



# Enter the 2019 RDBN Start-up Business Contest for a chance to win big!

## Contest Details

### Eligibility

1. Entrants must be age 19 or older at time of entry.
2. Proposed new businesses must be ready to begin start-up process within 6 months of contest closing.
3. Existing small business must have been in business no longer than two years from start of contest.
4. Existing business must have plans to diversify within the 6 months of contest closing.

Business must be located in one of the following communities.

- Smithers, Telkwa, and Electoral Area A (Smithers Rural)
- Houston, Granisle, Topley, and Electoral Area G (Houston Rural)
- Burns Lake, Electoral Area B (Burns Lake Rural), and Electoral Area E (Francois/Ootsa Rural)
- Fraser Lake, Endako, Fort Fraser, and Electoral Area D (Fraser Lake Rural)
- Vanderhoof, and Electoral Area F (Vanderhoof Rural)
- Fort St. James, and Electoral Area C (Fort St James Rural)

Following the entry deadline the selection panel will review all entries and the top five finalists will be selected from all areas within the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako. Each finalist chosen will present their concept pitch at the 2019 RDBN Business Forum in Vanderhoof October 22, 2019.

### Entry Requirements

#### Stage One

- Complete and Submit Contest Entry Form along with applicable financial documents (see applicant checklist)
- Submit Resume

#### Stage Two

- Selection panel will choose the top five finalists from across the region and notify those selected.
- Finalists will be required to
  - submit two reference letters;
  - submit a copy of certifications indicated on resume;
  - submit business # and proof of business license if business is existing; and
  - meet with Public Speaking Mentor to review concept pitch before presentation at the Business Forum.



[www.rdbn.bc.ca](http://www.rdbn.bc.ca)

### Stage Three

- Finalists will present their concept pitch at the 2019 Regional Business Forum on October 22, 2019, in Vanderhoof.
  - Entrants may use PowerPoint presentations, slides, video, flip charts, internet displays, exhibits, props or posters for their pitch presentation.
  - Three (3) minutes will be allowed for each pitch.
- Finalists will be interviewed by the selection panel during the Business Forum.
- Winner will be announced at the Gala Dinner on October 22, 2019.

### Prizes

Last contest's Grand Prize packages included a mixture of business advertising, accounting services, website services, and business goods. The 2019 Grand Prize package will be announced as prizes are confirmed. Check at [www.rdbn.bc.ca/departments/economic-development/business-events](http://www.rdbn.bc.ca/departments/economic-development/business-events) for prize packages and contest donor updates.

### 2019 Contest Deadlines

**May 6<sup>th</sup>** ..... Contest opens  
**September 10<sup>th</sup>** ..... Entry deadline  
**September 28<sup>th</sup>** ..... Finalists announced  
**October 11<sup>th</sup>** ..... Deadline for Stage 2 requirements  
**October 14 - 18<sup>th</sup>** ..... Finalists to review presentations with Public Speaking Mentor  
**October 22<sup>nd</sup> (Business Forum)** ..... Stage 3 Concept Pitch and Interview  
**October 22<sup>nd</sup> (Gala Dinner)** ..... Announcement of RDBN Start-up Business Contest Winner

### How to Submit

#### **To enter, complete and submit all documents to:**

In person: RDBN office located at 37 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, Burns Lake, BC

By mail: Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako  
Attention: Start-up Business Contest  
Box 820  
Burns Lake, BC V0J 1E0 (must be received by 4:30 p.m., September 10, 2019)

By email [economic.development@rdbn.bc.ca](mailto:economic.development@rdbn.bc.ca)

**It is the responsibility of the entrants to ensure their entries have been received.**