

Subject: News from the Central Okanagan Economic Development Commission - May 25, 2010

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Leaders of Facebook and Google Among Elite List of Attendees Expected at metabridge British Columbia Event Hosted in Kelowna June 10-11

An impressive list of VIP participants for the June, 2010 edition of the metabridge event series will be the largest and most impressive to date.

The metabridge organizing committee is excited to host over 20 senior technology leaders from California's Silicon Valley and abroad, including high profile companies such as Trinity Ventures, British Sky Broadcasting and PCMAG.

The participants also include Sam Odio from Facebook, Jeremy Geiger from Tomorrow Ventures (Google CEO Venture Capital Fund) and Owen Matthews from Wesley Clover.

Visit the [metabridge website](#) for more information.



Supporting Our Local Retailers:
Kelowna Welcomes Shelfspace for Inaugural "Re-tales" Event

Tuesday, June 8
6:30 to 8:30 pm - Manteo Resort
Cost \$10 person for Shelfspace Members,
\$15 for Non-Members

Retailers from the Central Okanagan are invited to come together for the first "Re-Tales of the Community" story telling and networking event on June 8 in Kelowna. The event will feature Jim Belshaw, owner of Roy's Shoes, Boots and Repair in Kelowna who will share his experiences, successes and challenges around what it means to be an entrepreneur.

This opportunity for Kelowna's entrepreneurs to learn how one of their own has made himself known on a national and international stage is orchestrated by Shelfspace - The Association for Retail Entrepreneurs in conjunction with the Central Okanagan Economic Development Commission. This inaugural entrepreneurial celebration brings together retail owners, managers, staff and industry suppliers to meet one another, share stories, hear about new ideas and collaborate on issues that impact their businesses and their industry.

Retailers from across the Central Okanagan are invited to participate. For more information, [click here](#).

To register, [click here](#).

Youth Entrepreneurs Excel at Annual Competition Finale

The winners were announced for the 2010 Dragon's Den Edition of the Young Entrepreneur Program May 17th at a special luncheon held at the Coast Capri Hotel. The program is a joint initiative between the Central Okanagan Economic Development Commission, School District #23 Career Life Programs, and Okanagan College School of Business for





SIFE Okanagan Exits Nationals with More Hardware Than Any Other Team in the Nation

The competition was fierce, the presentations nearly flawless, and after two intense days of competition at the SIFE National Challenge, Okanagan College brought home seven national awards, more than any of the other 53 teams in attendance.

SIFE Okanagan picked up TWO national awards. It was 1st for the Campbell's Soup Let's Can Hunger. In the HSBC Financial Literacy Competition, SIFE Okanagan earned 2nd place in the country behind Ryerson University.

[Full press release...](#)

Links and Events

[June 1st
Free Workshop](#)
Could Internationally Trained Workers give you a competitive edge?

[June 4th
Tourism Showcase](#)
Celebrate Lake Country!

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students in grades 7 to 12.

With the Central Okanagan having one of the highest rates of entrepreneurship in Canada at 97 percent, the aim of the program is to provide youth in our community with hands-on learning experiences and create excitement towards the topic of entrepreneurship.

The theme of this year's competition was to "Create Your Own Summer Job - Tourism". Students started working on their projects in February and were judged by professionals from many areas of the community. Students had to complete three tasks which included creating their product or service, developing a financial plan, and a marketing and promotion plan. The competition is highly successful, as over 50 percent of task three teams take their business concepts to the start up stage.

The 2010 Award winners are:

Secondary School Winner of \$2,500



Kelowna Secondary School Team iTour Kelowna consisting of Allie Lemoine, Kristen Valnicek, Kassia Vinci, Kayleigh Zinger-Harris. iTour Kelowna created an iPhone and iPod Touch application to promote local tourism.

Middle School Winner of \$1,000

Okanagan Adventist Academy team Neeko consisting of Nicole Dacre and John Eek with their Okanagan Cases business. Neeko created hand-crafted cases shaped as fruit inspired by Okanagan orchards and vineyards which are ideal for a Bluetooth headset, spare change, cell phone or keys.

[More winners...](#)

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