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Brandon Sun - ONLINE EDITION

Brandon man takes top entrepreneur award

By: Brandon Sun

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Robert Bryce of Brandon took first place in an all-new Entrepreneur Boot Camp yesterday, part of the annual Capturing Opportunities business forum at the Keystone Centre.

The Entrepreneur Boot Camp was a new addition to Capturing Opportunities this year, providing some of Manitoba's newest entrepreneurs with an opportunity to pitch their ideas during the two-day event. The 26 competitors in this inaugural contest spent Wednesday in a workshop with business professionals to refine their individual business ideas. Yesterday, they pitched their ideas to potential investors, customers and lenders. The proposals included genetic livestock breeding, development of an ATV campground, the development of energy bars and photography.

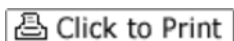
Bryce's proposal was for Heartland Software Solutions, a custom-development company with a range of products including non-destructive testing instrumentation and software and garnered him an award worth \$2,000 in cash and in-kind services.

Second- and third-place awards were worth \$1,500 and \$1,000 respectively.

The judges for the competition were Don Pratt, Barry Cullen, Chris Griffin, Chad Hughes, Mike Malazdrewicz, Brent Muirhead and Craig Senchuk.

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