

### **Expert Panel Two:**

## **Taking the Plunge:**

What you can learn from those who have initiated successful, value-driven businesses.

**Steve Pearson**, Lead Strategist, Founder, The Pearson Strategy Group (Moderator)

Andre Angel, Co-founder/CEO at TangoTab; Co-Founder/Chairman, WorkMeter; Co-founder, Servoyant, LLC; Co-Founder/Chairman, CODEKKO Software

Jeffrey Fry, Principal, Help Find Care; Chief Executive, Profit Prophet; Director/CMO, MainGain;

Christopher Justice, Chief Executive Officer at Sparksight, Inc.

Stacy Zoern, CEO, Community Cars

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"Take Away" Notes on Flip Charts -- Taken by Lauren Tarrent (No presentation slides.)

**Steve** – Competitive intelligence & strategy

PASSION & INSPIRATION needed to start an organization

**Chris** – Sparksight- "just wanted to work with people he liked" Caring Environment! CULTURE BEFORE CAPITAL.

**Andre** – TangoTab (feeds the hungry) DO SOMETHING GREAT. HELP YOUR NEIGHBOR.

**Stacy** – Kenguru Car – Help – extend possibilities! Raise quality of life.

Jeffrey – Social consciousness – empowerment! GO BIG OR GO HOME! MOM'S – LEGACY

Payback – ROI – Social Responsibility The Power Of And....You *Can* Have It All.

A worthy cause only –

Business has to be profitable not just socially conscious – even a non-profit has to make money – "The language of business" = Profit.

Focus on the bottom line -a must - not just on your social cause.

Expenses of a socially conscious business. More/Less => is the same. It's a business!

May have to put everything on the line.

- -Personal sacrifices
- -Careful Employee selection
- -Social but business must stand on its own! Have to make money!
- -Who is your audience?
- -Who do you want to be?
- -Beauty is in the heart of the artist!
- -Don't compromise feed your tribe well

It's not what you sell – it's what you stand for! Book: *Purple Cow* by Seth Rodin

#### Lessons learned:

- 1. Trust your gut
- 2. Listen: change your course when needed
- 3. Not about YOU Remove your ego
- 4. Fail Often (Test; Try)
- 5. Be flexible
- 6. Choose your team wisely
  - -Vulnerability
  - -Uncertainty

Groom yourself + your team early and often to lower uncertainty and go forward.

NO SELF BLOCKING

EXPLORE!

LOVE WHAT YOU DO!!

If you don't want to be a pirate – Don't!

To be successful – you must be able to step away—

What is your replacement plan?

Create leaders

Create your own corporate culture.

-Companies are not controlled by their leaders!

Important to work as a team!

#### -MANAGE YOUR STRESS

-FOCUS! Be disciplined! Laugh!

-Think => Process

-As a Lazy man

-Establish divided by Speak Your core values

Groom to grow into the new role

-Your Health is important!