

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Agritech Ramp-Up Cohort Two Grant Winners Announced

October 21, 2022 – Victoria, BC. The winners of the \$25,000 Business Development Grant for the Agritech Ramp-Up Pilot Program, Cohort Two, are:

- Nature Recombined Sciences Inc.
- INHUB Farms

Funded by the Government of BC, the Agritech Ramp-Up Pilot Program (Ramp-Up) is designed to enable entrepreneurs to move their ideas to commercial realities. This is accomplished by providing training, coaching & mentoring, networking and funding. Split into two cohorts, Cohort Two recently wrapped up the final phase of the program with a virtual pitch event.

At the September 12, 2022, virtual pitch event, cohort participants presented their learnings, demonstrating their progress in overall market readiness, financial and management capacity, and potential for scale up and immediate sales.

Each participant was scored by a panel of agritech experts, including Robert Napoli, Sandra Wear, and Tom Urban. The top two companies were selected for the \$25,000 Business Development Grant.

[Click here](#) to watch the Cohort Two Pitch Event.

These winners join PickAssist (Lyne Systems) and QuantoTech Solutions Inc., the Cohort One winners, and mark the successful end to the Agritech Ramp-Up Pilot Program.

“I am pleased to see the successful completion of the Agritech Ramp-Up Pilot Program,” said Mike Manion, Ramp-Up Executive in Residence. “Ramp-Up is a key program in the agritech ecosystem and the graduation of two cohorts is an exciting achievement for the program and all those involved with it. Both cohorts had several innovative agritech entrepreneurs and organization participating, congratulations to the grant winners and all the graduates of the program!”

“IAF is pleased to support agritech in BC,” said Jack DeWit, IAF’s Chair. “With the success of the Agritech Ramp-Up Pilot Program, we would be pleased to continue to develop and deliver this program and support this vital resource within the agriculture and agri-food sector.”

“Agritech is giving us new ways to farm, and is an important tool in helping our food systems become more resilient in the face of climate change,” said Lana Popham, B.C. Minister of Agriculture and Food. “The work and projects being developed by B.C. tech companies are amazing, and in addition to helping B.C. farmers

Funding Provided by:



increase production and operational sustainability, they're also supporting our province's economic growth and food security."

Additional Quotes

Guan Lim, CEO, Nature Recombined Sciences Inc:

"The Ramp-Up program provided great value to Nature ReCombined. The Ramp-Up coaches helped us discover a product-market fit and useful strategies to close our gaps on the way to commercialization. Our assigned mentor, Mike Manion, also introduced us to very valuable connections from the mushroom industry as well as government agencies/consultants that can accelerate our product commercialization. NRCS will utilize this grant from IAF to further along our product development with key partners."

From the previous winners

Kyle Gardiner, product management lead, Lyne Systems:

"Ramp-Up helped us move our product to the final testing phase. The build of our new pilot device will allow us to conduct final testing on our partner farms to prove the efficacy of our device. Once installed, PikAssist will allow mushroom farms to increase their growing capacity, reduce their harvesting labour and gather valuable harvest room data."

Alycia van der Gracht, co-founder, QuantoTech:

"The funding and the knowledge we gained through Ramp-Up is allowing us to install our new auto-dosing system into our existing showcase grow banks to display. Our technology, paired with our existing grow systems, severely reduces the labour and knowledge required to grow commercial-quality produce, giving small communities the ability to grow high-quality produce year-round and boosting their food security."

For more information on the program, visit www.AgritechRampUp.ca.

The Investment Agriculture Foundation of BC (IAF) delivers programs and services to support a thriving agriculture and agri-food sector in British Columbia.

www.iafbc.ca

For more information, media may contact:

IAF Communications
communications@iafbc.ca