

Forty Under 40 recipients for 2021 revealed

Monday, May 3 2021 -- Technology sector executives, startup founders, health care entrepreneurs and business leaders from construction, real estate, retail, tourism and communications are among the 40 rising young business stars recognized in the 2021 Forty Under 40 awards.

The program is a joint initiative of Ottawa Business Journal and the Ottawa Board of Trade. It's widely recognized as the region's most sought-after business award for people aged less than 40 years.

Despite the health and economic crisis, this year's awards competition attracted hundreds of applicants, who were assessed and ranked based on business accomplishments, professional experience and community involvement.

The 2021 judging panel was chaired by OBJ publisher Michael Curran and included Gregory Richards from the Telfer School of Management Executive MBA, Robert Rhéaume from BDO Canada and two alumni, Joelle Hall from Richardson Wealth and Pascal St-Jean from TEC Canada.

"The first thing that struck me this year was balance," says Richards, director of EMBA program at the Telfer School of Management. "We saw nominees from health care, non-profits and profit generating businesses. I welcome that. The other thing is that judging is getting harder each year. These folks are generating impressive results. I think it's quite fascinating. It's good for the community, but challenging for the judges."

To celebrate the 2021 Forty Under 40 recipients, OBJ, the Ottawa Board of Trade and Rogers Sports & Media are producing an online and television broadcast on Wednesday, June 23.

"The celebration will be virtual again this year, but it will be inspirational," says OBJ publisher Michael Curran, who has led the awards program for 20 years. "We're going to put the success of these young entrepreneurs in the spotlight. This is something that our region really needs, as we're more than one year into this pandemic."

Sueling Ching, the president and CEO of the Ottawa Board of Trade, shares, "Every year, the young leaders recognized in this program represent the best of what Ottawa has to offer today and for our future. This cohort has demonstrated excellence in a year of extreme change and challenge. And their contributions are a beacon of energy, innovation and optimism. Congratulations and thank you to each of you."

Forty Under 40 is sponsored by the Telfer School of Management Executive MBA, BDO Canada, TEC Canada and OakWood Design Build.

Congratulations to this year's Forty Under 40 recipients:

Roberto Aburto	Lawyer	Gowling WLG Canada LLP
Darryl Arvai	Corporate Controller	Shopify
Jonathan Atwill-Morin	President	Atwill-Morin Ontario Inc
Cynthia Benoit	CEO	CB Linguistic Services
Bradley Bezan	Commerce Intelligence	Spark Lifecare
Kevin Brennan	General Manager	Cavanagh Concrete Ltd.
Matthew Carr	President, Principal Broker	Gifford Carr Insurance Brokers Inc.
Michelle Coates-Mather	Vice President	Syntax Strategic
Sean Cochrane	President	TCC Canada
Sarah D'Angelo	Director of People Operations	You.i TV
Dr. Tracy Dalgleish	Clinical Health Psychologist	Integrated Wellness
Gareth Davies	Founder	Maker House Co.
Kurtis Funai	Chief Technology Officer	Fullscript
Shawn Gandhi	World Wide Head of AI/ML Solutions	Amazon Web Services
Meseret Haileyesus	CEO	Canadian Center for Women's Empowerment Ottawa
Kelly Haussler	Manager, Destination Development	Ottawa Tourism
Dr. Samuel Hetz	Owner & Medical Director	Concept Medical
Sarah Howard	Manager, Buildings & Structures	WSP Canada Inc.
Ken Jennings	Owner	Jennings Real Estate Corporation
Taylor Johansen	Director	Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario
Elnaz Kanani Kuchesfehani	Senior Manager	Deloitte
Ashleigh Kennedy	CEO	Neurovine Inc.
Jason Kealey	VP Strategy	FranConnect
Jordan Latimer	Operations Manager	PCL Construction

Benjamin Leikin	Program Manager, Mental Health and Substance	Ottawa Public Health
Diego Matute	CEO	Cyphercor Inc.
Dave McCann	Managing Partner / General Manager	IBM Canada
Nick McRae	President	Roxborough Bus Lines Ltd.
Chris Murray	Chief Strategy Officer	Wake Network
James Nguyen	Co-Founder & CEO	Quantropi Inc.
Kailin Noivo	Co-Founder & VP Sales	Noibu
Sergey Poltev	CEO	CAPITALTEK
Christopher Redmond	Director	Distant Red Pictures
Allan Reesor-McDowell	Executive Director	Matthew House Ottawa
Sandro Ricci	President	ASL Agrodrain Limited
Ronald Richardson	Co-Founder	Benbria Corporation
Solmaz Shahalizadeh Kalkhoran	VP of Data Science & Engineering, Head of Commerce Intelligence	Shopify
Connor Shea	Director, Investment Management	Colonnade BridgePort
Trevor Szutu	Director, Corporate Development	Descartes Systems Group
Emilie Wilcox	Managing Partner	Baiame Consulting Ltd.