

NEWS RELEASE - 2/9/10

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Entrepreneurs advance to second round of competition

Ten potential businesses have advanced into the second round of the Northeast Wisconsin Business Plan Competition. The business plans that made the second round are:

- Assured Services of Fond du Lac County
- Big Bubble Cup of Brown County
- Bill-Ray Home Mobility of Outagamie County
- Branson's BBQ of Fond du Lac County
- Brillion Nature Center of Calumet County
- The Bubbler Theater of Manitowoc County
- Door Landscape & Nursery of Door County
- Hilde's Deli & Bakery of Calumet County
- Vibe Tech, Inc. of Sheboygan County
- What Would Mary Wear of Manitowoc County

A total of \$25,000 in prizes will be in the third round presentations by the Top 5 narrowed down by independent volunteer judges from the above list on March 8th, 2010 at the Fox Valley Workforce Development Board in Neenah, Wisconsin.

Prizes will be awarded on March 8th, 2010 in the following format: \$10,000 for first place; \$6,000 for second place; \$4,000 for third place \$3,000 for fourth place; and \$2,000 for fifth place. Prize money must be used to put the business plan into action within one year of its receipt.

Business plans are a critical tool in the proper planning and launch of new ventures and are the preferred mode of communication between entrepreneurs, innovators and potential investors. The goal of the Northeast Wisconsin Business Plan Competition is to encourage the preparation of business plans for start-up businesses, making significant changes to existing businesses, or launching new products in northeast Wisconsin.

The contest is organized and sponsored by the Northeast Wisconsin Regional Economic Partnership (NEWREP), whose membership includes the Economic Development Corporation of Manitowoc County. Other sponsors include The New North, Inc., Fox Valley Workforce Development Board, Dominion Energy, WE Energies, WPS, Wisconsin Department of Financial Institutions, University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh College of Business, University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission, Lakeshore Technical College, Moraine Park Technical College, Northeast Wisconsin Technical College and Fox Valley Technical College Venture Center.

For more information on visit: <http://www.thenewnorth.com/thenewnorth/newrep/default.asp>.