



Random Hacks_of Kindness

March 24-26, 2017

Ottawa, Canada

Event Report

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From the Organizers

Dear Participants, Sponsors and Friends,

Congratulations and a huge thank you to all of you for a great weekend – it was a weekend to remember. This was Ottawa's fifth Random Hacks of Kindness and we had an awesome time getting to know each of you and seeing your very impressive progress throughout the weekend.

We had a ton of fun and were blown away with your results. Congratulations on your presentations and all of your hard work.

We couldn't have done any of this without the participants, our amazing sponsors, the great venue, and rock-solid volunteers. This was a great Random Hacks of Kindness and we really appreciate it.

Until the fall!

Brett and Brandon.



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About

Random Hacks of Kindness (RHoK) Ottawa is part of a global movement that brings together problem solvers, creative thinkers, and technologists for a hackathon weekend. Over the course of the weekend, teams of volunteers bring their creative, technical, and problem-solving know-how to tackle and solve some of the challenges faced by charities, not-for-profits, and civic organizations.



TECH4GOOD OTTAWA

The stars aligned and RHoK Ottawa became a project of [Tech4Good Ottawa](#). Tech4Good Ottawa is a community of professionals aiming to create the go-to community of practice in Ottawa for charities and technology to collide. We bring both these groups together and give them more ways to learn from one another. We help charities use technology to the max. RHoK is a good extension of the vision of [Tech4Good Ottawa](#).



RHOK ORGANIZERS

- Brett Tackaberry, Technical Director at [Rebel](#), Organizer at Tech4Good Ottawa

HISTORY

- June 2015: RHOK #4 was hosted at Kivuto and chaired by Wesley Ellis and Brett Tackaberry. Supported by Brandon Brule, Maria Smirnoff, Jesse Burscik, Anton McConville.
- June 2014: RHOK #3 was hosted again at Shopify and chaired by Wesley Ellis and Brett Tackaberry. Supported by Brandon Brule, Lisa Larochelle, Jesse Burscik.
- December 2013: RHOK #2 was hosted again at Shopify and chaired by Wesley Ellis. Co-organizers were Brett Tackaberry, Liz MacDonald, Christian Garceau, Brandon Brule.
- June 2013: Inaugural RHoK Ottawa hosted at Shopify and chaired by Jack Noppé and Wesley Ellis.

THIS WEBSITE

This website is a very slight adaptation from the theme found here: <https://github.com/thehuse/hackathon-wordpress-theme>.

This WordPress theme was originally developed for [National Day of Civic Hacking 2014](#).



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Sponsors



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Projects

Customer outreach and stock usage efficiency

Organization: Market Mobile

Organization URL: <http://www.marketmobileottawa.ca/>

Project Lead: Shannon Szkurhan & Kaitrin Doll



About the Organization:

The MarketMobile is a not-for-profit mobile grocery store which operates out of a retro-fit trailer and truck. The MarketMobile brings fresh, affordable, and culturally-appropriate vegetables and fruit to eight Ottawa neighbourhoods that have limited access to healthy food, with each community hosting the MarketMobile once a week.

Team: Thomas McGoey-Smith, Bibek, Jinyi Zhang, Tasnim Shakir, Alexander KeenanHarrison Reay, Mathieu Sicara-Gagne

The Challenge:

A large amount of staff time is spent reviewing price lists, ordering, pricing produce and reconciling end-of-day sales. The MarketMobile team would benefit from an automated system that would systematise purchasing, track inventory and sales. New efficiencies would enable the MarketMobile to free up staff time and resources to further develop and expand our social mandate. Furthermore, the MarketMobile only accepts cash which limits customers' ability to purchase larger quantities of produce and may drive customers to purchase food where debit and credit are accepted.

Additional challenges for the MarketMobile include left over produce and spoilage. When market sales are low and there are limited avenues to sell remaining produce, the MarketMobile operates at a loss which puts the long term sustainability of the project in jeopardy. Further, the MarketMobile not able to stock adequate quantities of more perishable items and therefore often sell out of these items before all customers are able to purchase them.

Results:

(Still being gathered)



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Restaurant on-boarding and contribution reporting

Organization: Mealshare

Organization URL: <http://www.mealshare.ca/>

Project Lead: Mariam Zohouri



About the Organization:

Mealshare is a national social enterprise that allows people to turn their dining out into helping out. To restaurant customers, Mealshare is simple: For every Mealshare item purchased, one meal is provided to a youth in need.

Team: Tahmor Ghumman, Muhammad Awais Qureshi, Muhammad Mustala, Immad Jami, Caleb

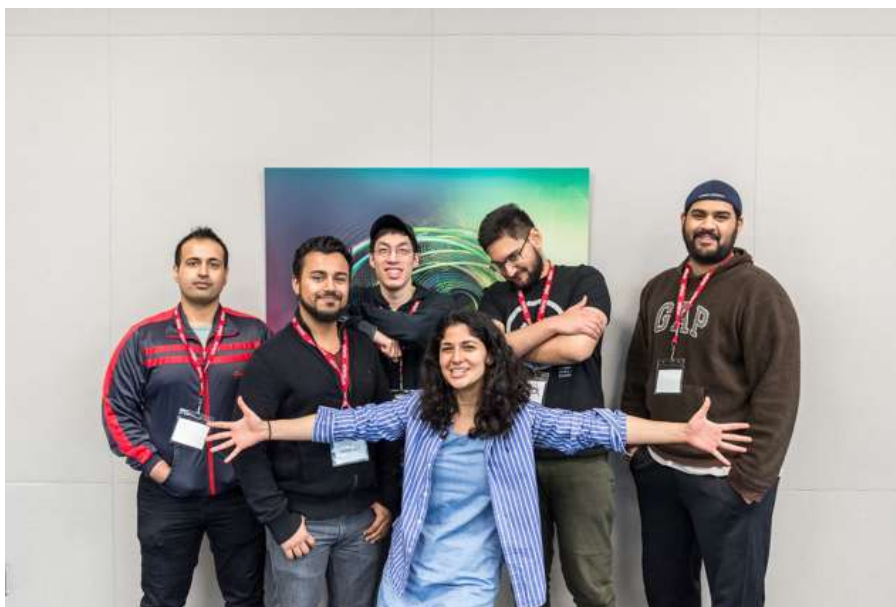
The Challenge:

A) Restaurants currently fill out our “Onboarding Package” manually and either hand it to us, or scan and email it to us. When developing our CRM, we were given some code for our Salesforce - code that lets us enter information from restaurants when they want to fill out their onboarding package digitally, and it will plug right into Salesforce.

B) We currently handle organizing volunteer signup for our charity days in several disconnected ways. Building one solution will make it easier for our partners to volunteer, increasing our local impact on youth in need.

Results:

(Still being gathered)



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Mission Control

Organization: Robot Missions

Organization URL: <http://www.robotmissions.org/>

Project Lead: Erin Kennedy



About the Organization:

Robot Missions is helping the planet with robots. We developed a 3D printed robot to collect harmful tiny trash debris on shorelines. Our robot workshops enhance STEM education for elementary students by applying robotics to the environment.

Team: Maxime, Tzvi Melamed, Alex Hudici, Micah Black, Harrison Reay

The Challenge:

We need to let robot operators use the robot without being overwhelmed, while still being able to access advanced functionality. There needs to be a display of sensor data, remotely operate the robot and view a video stream from a GoPro on the page.

Results:

(Still being gathered)

From Erin: *RHOK brought together a group of talented and enthusiastic developers who were eager to apply their skills to help with the Robot Missions project. Through RHOK, we were able to get started on a larger portion of the project - laying the technical foundation that can be built upon later. At the end, we had a functioning demo with improved arm servo movements. We made valuable connections at RHOK who are interested in helping the planet with robots collecting shoreline debris.*



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Linking People With Disabilities Into Development Activities

Organization: Citizens with Disabilities – Ontario (CWDO)

Organization URL: <http://www.cwdo.org/>

Project Lead: Jeffrey Stark

About the Organization:

Citizens with Disabilities – Ontario (CWDO) is a small non-profit organization of volunteers that actively promotes the rights, freedoms and responsibilities of persons with disabilities through community development, social action, and member support and referral.

Team: Martyna Marjanska, Daphne Uras, Angelo, Michael Milette, Eric Mulligan, Ying Qiao, Larry Burge

The Challenge:

In Canada, there is a need for connecting people with disabilities willing to do user testing with people looking for user testing. Small, medium and non-profit organizations are generally lacking the connections or understanding to ensure that their sites are usable by people with disabilities. It is not easy to find or request a group of people with a wide range of disabilities to try out some new prototype or system.

Results:

(Still being gathered)



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IoT Solution For Residential Care

Organization: Avaya

Organization URL: <https://www.avaya.com/>

Project Lead: Paul Leroux



About the Organization:

Avaya is a recognized innovator leading business communications for the digital age. Avaya delivers smart global solutions and technologies for customer and team engagement, unified communications and collaboration, contact centre and customer experience management, and networking.

Team: Alexander Ng, Zanna Sowka, Kevin Burr, Andrew Bell

The Challenge:

Residents of extended care, nursing or retirement facilities are often dependent on medication. On a case-by-case basis some residents are permitted to administer their own medication with approval by the medical staff (self medicate). However many residence that self medicate can forget to take their medication or worse they forget that they took their medicine. This creates health risks for the residents and also administration overhead for the staff if they need to assume control of the residents' medication regimen.

Results:

(Still being gathered)



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Interactive Puzzle

Organization: Planned Parenthood Ottawa

Organization URL: <http://www.ppottawa.ca/>

Project Lead: Ariane Wylie



About the Organization:

Planned Parenthood Ottawa (PPO) is a pro-choice organization promoting healthy sexuality and supporting informed sexual and reproductive health choices through education, counselling, information, and referral services.

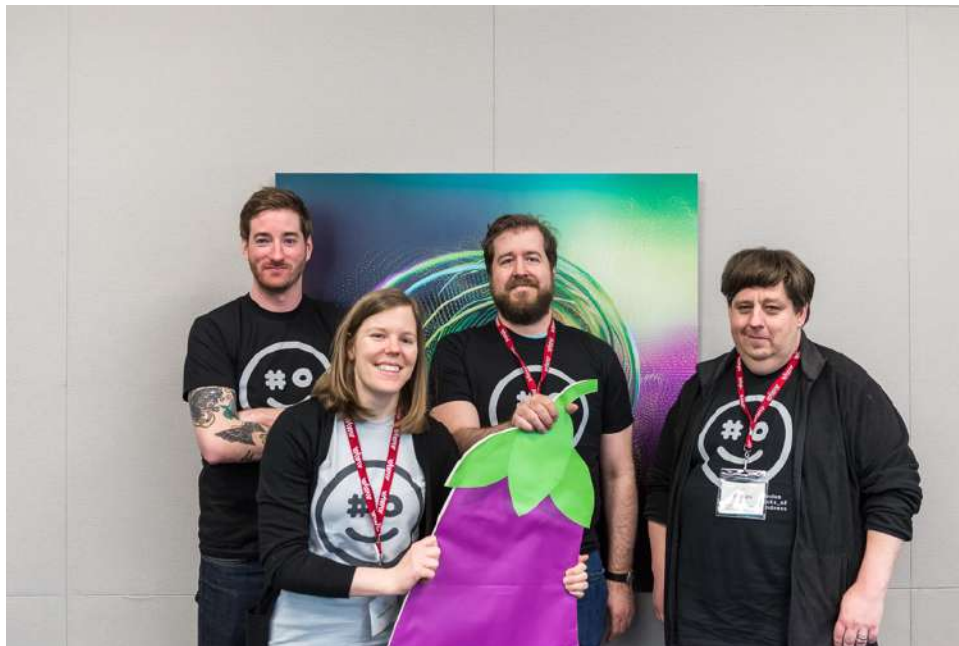
Team: Steve St. Pierre, Tim Park, Scott Thompson

The Challenge:

Research shows that youth turn to the internet for information about safer sex. The challenge is to help PPO turn the highly successful “STI Puzzle” into an online. The game is designed to help youth learn about sexually transmitted infections in a hands-on way. As sections of the puzzle are successfully completed, information is unlocked: pictures of the equipment used to test for STIs, information on how and where to get tested in Ottawa, etc.

Results:

(Still being gathered)



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Online Directory Of Services For Refugees



Organization: Refugee 613

Organization URL: <https://www.refugee613.ca/>

Project Lead:

About the Organization:

Refugee 613 is a coalition of citizens, settlement agencies, sponsorship groups and community partners working to provide refugees with the building blocks of successful integration: a warm welcome and access to key services, opportunities and support. As a non-partisan, grassroots effort, we aim to build on Ottawa's settlement services by providing our partners and the public with information, connection and inspiration.

Team: Dragan Nevjestic, Pascal Laliberté, Claudie, Silviu Riley, Lisa Deacon,
Eric Tran, Simon Hasiz, Charles Jaimet

The Challenge:

There is no online portal for Ottawa services for refugees and newcomers right now. Both settlement.org and 211/311 have information available for Ottawa, but it's not always detailed or complete. These platforms are also not as user friendly as they could be. We have settlement partners developing different online tools for staff, and we're in a good collaborative relationship with them. Refugee 613 should endeavour to create a web directory of services for Ottawa and make it easily shareable or adaptable down the road. We think there is high need for this, especially in Arabic. The sector suddenly has almost 2000 new clients in town and they struggle to find information.

Results:

(Still being gathered)



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Measures

By the Numbers

Facts

When: March 24, 25, 26, 2017

Where: Adobe Building on Preston

How many participants: 70

Projects: 7

Projects with useable outcome: 2

Social media:

Media:

Financials

Revenue	
Sponsorship	\$3,500
Ticket Revenue	\$190

Costs	
Food & beverages	\$2,800
Venue	\$0
Participant gifts	\$500
Other	\$300

Feedback

How likely is it that you would recommend our event to a friend or colleague? **Rating Avg.: 9.4/10 (+0.2)**

- This was an amazing event. I can't wait to share it with more people within the social enterprise and tech industries... we need more people to get involved, and to take advantage of the amazing resources afforded to us at RHoK to increase our impact. What a group of wonderful people.*
- RHOK was my first hackathon and I was pleased that I attended this event. It is most definitely for an amazing cause and perfectly knits together wonderful skilled individuals from the tech and nontech/profit community. I would encourage that more events as such take place encouraging people to network and work together!*
- It was an awesome event with a great cause. I hope you guys can do more of these & as a business analyst would love to share the & do good for the society in whatever way I can*

What would you stop?

The project pitches were a bit too long. Would be nice to have them tightened up.

What would you start?

Arrange for some fresh air (get people outside for a little bit). Make sure address food intolerances. Maybe have some whole fruit available too, and a few juices.

Give us more time on Friday night to start diving into projects. It felt like we had to spend most of Saturday churning on some ideas.

Also maybe there is a way to coach the project leaders to scope their ideas. Some of the most successful projects were super focused and knew what they had to research / work with.

Gender neutral washrooms please!

What would you keep?

Fun people, relaxed feel

I liked the venue a lot, lots of places to plug in, easy to get to by bus.

The multi-tech and multicultural environment

What would you change?

The ending time for the opening night seemed too early. It would have been nice to have an extra hour to network and talk to the project managers.

Allow people to choose their teams ahead of time & know more about individuals on team-their skills/abilities

Asking for people's T-shirt sizes

The length of the presentations from project owners.

Venue (Rating Avg.: 4.2/5)

- there was enough space that it didn't feel noisy or crowded, but small enough that you got a shared sense of energy and excitement from the other teams.
- I liked the venue a lot, lots of places to plug in, easy to get to by bus.

Food (Rating Avg.: 3.7/5)

- The food was delicious!
- It was harder to be a vegan...
- For those of us who have to minimize our simple carbs (eg. starch), there were less choices

Photos



