

2019 Ottawa *FIRST* Robotics Competition Kickoff

Post-Event Survey Report

Compiled & Written by:

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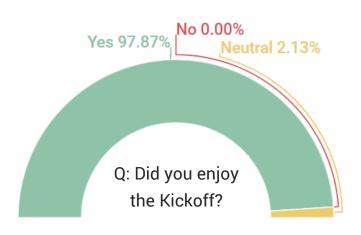
President, Carleton University FIRST Robotics Alumni & Mentoring Association

Special Thanks to:

FIRST Robotics Competition Teams 2706 (Merge Robotics), 2994 (ASTECHZ), 3543 (C4 Robotics), 4783 (RoboRavens), 7267 (Lisgar Robotics), 7476 (EOM Lions)

Post-Event Survey Report

Overall Impressions





Liked

Free Pizza Lunch, Guest Wi-Fi Access, Breakout Meeting Rooms, Kickoff Broadcast Viewing Party



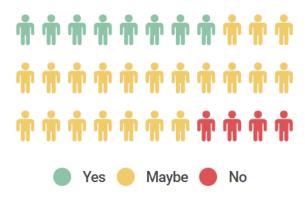
Require Improvement

Trivia, Icebreakers, Group Strategy/ Rules Q&A Session

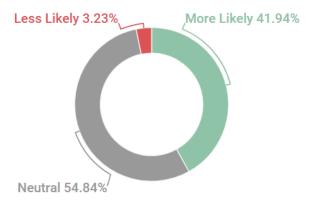
Secondary School Student Feedback

Q: High School students, what are you planning to study in College or University?





Q: Are you enrolled or planning to enroll at Carleton University?

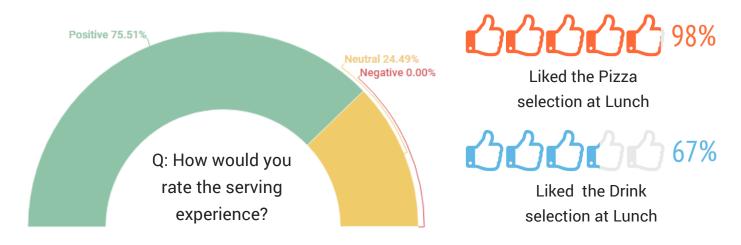


Q: Did attending the Kickoff make you More or Less Likely to enroll at Carleton?

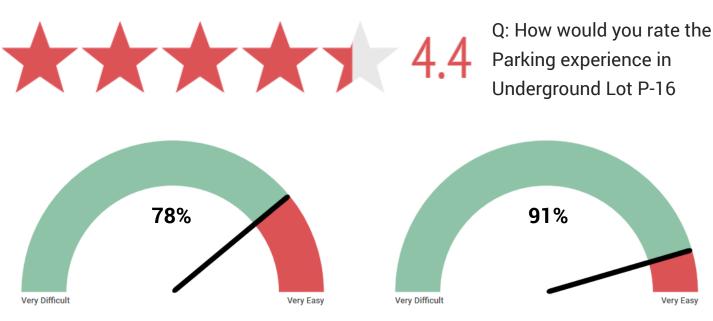


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Food & Drinks Feedback



Parking Feedback



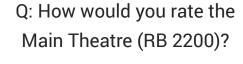
Q: How difficult was it to find the entrance to underground Parking Lot P-16

Q: How difficult was it to obtain your complimentary Parking Pass?



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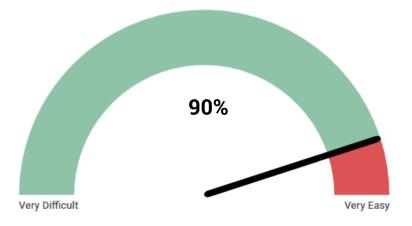
Navigation & Layout Feedback





Q: How would you rate the Breakout classrooms?





Q: How difficult was it to navigate around the event and find venues?

Favourite Aspects of Kickoff

Faculty of Engineering & Design Table

Signage & Directions

Coffee Viewing Party
Pizza Lunch
Guest WiFi Access
Team Breakout Rooms

Kit of Parts pickup Trivia/Icebreakers



Post-Event Survey Report

Things to Keep and Things to Improve



The complimentary Pizza Lunch was by far the most popular amenity offered at this year's event, the amount of pizza ordered was nearly perfect, and all dietary needs were met. The pre-event survey was an excellent tool in determining overall numbers and pizza preference, where 3 slices per attendee were budgeted for. Future pizza selection should include: Meat Lovers, Deluxe, Hawaiian, Pepperoni, Cheese, and Veggie (traditional, dairy-free, and gluten-free).



The parking experience was much smoother than in previous years, primarily due to having a CU FIRST Volunteer stationed at the Parking Garage entrance handing out parking passes as vehicles entered. Distributing 2-3 passes to each Executive at the venue upstairs also prevented any stragglers from missing their pass.



All teams very much enjoyed the group Kickoff Broadcast viewing party, and having their own dedicated classrooms for Breakout Meetings afterwards. RB 2200 and the assorted Lecture/Seminar rooms on the 1st and 3rd floors of Richcraft Hall worked perfectly. Providing free Guest WiFi Access was another widely-appreciated amenity.



Having clear signage and directions posted around Richcraft Hall was very successful in keeping the event on-track. While it could be slightly improved upon (i.e. Directions to coffee and pizza serving stations), overall, attendees were very happy with it.



While most attendees liked the idea and contents of the Trivia game using *Kahoot*, the experience was unfortunately sullied by software bots interfering and ruining the fun. The eventual winners did enjoy their CU FIRST Merch as prizes though.



The group Strategy/Rules Q&A Session was underused by teams, with most deciding to move immediately into their individual Breakout Rooms to discuss strategy and design privately. Including this activity at future Kickoffs should be re-evaluated and alternate activities should be considered to replace it.



Post-Event Survey Report

Recommendations for Improvement

- Expanded drink selection, including both Coffee and Tea in the morning, as well as Juice, Water, and additional Soft Drink options at Lunch.
- Additional signage and directions posted around the Carleton Campus to direct drivers to the entrance to Parking Lot P-16, and direct pedestrians from the Transit stations to Richcraft Hall.
- With arrivals as early as 8AM, Event Volunteers should be at their stations by this time, and signage should be posted either earlier in the morning or the day before the event to avoid confusion.
- Communication with teams regarding the amenities offered and the event schedule should begin as soon as possible to ensure the information is propagated to all attendees.
- Seek increased involvement of Carleton University, Faculty of Engineering & Design, and other on-campus organizations to showcase the University and what it has to offer. This could include tabling, presentations, or tours of the campus
- Speak more about CU FIRST, what the club does, what our role is in the FIRST Ottawa community, and what life looks like as a FIRST Alumni.
- If Trivia using *Kahoot* is to be used again in the future, extra efforts should be made to make it as fair as possible. Adding additional icebreaker activities that fit within the schedule and available space should also be considered.









