

2018-2019  
Year in Review

# INNOVATION YORK



AGREEMENTS



INDUSTRY  
ENGAGEMENT



KNOWLEDGE  
MOBILIZATION



COMMERCIALIZATION



ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Innovation York has a mandate to facilitate and maximize the commercial, economic, and social impacts of research and innovation, and to create a culture of engaged scholarship and experiential learning.

## Our Activity

549



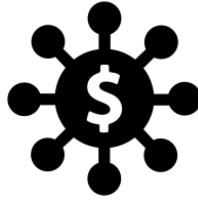
Agreements  
Reviewed

\$46M



Value of  
Agreements

80



Industry-Partnered  
Grants Supported

12



Community  
Projects Brokered

46



KMb Workshops  
Delivered

15



Invention  
Disclosures

\$415K



Commercialization  
Grant Funding

134



Start-up Ventures  
Supported

\$10.4M



Investment/Funding  
Raised by Ventures

95



Entrepreneurship  
Workshops Hosted



## Key Highlights



bitnobi

Founded in 2014 through Innovation York's commercialization unit, Bitnobi, Inc. is a start-up focused on commercializing a privacy protected data sharing technology developed in the laboratory of Dr. Marin Litoiu. This year saw a significant breakthrough for this YorkU start-up, as it secured \$470,000 from the Federal Government and \$200,000 from the Canadian Department of Defense to deploy and test the technology. In addition, Bitnobi was named as a key participant in the Canadian Personalized Health Innovation Network led by Roche Canada. It's been a breakthrough year for Bitnobi and we can't wait to see what the future holds.

## LaunchYU

This year Innovation York partnered with York University's Division of Advancement to create the Entrepreneurial Alumni Speaker Series; a series featuring top YorkU alumni entrepreneurs. Each of the four-part annual series aims to capture the real stories, challenges, successes and failures that they have encountered in their journeys. The talks are meant to INSPIRE, MOTIVATE, and EDUCATE the audience on the realities of launching a start-up in today's world. In the first year, four amazing entrepreneurs were featured: Sharon Vinderine, Founder & CEO of Parent Tested Parent Approved; Sheetal Jaitly, CEO of TribalScale; Jay Klein, Founder & CEO of The PUR Company Inc; and Drew Green, CEO & President of Indochino.



In partnership with the VISTA team, Innovation York developed and launched the VISTA Prototyping Fund. This fund supports core and associate members of VISTA in the development of a prototype (hardware or software) that will lead to the commercialization of a product that is aligned with the VISTA mandate. Four matching-grants of \$50,000 were awarded this year: Prof. John Tsotsos, "Development of a Prototype Autonomous Wheelchair"; Prof. Alidad Amirfazli, "An Image based Surface Tensiometry Instrument using a Smartphone"; Prof. Tabatabaei, "Thermo-Photonic Devices for High-Sensitivity Interpretation of Cannabis Roadside Lateral Flow Immunoassay Tests"; and Prof. Elder, "Attentive Vision System for Video Creation".