hello

CIVIC
TECHWR

Civic Tech Waterloo Region

CivicTechWR • S1W1 • June 19, 2024

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6:00 - 6:20pm:
Welcome + introductions

6:20 - 6:40pm:
Project pitches

6:40 - 7:40pm:
Breakout groups

7:40 - 8:00pm:
Progress report & cleanup

CivicTechWR brings together people from different sectors and industries to actively solve issues facing our local community.

Even though "tech" is in the name, **everyone is welcome and everyone has a skill or experience that is valuable**. We welcome people with all types and levels of skills.

We're here to empower people to work together, exchange ideas and tools, to **improve the lives of the residents** in and around Waterloo Region through civic technology.

Code of Conduct

At Civic Tech Waterloo, we are committed to fostering a respectful and inclusive environment for all participants, regardless. We do not tolerate harassment or discrimination of any kind, including verbal abuse, intimidation, or bias based on gender, race, religion, sexual orientation, or any other personal characteristic.

If something or someone is making you feel uncomfortable, please reach out to one of our organizers so we can address this.

tl;dr: Be a nice human.

- Civic Tech WR relies on the voluntary contributions of the community. For us to learn, share, and work together, members and their contributions must be recognized and respected.

- Participants asked to stop any harassing behavior must comply immediately, and violators may be sanctioned or asked to leave at the organizers' discretion.

Thank you to our sponsors

Venue

DEN 1880

Food & Refreshments

DREAMSIDE
– DIGITAL –

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(and your company's amazing logo)

Introductions

Hey you!

What's your name?
What are your hashtags? *i.e. #opendata #dataviz*
Is this your first time here: If so, what brings you to Civic Tech (or a fun fact)?

Announcements

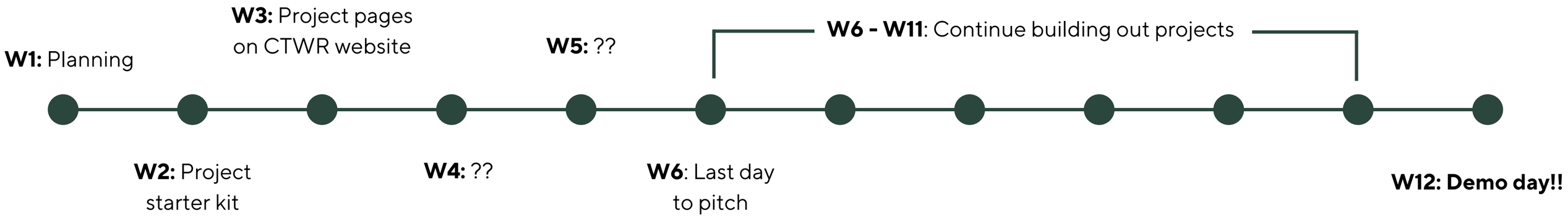
Terry’s headshots day has been moved to July 3

Unfortunately we were not selected for the Upstream Fund :(

We are adopting the Seasons model! This is week 1 of season 1, which puts our cutoff for new projects at July 24, and our Demo Day at Sept 4.

If you want to become a CivicTechWR organizer, join the #organizers channel on Slack and check out the project board on Github. There’s lots to do!

Civic Tech Seasons



Civic Tech Seasons

What do we want to achieve by structuring our time into seasons?

- weekly “recap” to stay on top of project progress
-

What are the potential drawbacks?

- new members may want to join at the middle of a season and it’s harder to onboard
- disruption with people joining and leaving unexpectedly

Any other questions or concerns?

- hunger games style themed seasons
- just pick one project for season 1?

CIVIC
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Join the discussion(s) on Slack:

TIP: If you don’t use Slack, you can also sign up for the mailing list on our website to get information and updates about our sessions.

Project pitches

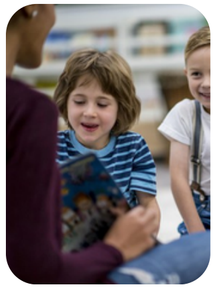
We welcome project pitches at our hacknights.

- Do you have a project idea?
- Is there a civic/social issue you're curious or concerned about?

The floor is open to anyone who wants to pitch to the group. You have two minutes to pitch, and three minutes for questions.

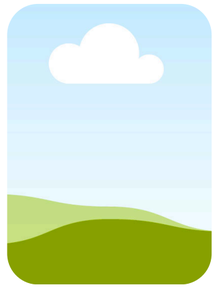
- What's your project called?
- Tell us about the project
- What problem are you solving?
- What are you working on now?
- What kind of help are you looking for?

Project(s) Board

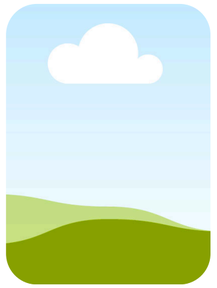


Impact Exchange
Stephen

Unboring KW
Shay

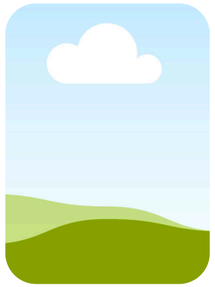


Skills Platform
Terry / Ali

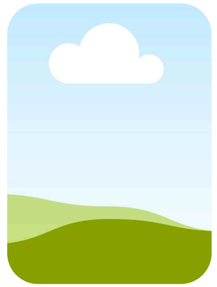


Seasons (Format)
Mohamed

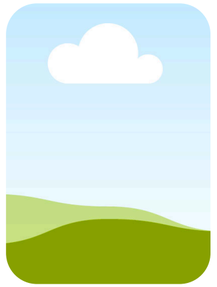
Video Series
(Speakers)
Terry / Mohamed



Documentation
(Templates)
Andre



{{Project Name}}



{{Project Name}}

Legend
- On track (still meeting)
- Missed 1 meeting
- Missed 2 or more meetings

Unboring KW

Shay

Slack: #project-unboringkw

- Tell us about the project
  - Unboring KW is a community resource for parents and families in KW
- What problem are you solving?
  - It's really hard to find out about all the programs, events, and activities in KW and it's really easy to get isolated as a new parent
- What are you working on now?
  - An AI tool for scraping event data from images
  - Form for submitting events
  - Looking for content contributors
- What kind of help are you looking for?
  - Node + React developers
  - Marketing, outreach, social media
  - Content writers

Community Leaderboard (ext. of Seasons)

- Inspired by Strava Club Leaderboard
- Allows to establish leaders - in a 1 to 1 direct democratic contribution
- Benefits:
  - Enables people (internal & external) to find leaders to reach out to
  - Honours work visually
  - Honours legacy contribution + new contribution

Mohamed Fouda
Slack: @mohamed

Avatar + Name	Attendance out of last 4	Attendance Lifetime	Project(s) Contribution last year	Project(s) Contribution Lifetime
Your name	3/4	182	10 points for finishing a season (any position)	150
Your name	4/4	249	20 points for finishing a season (project owner)	400

New Pitch Format

First Time Pitch Template

What is the problem you are trying to solve?

What is your proposed solution?

What makes your solution different from what's out there?

Example

What is the problem you are trying to solve?

As a parent in KW, it's impossible to keep up with what events are happening that are suitable for my family and me. Finding out what activities are provided for children, where, the dates and prices is a full time job. It's also so easy to miss out on registering for these things along with nurseries, schools, etc. because it's impossible to know all the registration dates.

What is your proposed solution?

I want to build a platform that will consolidate all these things into one place that will ease the struggle of all families in this city. A single library that we can access and view all family friendly events, all activities offered for our children and maybe even activities for us when we have time away from the kids!

What makes your solution different from what's out there?

In other platforms like Eventbrite, Instagram, Meetup, it's challenging to find the events that match what we're looking for among all the other listings. My platform will have filters, categorization, a calendar and even a new review system that's fully catered towards helping a family easily navigate and keep track of things.

Post First Pitch Template

A short summary of the project for anyone not familiar with it to read.

Progress Report

Example

UnboringKW

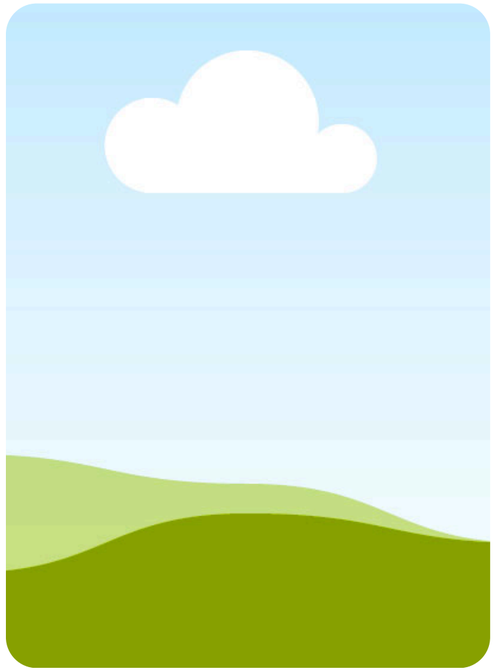
This project aims at building a platform that can help parents in KW find all the family and children events and activities in the city. In the future we will also try to build a calendar they can use to keep track of these and more (such as registration dates). This can also grow to include even more things to easy parents' lives that we haven't thought of yet.

Progress:

- Basic V1.0 of the platform is live.
- We decided on the next steps as follows:
  - Improve the UI/UX of the front end
  - Build a local LLM that can parse information from images and feed them into forms
  - Attend family events with a questions to gather information from parents on what more would they want this to solve for them.
  - Improve branding
  - Meet with parent/mother communities such as KW moms club

Ali Sh.
Slack @Ali

{{Project Name}}



- Tell us about your project
- What is your goal?
- What are you working on now?
- What do you need?
- Any other information?

Your Name

Your Title

Anything else you want people to know (ie. email, @user)

Breakouts

Over to you!

Decide which pitch or project interests you and join that group for the rest of the meetup. As a team, you decide where to take it from there!