GAMING THE SYSTEM FOR SUCCESS

TECH THAT'S PUNCHING ABOVE ITS WEIGHT.

Today, there are more people employed in the BC tech sector than in mining, oil, gas and forestry combined. It's no secret that technology has dramatically changed the local landscape, particularly in Kelowna, which is part of Canada's Digital Tech Supercluster.

The Okanagan region is an important part of the Cascadia Innovation Corridor, linking innovators in British Columbia with others in Washington State and as far down as Silicon Valley. The diversity of the area's digital tech boom is exciting. Animation studios, game developers, Canada's premier medical record platform, AI-powered online content filtering systems, aviation satellite data tracking systems... and the list goes on.

One success story is Lane Merrifield, currently a Dragon on CBC's Dragon's Den, and the co-founder of the massively popular online game, Club Penguin. After selling the business to Disney, he started FreshGrade, a portfolio and assessment platform used by educators around the globe.

The Okanagan's position as a recreational mecca is also part of its appeal for startups. The lifestyle, the relaxed pace, lower costs of living and good weather make a pretty attractive addition to the compensation package.

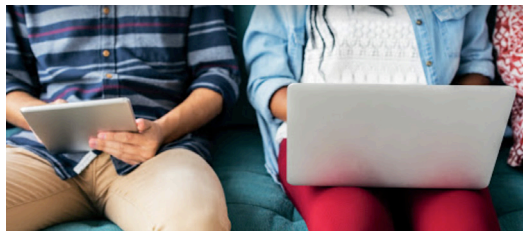## $1.67B
IN ECONOMIC IMPACT

694+
TECHNOLOGY COMPANIES

$35M
INNOVATION CENTER PUTS MULTIPLE HIGH-TECH BUSINESSES ALL UNDER ONE ROOF

SUCCESS IN THE
CENTRAL OKANAGAN

twohat

Since 2012, Two Hat Security's AI-driven content moderation platform has been identifying and preventing harmful online behaviour, including cyberbullying, abuse, hate speech, violent threats and child exploitation, all while enforcing rules of conduct in online communities.

Two Hat's success was recognized in 2017 when they were awarded the largest MITACS cluster grant of over three million dollars to work with universities. Most recently, the World Economic Forum selected Two Hat as one of its most promising Technology Pioneers of 2020 for its

groundbreaking platform, offering the opportunity to engage with other industry leaders and work with public and private experts.

In October 2021, Microsoft acquired Two Hat, allowing the Kelowna-based company to work towards building an even greater online community experience.

QHR Technologies

Digital healthcare has increased, with patients connecting directly to their healthcare providers through video and messaging platforms. One such platform is Medeo Virtual Care from Kelowna-based QHR.

The innovative healthcare technology company produces a suite of industry-leading products designed to streamline medical practices. Their flagship product is AccuroEMR, Canada's

largest single-platform electronic medical record software. Other Products include FreedomRx, an e-prescription management tool for pharmacists and Pharmacy EMR, which helps pharmacy staff manage their professional services and is now used in over 1,200 Shoppers Drug Mart pharmacies in Canada. QHR currently has 523 employees across Canada, with 368 of those in its Kelowna head office.

Staffbase

Bananatag, which recently merged with a German company to become Staffbase, was founded to help companies with their internal communications.

The company offers low-code, customized email templates that allow colleagues to collaborate in real time. Staffbase also provides in-depth metrics and integration capabilities with Gmail,

Slack, Microsoft Outlook and Teams, and other communication tools.

In just 11 years, Kelowna's Bananatag grew to 150 employees and opened an office in Vancouver. In merging with Staffbase, they created the world's largest internal communication tech company with 1,000 customers worldwide, including Adidas, Audi, and Spark Power.

Read the full stories of how these, and more companies are programming the Okanagan at OK-GO.CA

INDUSTRY PLAYERS

QHR Technologies
qhrtechnologies.com

Yeti Farm
yetifarmcreative.com

HyperHippo
hyperhippo.com

Two Hat
twohat.com

Staffbase
bananatag.com

WTFast
wtfast.com

Trellis
trellis.org

Estated
estated.com

GetintheLoop
getintheloop.ca

ARE YOU READY FOR A CHANGE OF SCENE?

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QUESTIONS?
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