

Media Release

The Hon Gavin Jennings MLC

Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council
Special Minister of State
Minister for Priority Precincts
Minister for Aboriginal Affairs



**DELIVERING
FOR ALL VICTORIANS**

Thursday, 5 December 2019

STARTUPS ACCELERATING HEALTH, TRANSPORT BREAKTHROUGHS

The first class of Australia's inaugural GovTech accelerator has developed projects that will help identify health risks, better support hospital patients and improve safety and information on our public transport network.

Startups Sky Ledge, WeGuide and Envision Systems are the inaugural graduates of CivVic Lab's accelerator three-month program, with their initiatives unveiled by Special Minister of State Gavin Jennings at a recent showcase.

All three have either signed or are in the final stages of negotiations to sign with government agencies to secure capital of up to \$150,000 each to progress the projects.

Sky Ledge has been working with St Vincent's Hospital to create an automatic system that identifies potential risk factors for patients.

WeGuide is helping Western Health to make healthcare data collection easier by developing a platform that engages patients with more effective communication before, during and after treatment.

Envision Systems is working with the Department of Transport to build sensors to assess crowding, queue length and wait times at train stations and bus stops. This will ultimately assist planners and public transport operators to plan new stations and improve safety and customer information.

CivVic Labs, led by LaunchVic in partnership with the Andrews Labor Government's *Public Sector Innovation Fund*, was established to provide startups with access to government procurement opportunities.

Round two of CivVic Labs is now under way with 12 startups working on new challenges from WorkSafe, the Department of Premier and Cabinet, the Department of Transport and a joint challenge from the Department of Education and Training and Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions.

Quote attributable to Special Minister of State Gavin Jennings

"Our participation in CivVic Labs ensures that we are part of a global GovTech movement that looks at long-standing challenges in the government sector and turns them into opportunities."

Quote attributable to Minister for Jobs, Innovation and Trade Martin Pakula

"The momentum being built by CivVic Labs within the Victorian startup sector is fantastic and we can't wait to see how far these ideas can be developed."

Quote attributable to LaunchVic chief executive Kate Cornick

"The response from the startups and the government agencies has been exceptionally positive and we look forward to continuing to support the CivVic Labs Accelerator."

Media contact: Crys Ja 0434 367 449 | crys.ja@minstaff.vic.gov.au