



Photo: Jason Pearman, Co-Founder of HUB Ottawa accepting the award on behalf of Vinod Rajasekaran

Vinod Rajasekaran

Winner of “Social enterprises” award

Founder of **HUB Ottawa**

<http://ottawa.the-hub.net/>

Vinod Rajasekaran has helped to create a physical space and a community of professionals and social entrepreneurs here in Ottawa. The HUB is a social enterprise with a mission to drive social innovation through collaboration. They deliver on this by: hosting inspiring spaces for individuals to cowork, host meetings, and connect; curating learning experiences to enable and support members and their organizations, and; by catalyzing connections and ideas between our members so that their social ventures thrive.

As a member among 30 Hubs in cities across five continents, HUB Ottawa is part of a broad global network, taking local action, to address environmental, social and cultural issues relevant at both the local and global scales.

As Vinod Rajasekaran’s explains:

“HUB’s success is primarily measured through the outcomes of our members. Our vision is to become the nucleus for social innovation/ social enterprise sector in Ottawa. In five short months, The HUB has grown to 100+ members; has facilitated 125+ connections between members across disciplines and sectors of which 50% have resulted in tangible collaboration; has engaged 3000+ individuals through events hosted at the HUB directly targeted toward economic/social/cultural development, of which 10+ initiatives have launched, including Creative Mornings Ottawa, Ethical Fashion On Display and OurShelves; has increased knowledge about social enterprise development among 25+ nonprofits and charities who are now more likely to explore social enterprise for financial sustainability; is proud to incubate 10 new social enterprises including Narr8r, Hidden Harvest Ottawa, Efani, and Bibz; provided 50+ socially minded entrepreneurial youth world-class practical learning experiences through Ottawa Community Challenge, Future Community Builders programs and more”.