in terms of talent. It really has been a case where we'd like to talk about how the community and ecosystem has come together to get traction and accelerate our times. I've also seen this with the community effort to source and secure PPE – when we're trying to stand up local manufacturing production capacity and events. The community was hugely supportive of all institutions to move from automotive manufacturing to face shields. The strength of the community is fantastic.

Time allotted | *20 Minutes*

Topic: **Communicate**

Recent successes, upcoming events, innovation pipeline, new products, health innovation trends, etc.

Discussion	Presenter
McMaster Innovation Park (MIP) Announces Major Expansion and Development of Life Sciences Innovation Megahub McMaster Innovation Park (Hamilton, Ontario), has announced a major expansion and development, which at full build-out will encompass 2.5 million square feet of purpose-built facilities dedicated to innovation, commercialization and entrepreneurship. Expansion plans include the recently announced acquisition and redevelopment of an office and production complex on Frid Street as well as development of additional assets within MIP's existing 58-acre footprint. "MIP helps growing innovation-focused companies with everything they need to get to the next level. Our plans announced today are consistent with MIP's aspiration to create the best research park in the world," said Ty Shattuck, CEO of McMaster Innovation Park. "5000 people will eventually work at MIP at full build-out. MIP is ideally situated to support companies in life sciences & biotech, advanced materials & manufacturing, and information & communications technology". Within this plan, MIP is establishing a Life Sciences Innovation Megahub. "Today, entrepreneurs, leading global companies and investors in the life sciences see the GTA-Buffalo nexus as a global-caliber life sciences hub and MIP is at the epicenter. The larger context for MIP's Life Sciences Megahub is the convergence of this capital markets focus, and the concentration of leading life sciences research in the MIP region. This region has established itself as a prolific global leader in life sciences innovation. MIP plays an important and growing part in that success," said Mr. Shattuck. Karen Mossman, Chair of MIP's Board of Directors and Acting Vice President of Research at McMaster University says, "MIP has proven to be highly effective as a bridge between research and industry. We're realizing the true social and economic value of our research and helping to grow the region's life sciences cluster. Our researchers are spinning out companies, creating jobs, and attracting investment and industry to the Park." To learn more about the space available at MIP, the construction or design, please reach out to Jim Wilson (J.Wilson@cbre.com) who is acting as the Park's listing agent.	Jim Wilson (CBRE)
CBC: Plan from Hamilton researchers aims to help province test 8 times more COVID samples While Ontario has failed to reach its goal of testing 20,000 individual COVID-19 samples a day, Dr. David Bulir has had one question in the back of his mind — why isn't the province combining samples and testing them at once? The dermatology resident who is a part-time faculty member in pathology and molecular medicine at McMaster University and a scientist at St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton's Research Institute said it's a simple proposition. By combining samples using specially made equipment, Bulir thinks they can increase the number of samples tested by up to eight fold. "If you put two	Alex Muggah (Synapse)

Discussion	Presenter
samples together, you automatically double the capacity for testing in Ontario in no time," he told CBC News. Using flocked swabs and a specially made liquid to transport the samples, Bulir, Dr. Marek Smieja and the rest of the team will take equal portions of samples and extract the genetic material. They place it all into a machine and researchers input how many samples they want grouped at once. Then the machine completes the tests. To read the full CBC article, click here	
Hamilton Scientists Develop Novel Methods to Massively Increase COVID-19 Testing in Ontario Scientists at The Research Institute of St. Joe's Hamilton have developed entirely novel COVID-19 testing methods, which will allow for a significant increase in testing capacity across the province. The new methods are being implemented in the Hamilton Regional Laboratory Medicine Program (HRLMP) – a partnership between St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton and Hamilton Health Sciences – which is responsible for conducting clinical COVID-19 testing for the region. Currently, the HRLMP clinical testing capacity is 800 samples per day. With these advancements in place, scientists are aiming to test up to 6,000 samples daily. Dr. David Bulir and Dr. Marek Smieja, infectious disease physician-researchers from St. Joe's Disease Diagnostics and Development (D3) Group, predicted the need for an alternative supply of testing materials in January. To read more, click here	Gail Martin (Research Institute of St. Joe's)
The Spec: Two Hamilton studies are recruiting those with COVID-19 to test potential treatments At the same time, four McMaster University studies have been given nearly $1.7 million from the province's COVID-19 Rapid Research Fund. The first will examine the malaria drug hydroxychloroquine for early treatment and is being led in Ontario by McMaster and the Research Institute of St. Joe's Hamilton. "If you look at other viral infections, like influenza, the best data is for early treatment," said Dr. Zain Chagla, medical director of infection control at St. Joseph's. "Antivirals often don't work very well toward the end of disease when people are very sick." The other study recruiting those in community and in hospital at phri.ca/ACT-COVID-19/ will examine hydroxychloroquine or chloroquine in combination with the antibiotic azithromycin. It is being led by the Population Health Research Institute affiliated with McMaster and Hamilton Health Sciences. Chagla said it has been hard to recruit COVID-19 patients in Ontario because up until recently the criteria to get tested was stringent. But now anyone with symptoms and even some without can get a test. Meanwhile, an international team led by a McMaster researcher has examined a century of evidence to conclude that cloth masks, particularly those with several layers of cotton, can	Alex Muggah (Synapse)

Discussion	Presenter
reduce contamination of air and surfaces. However, her team's review, published in the Annals of Internal Medicine May 22, supports recent recommendations from provincial and federal health officials to wear non-medical masks when physical distancing isn't possible.	
Globe and Mail: Coronavirus: McMaster alumni testing thermal screening device at Hamilton grocery store A non-invasive thermal imaging technology with the potential to detect one of the symptoms of the novel coronavirus is being tested at a Hamilton, Ont., grocery store. Hamilton start-up Longan Vision, made up of McMaster University engineering alumni and students, has augmented its Gatekeeper project, creating a platform to scan people for elevated temperatures. The main purpose of the technology, developed in just a few weeks, is to read the temperature of subjects in view of the device. Gatekeeper is made up of two cameras — one normal and one thermal — which combine to produce images of people in view and provide visual temperature readouts of each person's face. Longan Vision, which works with McMaster's entrepreneur program The Forge, has set up its pilot device at the front entrance of Nations Fresh Foods in Jackson Square. Project lead Enzo Jia told Global News that his startup was initially developing an augmented reality visor called Fusion Vision System (FVS) — a device attached to a helmet that would allow firefighters to see through smoke and share images with a command centre during a fire rescue. To read the full Global News article, click here	Alex Muggah (Synapse)
Ontario Government supports Five McMaster COVID-19 research projects worth $2.5M McMaster University researchers have been awarded funding for five pandemic studies in the first announcement today by the Ontario government of COVID-19 Rapid Research Fund projects. "Our government is investing in some very promising research proposals, which have the potential to save lives and help us get back to a way of life that is as close to normal as possible." said Premier Doug Ford, in announcing the funding of the first 15 projects. The university's largest grant, for $1.2 million, is for the major national study led by Donald Arnold, associate professor of medicine, on the use of blood, known as convalescent plasma, from recovered pandemic patients for the treatment of patients fighting the virus. The clinical trial to test effectiveness of the treatment will enrol patients who are 16 or older with COVID-19 who have been admitted to hospital and require supplemental oxygen for the respiratory illness. A related study being led by associate professor of medicine Ishac Nazy was awarded $400,000 to determine whether immunity to COVID-19 is longstanding or if it wanes over time, and to determine how immune-based treatments, either convalescent plasma or future vaccines, work to fight off the virus. A third study, with a grant over $15,000, will work to improve COVID-19 detection in children and adults who lack respiratory symptoms, are considered asymptomatic, or are presumed to have "recovered" from past infection, by examining stool samples.	Alex Muggah (Synapse)

Discussion	Presenter
Co-principal investigators Audrey Lim and Anne Klassen, both associate professors of pediatrics, will use a $65,000 grant to lead the fourth research study looking at how complex pediatric patients fare with the move to virtual clinic settings from hospital visits. In addition, through St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton (SJHH), professor Marek Smieja is leading a fifth study, worth $700,000, to increase Ontario's COVID-19 testing capacity. It will deploy robotic liquid handling technology, specimen pooling, and efficient sample preparation, while reducing biological risk and ensuring reliable results. Read the full Brighter World article here	
McMaster Investigator Looking for Clinicians to Support Project on Ventilators Dr. Lotfi Belkhir (McMaster Engineering) shared his interest in finding collaborators who can provide access to ventilators to evaluate new system he has developed. The system has two modules: one which performs remote tracking of breathing patterns, and a second one that leads to lower complications from being on a ventilator. He is hoping to explore a proposal to graduate patients who are having difficulty breathing, gradually, into a more compatible healthy steady state. The breathing system is set up, and can move it a non-clinical environment. We are looking for collaboration for clinicians / technologists with settings of ventilators. Need to get hands with a ventilators. We have partnership with simulation lab at Mohawk College – everything except a mechanical ventilator. For more information, pleas contact Dr. Belkhir at: belkhir@mcmaster.ca	Lotfi Belkhir (McMaster Engineering)
Empower Health (empower.ca) Receives NRC Funding to Expand Platform Empower Health has developed health technology platforms that help the patients find the care they need and help healthcare providers to deliver the best quality of service to the patients We received NRC funding to expand our platform to expand our infrastructure to weekly updates. This way, then everyone can track all of the resources (e.g., pharmacies) and services. Available to public and our API through. The NRC covered the development cost, but not implementation costs. We're still waiting for additional funding on that front. Looking to engage with users who would like to access this platform (e.g., physicians, assessment centres, long-term care facilities). For more information, contact Ryan Doherty at rsd@empower.ca	Ryan Doherty (Empower Health)
Pilot project will see ramped up COVID-19 testing at Hamilton care homes A new pilot project will see some 3,000 asymptomatic residents and staff at Hamilton and area care settings tested for COVID-19. St. Joseph's Health System and Niagara Health announced a pilot project is underway to test all asymptomatic patients, residents and some staff in its long-term care homes, retirement homes and congregate settings, such as hospices.	Alex Muggah (Synapse)

Discussion	Presenter
The goal is to gain a better understanding of how the virus spreads, how can spread be prevented and what testing strategies are most effective when the subjects are concentrated in one place, said Dr. Jack Gauldie, vice-president of research at St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton. "Right now, we stand outside long-term care homes and we don't know how many people are carriers in there, how many people are affected," Gauldie said. "The earlier you catch something, the earlier you can do something about it." The announcement comes a week after the province said more people in long-term care settings would be tested for the virus. Testing of all asymptomatic staff and residents at "select homes" would take place, said Minister of Long-Term Care Merrilee Fullerton. Read more here	
ACT COVID-19 study for rapid discovery of treatment A PHRI-led team of investigators has started an inpatient trial (people in hospital with COVID-19) and outpatient trial (people in the Hamilton community) as part of the Anti-Coronavirus Therapies to Prevent Progression of COVID-19 study (ACT). Some patients at the Hamilton General Hospital and Juravinski Hospital have joined the study, with an expected 500 patients to come, to help us investigate if combinations of drugs can help to slow the progression of the COVID virus. Up to 1,000 people in the community in Hamilton, and surrounding regions, who have tested positive for COVID-19 but are not hospitalized, are expected to join the outpatient trial. Participants are being sought for both inpatient and outpatient trials. Visit phri.ca/actcovid19 to learn more	Alex Muggah (Synapse)
Hamilton Health Sciences working on innovative, homegrown solutions to PPE shortage It took less than a week for local company, Printex Transparent Packaging to go from producing boxes for scented colouring markers to making face shields for healthcare workers on the frontline of the COVID-19 pandemic. The company produces more clear folded plastic boxes than any other in North America. They typically have up to 250,000 lbs of plastic sheeting in stock—the same plastic that is used in face shields worn by healthcare workers. "I knew we had the material, and could help," says sales manager, Dave Tasse. "My son plays hockey with the son of a doctor at HHS, and we connected to see how we could retool our production to make PPE for healthcare workers." Tasse got in touch with Bryan Herechuk, Manager of Quality & Value Improvement at Hamilton Health Sciences (HHS). The two discussed what would be required for clear plastic face shields to meet hospital standards. Dave's team created a prototype, which was trialed at HHS hospitals. In addition to the shields form PT Packaging, HHS is poised to receive regular shipments from Additive Manufacturing company, located in Oakville. They teamed up with Mohawk College and HHS to design, trial and distribute 3D printed protective face shields for healthcare workers, and will be producing 10,000 units a week.	Alex Muggah (Synapse)

Discussion	Presenter
Read the full article here	
Mohawk and McMaster Demonstrate New Techniques to Improve Osseointegration Recently published research from Mohawk College and McMaster University is showing how new combinations of materials and manufacturing techniques can improve the chance of osseointegration – the process of creating bone ingrowth into a metal implant. Most 3D printed implants are manufactured using the Ti64 titanium alloy powder. The McMaster University research team wanted to understand if the topography (or surface features) of Ti-553 could improve the osseointegration of implants. Because Ti-553 is not a commercially available material for Direct Metal Laser Sintering (DMLS), they partnered with Mohawk College to produce the metal samples needed for the research study. The findings, along with the parameters for Ti-553, were recently published in Nanotechnology, an academic journal. It was covered in 3D Printing Industry News	Andrea Johnson (Mohawk College)
Feed the Front Lines – registering restaurants and health units (BAHT initiative) Bay Area Health Trust has been working with a Hamilton web designer, Tim Keely from ZingerWD, and Dr Anthony Crocco, Chief of Paediatric Emergency at McMaster Children's Hospital to help coordinate the community's recognition of the frontline worker while helping local restaurants. Feed the Front Lines started a couple of weeks ago and since then some things have organized themselves and I think this will help even more. Essentially, any healthcare organization can register as can restaurants. Community members can then match needs with supply and arrange for payment and delivery. Everybody happy and safe! We are busy contacting the 'front lines" so they can register their units. Restaurants that wish to be listed can also now register. For more information, contact Peter Kalra @ kalrap@baht.ca	Peter Kalra (BAHT)
McMaster Innovation Park & Greening Media – Videos on How Hamilton Organizations are Responding to COVID In this time of uncertainty, McMaster Innovation Park is focused on #OpportunitiesOverObstacles. Each week, we'll be sharing the story of a MIP member company or associated organization that's putting their skills to good use, creating innovative solutions to help in the fight against COVID-19. Ty Shattuck, CEO of MIP kicks it off Longan Vision, a start-up based out of The Forge, has transformed their thermal imaging/AI technology to monitor body temperature in large crowds. They're launching pilot projects with local grocery stores and airports, hoping to use their expertise to help #FlattenTheCurve.	Ty Shattuck (MIP) & Stacey Lambert (Greening Media)

Discussion	Presenter
Masks @ Mac is a volunteer community made up of dedicated scientists, manufacturers, and more, mainly around McMaster's Faculty of Engineering. They're working to create a sustainable local supply of Personal Protective Equipment for health care workers during this pandemic. Giselle and Mike from Yordas speak about the special role their regulatory consultancy has to play during this pandemic and about a special Biocides Training Workshop they're offering for those looking to switch to manufacturing these highly-regulated products.	
HHS and Siemens begin procurement partnership Hamilton Health Sciences (HHS) and Siemens Healthineers are starting the process of procuring 129 newer and better tools to support diagnostic imaging, advanced therapies, and monitoring equipment essential to patient care. The equipment will be delivered over the next 12 months. The equipment purchase will follow a competitive process that is fair, vendor neutral and transparent to deliver product and services that best suit the unique clinical and patient needs across HHS. This partnership covers the procurement, ongoing replacement and maintenance of approximately 500 systems over 15 years, with the option to extend for an additional 10 years. "Our relationship with Siemens Healthineers Canada will allow us to keep pace with the newest, most innovative diagnostic and imaging equipment in our sector," said Rob MacIsaac (pictured), president and CEO, HHS. "This first phase of renewal will account for a significant portion of these tools. Within the next three years, half of this equipment will be replaced and within five years, almost all will be replaced. This will help secure our position as one of the highest performing hospitals in Ontario for years to come." Included in the 129 pieces of medical equipment to be purchased are several ultrasound systems, MRI scanners, mobile C-arms, X-ray systems, stress testing equipment, and workstations, among others. Read the full Canadian Healthcare Technology article here	Alex Muggah (Synapse)
City of Hamilton's CityLAB Call for Challenges is Open Instructors, this is your chance to share your idea with City of Hamilton staff. Tell CityLAB Hamilton about the problem you would like to solve and your idea for how you think you and your students could help to address the problem. We will share your idea with City staff and try to find you an appropriate match. Matching is not guaranteed but we will do our best. You are also welcome to browse the challenges submitted by City staff on our website. For more information or to submit a challenge, visit the CityLAB website.	Alex Muggah (Synapse)
Hamilton Health Sciences, Mohawk partner with manufacturing firm to mass produce face masks Working with Mohawk College and HHS to deliver facemasks, Burloak Technologies (a division of Samuel, Son & Co) has announced it will be providing protective gear for front-line workers combatting COVID-19. In partnership with HHS and Mohawk, they developed a custom design with project backed by Next Generation Manufacturing Supercluster initiative. Several	Alex Muggah (Synapse)

Discussion	Presenter
prototypes were developed and Health Canada has approved the design and has placed an order for 100k. The Additive Manufacturing company, located in Oakville, will be providing health-care workers with protective face shields that have been designed and tested in collaboration with Hamilton Health Sciences and Mohawk College. Production is already underway, and the intention is to have 10,000 units available per week for the health-care providers treating Canadians during the pandemic. "Additive manufacturing is an ideal process to scale any design to commercial production in the shortest time possible, and applying our capabilities in this battle is the right thing to do," Colin Osborne, president and CEO of Samuel, Son & Co., Limited., said in a news release. "NGen played a valuable role in the rapid response to get this project underway. Without this funding, it would not have been possible to achieve the same scale in this accelerated timeframe," he continued. Mohawk College will use the resources of its School of Health, as well as other organizations, to distribute these face shields both locally and across the country. Read the full article here	
New $50 million Ontario Together Fund Launched The Ontario government has launched a new $50 million Ontario Together Fund to help businesses provide innovative solutions or retool their operations in order to manufacture essential medical supplies and equipment, including gowns, coveralls, masks, face shields, testing equipment and ventilators etc. Several companies and organizations in Hamilton have already submitted applications for consideration by the Ontario Together Fund.	Carolynn Reid (EcDev, City of Hamilton)
Hamilton secures 3 of the 12 Roche COVID-19 Innovation Challenge Prize On March 27, 2020, Roche established the Roche Canada COVID-19 Innovation Challenge, a funding program to support our community in bringing forward innovative ideas to address some of the biggest challenges and issues of the COVID-19 pandemic. As of May 26, three of the twelve funded projects went to Hamilton investigators, including: • Optimized City Operations in the Face of COVID-19: A Hybrid Complex Network Theoretic-Machine Learning Approach • An Optimized COVID-19 Diagnostic Test Incorporating Host Responses for Predicting Disease Course and Healthcare Needs • Post Discharge After Surgery Virtual Care with Remote Automated Monitoring technology (PVC-RAM) Trial	Alex Muggah (Synapse)
The McMaster Collaboratorium (May 25-28, June 2) A cross-discipline initiative between The Directors College, Executive MBA in Digital Transformation, Health Leadership Academy and Executive Education. Offering a new webinar	Alex Muggah (Synapse)

Discussion	Presenter
series for board directors, executives and emerging leaders, that examines how governance and leadership best practices are evolving in the areas of business and health care. Sessions are free and open to all who have an interest in the topics being explored. Select a full stream or individual events across streams. • Re-imagining the Future of Work in a post COVID-19 World (May 26) • Leveraging a Burning Platform: Innovation in a Time of Disruption (May 27) • Learning to Agile: Adopting a Strategic Foresight Approach in Healthcare (May 28) • Reimagining Audit and Risk in Economic Uncertainty (June 2) Join our expert academic and business panelists as they provide practical insights (and bonus follow-up materials) to help organizations work through the challenges they are facing right now.	
Emerging Leaders Program (Aug 9-22) A two-week intensive, residential, leadership program for students from all disciplines, medical residents and young health professionals (with 7 years or less of work experience or enrolled in an academic program) seeking to develop their leadership capabilities. Run by Michael G. DeGroote Health Leadership Academy at McMaster University. Now accepting applications for our 2020 Summer (August 9-22) programs. All students receive 25% off the program fees. Attendance at this program entitles certified Canadian College of Health Leaders Members (CHE/Fellow) to 20 category II credits towards their maintenance of certification requirement. Core sessions include topics like *Characteristics & Qualities of Leaders, Effective Teams, Decision Making & Problem Solving, Mentorship & Coaching, Foresight & Innovation, Design Thinking, Change Management, Presentation & Persuasion, Management & Finance Essentials, Cultural Impact and Its Dynamic Role in Leadership.* A playlist of student testimonials can be viewed here. Questions or would like to keep in touch with Health Leadership Academy, subscribe to the mailing list.	Victoria Mazzarolo (HLA)
JLABs Events Going Virtual (various) Cybersecurity: Good Data Hygiene 101 for Life Sciences (Apr 30): Cyberattacks can crash networks, embed malware and cripple business, leaving life sciences organizations unable to operate. Cybersecurity expert Christine Vanderpool offers a high-level understanding of how to prevent attacks, protect your organization, and how to respond if your organization is data-breached. Sell Your Science: Developing a Non-Confidential Pitch for in Person and Virtual Presentations (May 5): Learn tricks in preparing a non-confidential pitch deck along with tips that are aimed to help you sell your science at in person meetings or virtually.	Amanda Raponi (JLABS)

Discussion	Presenter
Impacting Public Health: How Can My Idea Be A Part of the Solution? (MAY 6): Bring together experts from federal agencies to discuss their views on strategies for getting your product through the right agencies for approval and funding opportunities, as well as insight from industry leaders who have already navigated this course. Cracking the Commercialization Code (May 7): From understanding your market and regulatory needs to payor reimbursement and clinical adoption, this webinar aims to provide an aerial view to help define your pathway through the commercialization maze. To learn more about upcoming JLABs events, click here	
Donations of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) & Sales to Hamilton's Hospitals Hamilton Health Sciences: working to ensure donations meet national standards for PPE use in a health care setting, and align this equipment to our current products. Anyone looking to donate or supply products (PPE and otherwise, including baby monitors and food/drink), please email PPEdonations@hhsc.ca and provide: 1. Product description 2. Product code (if applicable) 3. Identify if the boxes are opened or sealed (if applicable) 4. Contact name, email and phone number St. Joseph's Healthcare: has established a method for that to happen, and are encouraging anyone wanting to give supplies to send us a note to donations@stjoes.ca. You can also find more information on the Foundation's website: www.stjoesfoundation.ca/supplydrive	Prathiba Harsha (HHS)
Government Calls for Innovative Solutions • Call for Suppliers (Federal): In support of the Government of Canada's whole-of-government response to Coronavirus disease (COVID-19), they are asking suppliers about their ability to provide a variety of products and services. • Call for Suppliers (Ontario): request for information from companies able to supply emergency products to help fight Coronavirus • Federal Government Call to Action for Canadian Manufacturers to support businesses to rapidly scale up production or re-tool their manufacturing lines to develop products made in Canada that will help in the fight against COVID-19. Please refer to the product specifications and requirements for Canada's medical supply needs. • Health Canada will facilitate earlier access to a vaccine, or therapeutic product for COVID-19 to expedite the review of COVID-19 related health product submissions and applications. • Government of Canada is speeding up the importation and sale of medical devices used to diagnose, treat or prevent COVID-19. Here is information about expediting access and authorization for diagnostic devices for use against coronavirus (COVID-19). • Government of Canada will launch specific challenges through the Innovative Solutions Canada (ISC) program and will rapidly select the best projects to accelerate development and testing of promising innovations that can have a direct impact on our health care response. Also use the ISC Testing Stream to become the first customer of these innovative products. • The National Research Council of Canada (NRC) will organize an NRC COVID-19 Challenge Program, composed of teams of government, academic and private sector	Innovation Factory & Synapse Consortium

Discussion	Presenter
partners to address a range of medium term PHAC and HC needs, including personal protective equipment, sanitization, diagnostic and testing, therapeutics, and disease tracking technology. The most promising solutions will be selected for procurement, working with Innovative Solutions Canada. • DISRUPT COVID-19, a Government of Canada virtual forum that will include representatives from the National Research Council (NRC), the Industrial Research Assistance Program (NRC IRAP), Health Canada, the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) and Innovation and Science, Economic Development (ISED), is being organised as a pilot initiative with the goal of getting technologies on the ground helping patients and health care professionals as fast as possible. • Next Generation Manufacturing (NGen) will invest $50 million in Supercluster funding to support companies as they rapidly respond to the COVID-19 pandemic by building a Canadian supply of essential equipment, products, and therapeutics. For more information on NGen's COVID-19 Response Program, see the full bulletin, review the project guide, and share your capabilities in the form below. The Digital Technology Supercluster has launched the COVID-19 Program is focused on unlocking solutions to protect the health and safety of all Canadians and our economy through the development, deployment, and scaling of digital technologies.	

Time allotted | *20 Minutes*

Topic: **Collaborate & Accelerate**

Partnership opportunities, programming and resources available to the community, market gaps and challenges, learn about potential funding opportunities, discuss new RFPs issued, etc.

Discussion	Presenter
OBIO announces Early Adopter Health Network Call for Applications (deadline May 31) OBIO's EAHN is a network of health organizations that get leading-edge technologies into the health system. EAHN partners Canadian companies developing health technologies that are ready for adoption with health organizations (e.g., acute, primary care, long-term care, home and community care).Through this network, novel technologies that have been vetted and assessed for their readiness to be adopted and scaled will be evaluated, disseminated and procured. OBIO will select companies whose technologies will aid in the management or treatment of COVID-19 and are ready to have their technology evaluated in a healthcare setting. Companies developing health technologies that are ready for adoption and whose application is outside COVID-19 are also encouraged to submit an application. OBIO will work with successful applicants to partner them with a health organization in the EAHN to evaluate their technology over a period of up to 12-months. Financial support up to a maximum of $50,000 is available for successful companies and their health network partners. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis. Companies with fast commercialization and clinical evaluation paths are highly encouraged to submit an expression of interest as soon as possible at obio.ca/eahn. The deadline for submissions is May 31st, 2020 at11:59pm EDT. For more information on OBIO EAHN, contact David Singh at OBIO (davidsingh@obio.ca). To read the full press release, please click here.	Gail Garland (OBIO)
Collaborating with McMaster Institute for Infectious Disease Research (New Intake Form) In addition to our ongoing COVID-19 research initiatives at McMaster, the Michael G. DeGroote Institute for Infectious Disease Research is mobilizing its strong research community to assist Canadian researchers and businesses in their attempts to find solutions to the international crisis. The IIDR teams have the capacity to assist with the testing of anti-viral compounds and products, as well as the testing of products or devices aimed at sterilization. This includes new methods for sterilizing personal protective equipment. They are able to offer services in the following areas: • BSL2 cell culture infection with representative human coronaviruses; • Testing of methods or products that are designed to inactivate the virus; • Biochemical/enzyme studies with anti-viral agents.	Gay Yuyitung (MILO)

Discussion	Presenter
Cell culture and small animal models of SARS-CoV-2 infection can be performed in McMaster's secure biosafety level 3 facility. Availability for BSL3 testing is very limited, and projects requiring this type of work will be screened and prioritized by an internal committee. If you have a product or innovation that you are interested in pursuing further and feel that we could be of assistance to you, please reach out to us through the online form. Each project will be evaluated to determine if McMaster has the capabilities and capacity to perform the required testing.	
FedDev's $252.4M Regional Relief and Recovery Fund Application Now Open Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario (FedDev Ontario) is now accepting applications under the Regional Relief and Recovery Fund (RRRF). On April 17, 2020, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced new, targeted measures to protect jobs and provide more support to businesses and communities impacted by COVID-19. As part of these measures, the national RRRF provides funding to small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) that are unable to access the government's existing support measures, and access to capital for rural businesses and communities. FedDev Ontario is delivering $252.4 million in funding through the RRRF in southern Ontario, including $213 million for SMEs facing financial pressure, and $39.4 million through the Community Futures Development Corporations (CFDCs). Applications are now being accepted under two streams: 1. Regional Economy: This stream supports provides $213 million in support to southern Ontario SMEs that do not qualify for, or have been declined for, current Government of Canada COVID-19 relief measures. *2.* Community Futures: This stream supports businesses in rural and smaller communities through additional funding for the existing Community Futures Program (CFP). For full eligibility criteria and additional information, please visit FedDev Ontario's RRRF page.	James Meddings (FedDev)
Hockeystick: Gateway to funders for Canadian Star-ups Canadian start-ups need funding now more than ever. Hockeystick is a gateway to funders who are actively providing capital to Canadian start-ups and SMEs. The company has created a resource that contains over 200 verified funding sources, including venture capital, angels, private lenders and government programs.	Padraic Foley (OCE)
Hamilton Innovation Partnership Portal Synapse has created the Hamilton Innovation Partnership Portal (HIPP) to make the process simpler and more streamlined to find new partners within Canada's leading health research and educational ecosystem.	Andrea Lee (HHS)

Discussion	Presenter
It is a way for companies to interact with the Hamilton community. A streamlined approach, to have Synapse represent everyone. We've set up an intake form for companies to direct request to the portal. Portal is online through the Synapse website: http://synapseconsortium.com/partner/	
Submit Community Events on the Innovation Factory Calendar Our calendar is home to Innovation Factory workshops and networking events as well as events from the community which help support our local entrepreneurs and businesses. If you have an event which may a fit, please submit it and we will review it within five business days.	Riley Moynes (Innovation Factory)
MGD-HICE Educational Webinars & DevTank Meetings Operating out of the Michael G. DeGroote School of Medicine at McMaster University, the Michael G. DeGroote Health Innovation, Commercialization & Entrepreneurship (MGD-HICE) aims to accelerate the exploration of health innovation opportunities and creation of socioeconomic impact. Check out the full suite of programming here	Sarrah Lal (MGD-HICE)
AGE-WELL National Impact Challenge (June 18 and July 9) Sharing update regarding upcoming pitch competition where five top start-ups will compete in this edition of the AGE-WELL National Impact Challenge, highlighting the best start-ups in AgeTech. About the event: Demographics are shifting and, with that, come both challenges and opportunities for innovators and entrepreneurs. Atlantic Canada has felt the effects of these shifts and is making strong efforts to address them. With this in mind, AGE-WELL, InnovaCorp, Innovation PEI, the New Brunswick Innovation Foundation and Aging2 Halifax are coming together to spotlight Canada's entrepreneurs and start-ups in the technology and aging sector. Prizes will include $20,000 in cash, in-kind prizes and a future opportunity to pitch to regional investors. Registered audience members will have an opportunity to win a Kobo eReader. • Competition #1 (Atlantic Canada) – June 18, 2020 – Sign up for the live stream here • Competition #2 (ON, QC, NU) – July 9, 2020 – Sign up for the live stream here.	Michael Chrostowski (AGE-WELL)