

March 9, 2022 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Contact: Jenny Rojanasthien, Executive Director, 509-661-9000

FUNDING INCREASES TO \$325,000+ AT FLYWHEEL INVESTMENT CONFERENCE

WENATCHEE, WA – Companies competing at the 2022 Flywheel Investment Conference will be vying for a higher investment than ever before. Since the launch of Flywheel in 2018, the fund has more than doubled its investment offering.

This year's competition, happening May 18-19 in downtown Wenatchee, will see over \$275,000 in investment awards, the highest offering in Flywheel Conference history. The investment awards combined with the relocation offer of \$50,000 puts over \$325,000 on the table for Washington State companies.

Every year a new LLC is formed by the Flywheel Angel Network to invest in the winners of the Flywheel Conference. The Flywheel Angel Network is a group of angel investors who are passionate about supporting economic development in North Central Washington. The network grew to 40+ investors this year and exceeded expectations when they sold out their investment fund.

"The Flywheel investor line-up this year is the conference's most accomplished to date," said Tim Jenkins, President of Colchuck Companies who is managing this year's Flywheel Conference fund alongside Abby Jenkins. "In addition to active angel investors from inside and outside Washington State, fund investors also include managing directors of PE and VC firms, executives and former tech company executives, asset managers and family offices. There is simply not a better competition in this state for companies looking for exposure to a variety of capital sources."

"We're ecstatic about the growth of the Flywheel Conference in just a few short years. The added investment dollars paired with our founder-friendly platform is a win for Washington companies - from seed stage through growth," said Jenny Rojanasthien, Executive Director of NCW Tech Alliance. Adding, "With this big jump in funding we've decided to extend the deadline to apply to Wednesday, March 16. Any company looking for funding or long term visibility should apply to compete. The minimum investment offer for the growth stage winner will be \$200,000 and the seed stage investment award will range from \$10,000 - \$50,000."

The Flywheel Investment Conference competition is open to any Washington State based startup company looking for investment. There is no fee to apply to compete, and all industries

will be considered. Applications are open through March 16. To apply, visit <u>www.flywheelconference.com/apply</u>.

Finalists receive one-on-one support, free event tickets, accommodations, and more. All companies who submit a completed application receive 50 percent off conference tickets and visibility at the event.

Past Flywheel Conference Winners include:

<u>Cartogram</u> – Solves the wayfinding problem in hospitals and other large buildings. They provide indoor mapping and navigation with a variety of delivery methods.

Beta Hatch – Industrializes insect production for more sustainable animal feed.

<u>AgTools</u> – SaaS supply chain platform for agricultural and food supply chain.

<u>SyncFloor</u> – B2B platform providing licensed access to high-quality commercial music for use by businesses and creators.

<u>**Iasis Molecular Sciences</u>** – Antimicrobial solutions company developing and implementing novel strategies aimed at preventing the spread of surface-transmissible infectious diseases.</u>

The Flywheel Investment Conference is directed by the non-profit organization NCW Tech Alliance and supported by Moss Adams, Ogden Murphy Wallace, Confluence Health, Microsoft, City of Wenatchee, Numerica Credit Union, City of East Wenatchee, Washington State Department of Commerce, Clark Nuber, Karr Tuttle Campbell, GTC Technical Support, Colchuck Companies, AHT Insurance, LocalTel, GeekWire, Native Network, and Alpha Media.

Tickets to attend the 2022 Flywheel Investment Conference are on sale now. Tickets are 20 percent off until April 1 with discount code EARLYBIRD on eventbrite. Buy tickets online at <u>www.flywheelconference.com</u>.

####

About Tim Jenkins

Tim Jenkins is the President of Colchuck, a private investment company based in Leavenworth, WA. Colchuck makes purposeful investments in real estate, private equity and venture in the Pacific Northwest and around the world. Prior to Colchuck, Tim was the co-founder and CEO of Point B, a national management consulting firm. In 2010 Tim was recognized as Ernst & Young's Entrepreneur of the Year in Services for the Pacific Northwest and in 2016 was named Distinguished Alumnus for the University of Washington's Department of Economics. Tim holds a BA from the University of Washington and an MBA in marketing and finance from the University of Chicago Booth School of Business. Tim and his wife Christi are based in Leavenworth.

About Abby Jenkins

Abby Jenkins graduated from the University of California, Los Angeles in 2020 and began working at Colchuck as an investment analyst. Through her role at Colchuck, involvement with various angel conferences, as well as serving as a venture intern with First Row Partners, a micro VC firm out of Seattle, she has been able to grow her experience evaluating companies of various sizes and stages. Abby grew up in Seattle, but is currently based out of Los Angeles.

About NCW Tech Alliance

Since 1999, NCW Tech Alliance has served as the region's tech alliance, championing growth and development in North Central Washington. As a 501(c)3, NCW Tech Alliance's mission is to bring together people and resources in technology, entrepreneurship, and STEM education. For more information visit <u>www.ncwtech.org</u>

####

Photos for media use:

- 1. Will Clausen, CEO of <u>Cartogram</u>, 2018 Flywheel Investment Conference Winner
- 2. Virginia Emery, CEO of Beta Hatch, 2019 Flywheel Investment Conference Winner
- 3. Martha Montoya, CEO with Gustavo Montoya, CTO of <u>AgTools</u>, 2020 Flywheel Investment Conference Winners
- 4. Kirt Debique, CEO and CTO with Cestjon McFarland, COO of <u>SyncFloor</u>, 2021 Flywheel Investment Conference Winners
- 5. David Vachon, CEO of <u>lasis Molecular Sciences</u>, 2021 Flywheel Investment Conference Winner