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### The "BUSINESS CASE" April 22, 2017 (What Angels *Really* Want) [www.mikevolker.com]





Mike Volker (mike@volker.org) www.timiacapital.com www.wutif.ca



#### Name some.....





Most "entrepreneurs" are not entrepreneurs



They are technicians suffering from an entrepreneurial seizure.

They have NO experience in commerce & business

### Success Factors: Just Two!

### PEOPLE experience risk takers total commitment



CAPITAL enough to cash flow



### Observations

- "good" companies will always get funded
- startups are getting better each year
- more private capital available
- Equity Crowdfunding is here!
- VC's invest later in prospective "unicorns"
- Most companies fail!
   (>50% in 5 yrs, >80% in 10 yrs)
- Steve Blank says 1 on 1000 make it big!

### A Great time to start a Company

- Prime at 2.7%, inflation: <2%, GDP: >2 %
- Lower taxes (small bus. rate, cap gains exempt)
- Low R&D costs (SRED Credits)
- Great Infrastructure (see www.hitechbc.com)
- Special incentives: BC pays investors 30%
- Make a list of all un-invented things!
- Americans will buy anything!



IN 2015, THE TECH SECTOR:

- Reached over 100,000 jobs for the first time (101,780<sup>1</sup>) at 9,905 companies.
- Had wages 75 per cent higher than the B.C. industrial average, with average weekly earnings of \$1,590.<sup>2</sup>
- Had the fifth consecutive year of growth in employment.<sup>3</sup>
- Employed around 4.9 per cent of British Columbia's workforce more than the mining, oil and gas, and forestry sectors combined.<sup>4</sup>
- Generated approximately seven per cent of the province's GDP.<sup>5</sup>

### Innovation Incentives (B.C.)

Example: Fusion Energy Ventures (VCC) Inc:

- SRED tax credits: up to 68% Good as Cash!
- NRC-IRAP, ICE Fund, STDC, NSERC I2I, etc
- 30% VCC Tax Credit (Combine with RRSPs)

Raised \$400K in 2002 (investors get \$\$ back if it fails!) Now at \$100M+



## Access to Capital

#### moneylinks.ca



- Family Friends Relatives only go so far
- Less VC capital; mainly later stage
- Junior Public Market not easy to do (great if you want to be big!)
- What about Crowdfunding? (Product vs Equity)
- What about angels?
  - Great, but <1% of population





### The Law (BC Securities Comm)

#### It is ILLEGAL to sell shares to anyone unless...

### you use a PROSPECTUS & are a REGISTERED dealer



OR.....

use an "EXEMPTION" to the PROSPECTUS & REGISTRATION Requirement WHY???

Why not have the BC Lotteries Corp be the regulator?

### What's a [Business] Angel?

Successful Entrepreneur
Giving back time & money
A Mentor & Coach
"Accredited Investor"

-millionaire or
-\$200k/yr income



### Angel Investing 101

#### Distribution of Returns by Venture Investment



Study by Rob Wiltbank, Willamette Univ.





#### Median and Mean Round Sizes – Angels Only

2015 Shows Round Sizes Increasing, Mean Ownership of Angel round is Relatively Stable 20-25%







PitchBook

U.S.A

### How to Engage with Angels?

## Make your pitch... COMPELLING and





### INTRIGUING

### What Angels Want



- Fun
- Interesting Opportunity
- A willing protégé
- To use one's resources
- Attractive Return: 10X to >>100X



- 3 l's: Intensity, Integrity, Immediacy (person)
- 3 G's: Goodness, Greatness, Greed (company)

### What do you offer Angels?

**Co-ownership** (20-30% as a group) Participation (Mentor, Board?) **Upside** Gain (10X in 5 to 10) = 58% to 26% IRR

## Term Sheet

- Valuation
- Amount
- Legal compliance
- Rights
- Restrictions
- Vesting
- Shareholders
   Agreement

#### Reference: NACO Common Docs

#### Company: (the "Company"). Date: Pre-Investment Total Shares Issued: a \$/shr = \$ (use per-share offering price as noted below) Value: WUTIE Shares (or Units) at \$ /Share\_= \$ (Describe shares or units). Investment: [Attach before/after Capitalization table. This should include an allocation of shares to be issued and held in trust for new management/employees] WUTIE: Total Shares), Other parties: \$ Investment Shares), Round: (the "Investors"). [WUTIF's share must be no more than 50% of all capital raised on this round.] Jurisdiction: BC Corporations Act. Province of British Columbia: or Canada Business Corporations Act ESB Status: Company is an Eligible Small Business (ESB) under the terms of the British Columbia "Small Business Venture Capital Act" ("SBVCA"). Company will maintain this status (unless sold) for at least 5 years, failing which WUTIF will have a PUT option for its shares based on current market value of its shares. Company will prepare all documentation required under the Act. NB: the Investment must be at arms-length (see Note 1 below) [This term would only apply in B.C. where investors want to use the Provincial 30% tax credits available to angel investors.] Exemptions: Company will use all appropriate and available exemptions from prospectus requirements. If available, it is best to use the "Private Issuer Exemption", i.e. NI45-106 2.4(2) - ie a person (in this case, WUTIF) of which a majority of directors are accredited. [The most common exemption used by angel investors is the so-called "accredited investor" exemption. Unfortunately, there are very few "exemptions" that companies can use to raise capital.] Closing: Closing shall take place within fifteen (15) days of the date when Company (date), additional financing of has raised, subsequent to s and has provided evidence of such financing satisfactory to WUTIF. (Could have a second closing to accommodate additional investors for a specified time period) Rights: These shares are convertible on a 1:1 basis with any new class of shares that may be created on the next financing round. Also, in the event that

WUTIF TERMS SHEET Seed Investment Round

### Angel Networks, Groups & Funds

#### A GLOBAL movement: They're Everywhere!

In Vancouver: VANTEC.ca K4NORTHWEST.com NewVenturesBC.com: *meet & greet angels* 



#### In Canada: NACOCanada.com – great resource material

### e.g.WUTIF Angel Fund (wutif.ca) (Western Universities Technology Innovation Fund)

- Started in 2003 as a VCC
- any tech startup in B.C. can apply
- >70 investments: \$100K average/company
- >150 investors
- 30% tax credits
- RRSP + Rollover = 100% capital return

#### WUTIF

Western Universities Technology Innovation Fund





- 720 Investment Opportunities Screened
- 80 Follow-up Meetings with Entrepreneurs
- 41 Due Diligence Reports
- 12 Investments in E-Fund I
- 9 Investments in E-Fund II
- 2 Exits

### More to come!

### Why did I write this book?

-What are you selling?-Who will buy it? (and why?)-How will you make money?

DOWNLOAD: www.mikevolker.com





Examples: Apple iPod, Starbucks (see D Thomas' deck)

### Positioning Example: Apple iPod

- For mobile, high-income individuals
- who need a way to listen to their entire music collection in different settings
- the Apple iPod is a small, portable digital music player
- that offers elegance of design, the ability to store an entire music collection, and easy purchasing of new digital music.
- Unlike flash mp3 players (Creative, Rio, etc),
- the product stores an entire music library and is integrated into a service to purchase new digital music (iTunes)

### The Investor Pitch

It's easy! Just fill in the blanks:

We, (Company)\_\_\_\_\_, require (\$\$)\_\_\_\_\_ for (what)\_\_\_\_\_ in return for \_\_\_% of the Company. Our plan is to be acquired by (name some):\_\_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_(year) for \$\_\_\_\_million to give you an IRR of \_\_\_%.

Example:

*We, <u>Ace Corp</u>, require \$500K mainly for production tooling & hiring sales staff in return for 30% common shares. Our plan is to be acquired by Polycom for \$15M in 2014. This will give you a 5X return in 5 years (ie IRR=38%).* 

### Angel's BS Bingo:

Domain	ProActive	Unique	Low Burn	Best of Breed
Expertise	Management	Proposition	Rate	
Enabling Technology	Empowered Team	Ground Floor Opportunity	First To Market	Platform Technology
Market	World Class	<u>PROFITS</u>	Competitive	Renowned
Driven	Products		Advantage	Board
Proprietary Technology (no competitors)	Revolutionary Business Model	IP Portfolio	Favorable Valuation	Liquidity Event (Exit Strategy)
Revenue	NASDAQ	Mezzanine	Defensible	Visionary
Traction	IPO	Round	Strategy	



# Judging

# "pick the idea most likely to be commercially viable with the greatest value"



Will it cash flow? and Will it scale?

### What about Scale?

### The \$100 million deal? or The "Lifestyle"Business?

#### YOUR DECISION!

Then sell your story to the right audience!





What are you selling, who will buy it, how much will you make? (Profit & Loss & CASH FLOW)

Why you and your team? (Passion & Leadership)





ROUND #1 *THE IDEA* 

(back of the envelope) (i.e. 1 page) Due: Apr 14, 11:59 pm www.newventuresbc.com



### ROUND #2 (& 2.5) FEASIBILITY TEST

### (6 pages max) Due: May 3, 6:00 pm 25 selected www.newventuresbc.com



## ROUND #3 VENTURE PLAN

### Due: August 2, 6:00 pm

www.newventuresbc.com



#### BMO:

#### "Show me your business plan"



### CONFIDENCE!



#### Is a Business Plan *really* necessary? (my RIM Story)
### **Business Plan & Model**

A plan is better than a forecast

- The plan shows what you will achieve and how you will get there
- The NVBC questions challenge you to think about what you are planning to do
- Tools, such as the Business Model Canvas\*, help you figure it out

(Kirk's deck: http://www.newventuresbc.com/wp/wpcontent/uploads/2016/04/Value-Pricing-NVBC-14-06-27.pdf)

# Questions: Round #2 and #3

ROUND #2 (6 pages) ROUND #3 (8 pages) **1.Product 2.Intellectual Property** 3. Technology Development + Technical Team **4. Business Plan Status** + Market Scope & Need 5.Market 6.Distribution 7.Competition + Barriers to competition 8.Team 9. Financial (basic) + 18-36 months

# Question #1: PRODUCT

What is it?

Product or Service? NOT the technology



How will revenue be generated?

E.g. selling a gadget, renting, licensing, etc

### Question #2: Intellectual Property

What is it? (Everyone has it)

Patentable? Copyright? Trade Secret? Just an idea? Know-How? Processes?



# Question #3: <u>TECH DEVELOPMENT</u>

#### STAGE of DEVELOPMENT?

Idea? Prototype? Beta model? Production?



And...mention TIME FRAME

## Question #4: Bus Plan Status

How much background research done? i.e. pertaining to business viability

What still needs to be done? e.g. checking out costing, competition, etc



## Question #5: MARKET

The most important question! Who will buy it? (customers!) Why will they buy it? Potential? How much can you sell? TAM = Total Available Market DO NOT SAY: 1% of \$1 Billion! INSTEAD, READ: Regis McKenna's Marketing is Everything (Harvard Bus) Check Dave Thomas' slides: http://www.newventuresbc.com/resource/product-market-fit/

# Question #6: DISTRIBUTION

#### How will they buy it?

#### Distribution channels (and margins)

#### Strategic Partners? OEMS? Chains?



# Question #7: <u>COMPETITION</u>

#### There's no such thing as "no competition"

Uniqueness? Substitutes? Differentiators? Barriers?



## -Question #8: THE TEAM

#### STRENGTHS

Participants (now & planned) Advisors (now & planned) Board Members (now & planned)

### WEAKNESSES Know your shortcomings!



## Question #9: FINANCIAL

It's all about the money!!

How much MONEY do you need? (e.g. to positive cash-flow milestone)

How much have you raised (from?)

How much have you spent?



5-year projections? Beware the hockey stick sales curve: 0.5% of startups achieved \$50M in 6 years!



	MONTH#1	MONTH#2	MONTH#3	••••	FYTOT:
GROSS REVENUE (\$):	11200	27720	54886	·	2162713
COST OF GOODS SOLD:	7680	19008	37636		1483003
GROSS MARGIN:	3520	8712	17250		679710
EXPENSES:					
Sales:	9060	8167	12222		199954
R&D:	1100	867	1022		92044
G&A:	1100	1267	1322		93944
TOTAL EXPENSES:	11260	10300	14567		385942
NET PROFIT (BT):	-7740	-1588	2683		293768
(The following rows	have bee	n added	for CAS	HFLOW	purposes.)
CASH FLOW #1(\$):				2.4	Month#7:
Open Balance:	0	-7680	-26748	· · · ·	
+ Cash from Sale					
- Cash re Expens	es: 0	-11260	-10300		CRAMER A
- Cash for Prodn	: -7680	-19008	-37636	N GI	ST MA LOA
= Closing Cash.	-7680	-26748	-46964	100	106384

Sample cashflow forecast: How much \$\$ do you need?

This?

· receive production supplies 3 months (not 1 month) before shipping

• receive payment from customers in 2 months (not 1 month)

Cashflow#2 rows now replace the Cashflow#1 rows to produce the following spreadsheet details:

CASH FLOW #2(\$):				Month#10:
Open Balance:	-26688	-64324	-142651	
+ Cash from Sales:	0	0	11200	
- Cash re Expenses	: 0	-11260	-10300	
- Cash for Prodn:	-37636	-67067	-97750	Super Participant
= Closing Cash:	-64324	-142651	-239501	721842

Or This?

## So why do deals get funded?

- Because the people behind them are:
- credible (domain knowledge, esp. market)
- realistic (show how they can achieve goals)
- aware of what they don't know (use experts)
- not alone (had a team)
- in control (leadership, contingencies)
- But mainly because:
- they are liked! (it's really a courtship!)

## A Few Final Tips:

- don't make the "only 1% of market" claim (it's the kiss of death!)
- don't compromise by saying what you think investors want to hear
- don't be given to hyperbole; confident humility can go a long way
- show leadership!!

   (the reasons for failure always point to lack of leadership)
- never procrastinate!



#### http://www.newventuresbc.com http://www.mikevolker.com

*"Success is the difference between giving up and sticking with it."* 

(mike@volker.org)