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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WALKING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF GIANTS: BIOTECH STARTUP ADVANCES IN 2021 NEW VENTURES BC COMPETITION

Victoria, BC - The New Ventures BC Competition (NVBC), now in its 20th year, has an impressive history, with past winners raising over \$800 million in financing, over \$275 million in revenue, and are responsible for the creation of close to 5500 jobs within BC. It's past winners include companies that have been acquired by mega-giants like Workday.

VoxCell BioInnovation has advanced to the second round of this year's contest and is joined by a few Victoria local start-ups in the quest for capital, resources, guidance and support, networking, and recognition as a promising business venture within the province. A total of over \$275 thousand in hard cash and in-kind services will be awarded to the top teams.

While still early days, and in a space that is heating up (3D Bioprinting), VoxCell is aiming to make a big impact on the way life-saving drug therapies get to market; an advantage both for the people who need them most and for the drug developers and pharmaceutical companies hoping to get to market quick.

The average timeline for a new drug to be developed, tested, and for sale is about 15 years and comes with about a \$2 billion dollar price tag, but it doesn't have to be that way.

The NVBC program requires all organizations to submit business plans, pitch decks, and lots of supporting materials to prove their effectiveness and long-genvity as viable ventures worthy of prizes and resources. VoxCell BioInnovation is honoured to be included in this year's contest and is looking forward to the third round - results to be announced in May.

About VoxCell BioInnovation

VoxCell BioInnovation is a biotechnology start-up in Victoria BC focused on creating an extraordinary line of solutions for the drug development industry and the field of Oncology research. We offer three core products: Novel Bioinks, Tissue Models, and a unique 3D Bioprinter for in vitro drug testing. Our goal is to impact the world by reducing the time and costs associated with getting new drug therapies to market by allowing researchers and pharmaceutical companies to test sooner on Truly Biomimetic tissues.

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