Code Hack 2024 in Review

Overview:

📅 **Friday-Sunday**
March 8-10, 2024

📍 **Royal Jubilee Hospital Campus**

The fourth annual of Island Health's Code Hack event took place March 8-10 at the Royal Jubilee Hospital Campus in Victoria. The annual event brings together Island Health staff and medical staff with patients, students, industry experts, coders, builders, designers and others to collaborate a range of innovative solutions.

"Meeting a diverse range of people with interesting skills and lived and experiences. Getting to work on real world problems with huge potential impacts the overall energy and passion for innovation." - Anonymous Participant

Exposure & Participation:

We advertised the event online, with paid and organic content. Combined we received 370,000+ impressions across all posts and 2,400+ direct clicks to the Code Hack webpage, encouraging potential participants, mentors and volunteers to apply.

70+ People participated in the Hackathon as Hackers in the following categories:

☁ Builder   ♡ Frontline   ✎ Designer   ⚖ Ally   ✚ Patient

40+ People volunteered in the following areas:

👥 Volunteer   🏆 Judge   ⬢ Mentor

"Throughout the entire process, starting from sign-up to the actual event, I felt very well informed, making it a seamless transition from one step to the next."
-Anonymous Participant

How it works:

We created our own digital space for hackers to identify problems and opportunities within healthcare during the week leading up to the event. Participants were each invited to submit 1 problem in any of the 4 following categories:

Health Systems   Patients

Care Teams   Open Challenge

Participants were asked to vote up to three times for the problem they were most interested in working on, or saw as very important. At this event we hacked the top six problems as voted by the CodeHack community and an additional seven problems chosen by a Selection Committee.

"I liked that I was able to see other people's amazing ideas and to start meeting people before the event." -Anonymous Participant

The Process:

13 people pitched their problems, and 13 teams were formed to solve each problem within 24 hours. These teams presented their solutions to a panel of judges, aiming to be one of four teams chosen for the finalist round of presentations. The judges awarded three winning teams with prize money and plaques, while the audience of participants voted for the People's Choice Award winner.

Problem Identification 9-9:30am	Team Formation 9:30-10am	Hacking Begins 10am

Hacking Ends 10am	Preliminary & Final Presentations 10-11am	Judge Deliberations 11am-12pm	Award Ceremony 12-1pm

2024 Finalist Problem Statements:

1 PEOPLE'S CHOICE — Health Systems
How can we build systems and tools to prevent blindness from glaucoma and diabetes (two treatable conditions) in the at-risk and marginalized populations of First Nations and BIPOC communities?

2 Open Challenge
How might we proactively inform a user that a drug has been laced with fentanyl as a preventive measure, avoiding the overdose in the first place?

3 Patients
How might we implement triage systems, streamlined processes, or patient navigation programs that focus on patients' needs while in the emergency department?
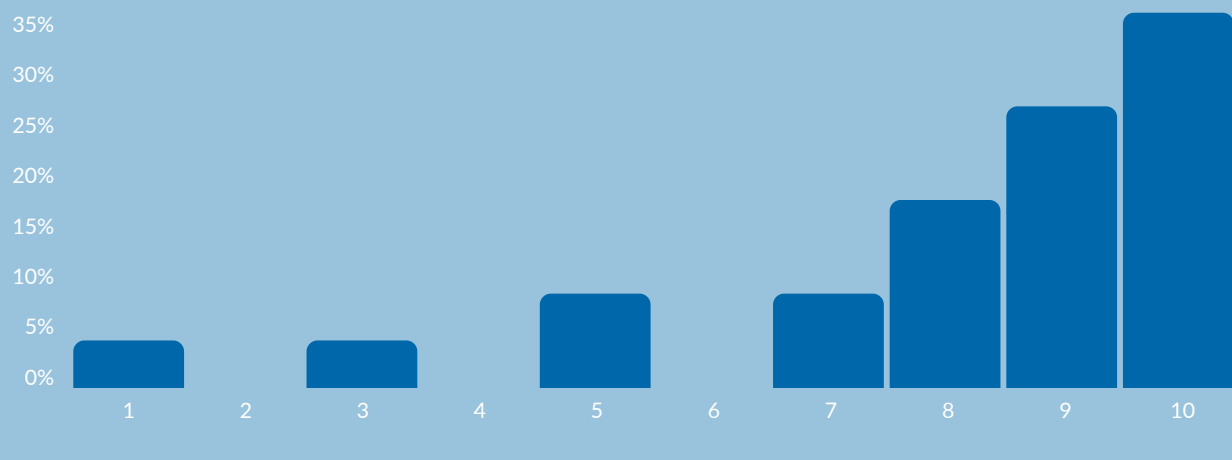
Open Challenge
How might we combat loneliness on Vancouver Island by innovating solutions to enhance mental and physical health, and alleviate healthcare burdens?

"I met so many new people and formed deep connections in such a short amount of time, but also was able to create a completely new, never-before-seen product within 24hrs with the help of complete strangers. It was so moving and rewarding."
-Anonymous Participant

97% of Code Hack participants said they felt somewhat or very supported throughout the event.

When asked to score Code Hack on a scale from 1 to 10, with 10 being the best possible event, most survey participants gave a score of 7 or higher.

92% of Code Hack participants said they would recommend Code Hack to a friend or colleague

"It was a great experience and I can't wait for Code Hack 2025!"
-Anonymous Participant

"NEED CHOCOLATE MILK FOR NEXT YEAR"
-Anonymous Participant