What is Edge of Lyme?

EDGE of Lyme is a unique student-led case competition focusing on tick-borne diseases. This week-long event, hosted on Queen’s University campus, involves a ‘conference style’ weekend with speakers, workshops, and networking opportunities. Delegates will be presented with a project: to develop a novel testing approach for tick-borne diseases. Then, delegates will break off into teams to devise and present an innovative solution in the form of a product pitch. The winning team gets a chance to develop or commercialize their idea. The event aims to unite ambitious leaders, providing resources to strategize and collaborate on global tick-borne disease solutions and foster a multidisciplinary approach to disease prevention and treatment.

- **Kick-off Phase (first weekend)**
  - During the first 2 days of the conference, delegates will have the opportunity to learn from and network with experts in various disciplines related to tick-borne diseases. The conference-style phase will include panels, speakers, workshops, and meals. Also, delegates will be introduced to their team and given the details of the project.

- **Project Phase (interluding week)**
  - In the subsequent project phase, student delegates will be assembled into small multidisciplinary teams of ~5 people. Each team will then be presented with a skill testing dilemma and encouraged to think outside the box to develop and put forth a solution(s) to their scenario as thoughtfully, uniquely, and feasibly as possible.
  - During the ensuing week, the teams will be given 5 days to prepare their project presentations.

- **Presentation Phase (second weekend)**
  - In the final phase, teams present their projects to a panel of judges (expert academics and professionals) and are scored
based on predetermined criteria with winners chosen at the end of the final day.

What are we looking for?

**Description:** We are looking for students that are eager to learn and have an interest in group-work, problem solving, and abstract thinking. Each group of delegates will compete in a case competition which will test their critical-thinking and problem-solving skills in the context of improving diagnostic testing and diagnosis for tick-borne disease. At the end of the event, the teams will compete for the best solution to their dilemma as judged by the quality of their: 1) poster presentation and 2) visual presentation.

**Targeted Disciplines:**

- Art design
- Biology
- Biochemistry
- Bioinformatics
- Biotechnology
- Business/Commerce
- Communications
- Ecology
- Engineering
- Epidemiology
- Health Sciences
- Health Studies
- Life Sciences
- Public Health

**Hiring Criteria:**

- Appreciation for the interdisciplinary perspective of problem solving
- Teamwork and collaboration
- Communication and presentation skills
- Demonstrated leadership
- Interest in the public health of tick-borne disease
- Motivation and enthusiasm
- Innovative thinking

Note: these criteria are used as general guidelines, however we are looking for people with diverse perspectives and backgrounds, both acquired and inherent.
Additional Information

**Compensation:**
$525 per student delegate
+ Compete for an additional grand prize of $250

**Awards**
Aside from the grand prize, there will be several other awards up for grabs that will distinguish your contribution and add valuable credentials to your resume. This not only gives you the chance to earn recognition in multiple areas but also provides an excellent opportunity to showcase a range of competencies to future employers.