



Testimonials – House Bill 4157 Outdoor Products Manufacturing

We were drawn to BOW due to the depth and experience of the mentors involved. We were a brand-new business...hadn't even launched yet. The mentors knew the local community and the outdoor industry with the background of starting their own businesses. Their experience and success lead to our own success years later.

– Rob Little, Cairn (www.getcairn.com)

With the help of BOW, we were able to grow our business from a small start-up to selling over 50% of our inventory internationally. The guidance of BOW has been instrumental to our success.

– Katy Bryce & Chris Kretsch, Robert Axle Project (www.robertaxleproject.com)

Being able to utilize the resources and networks that OOA has created over the years was beneficial for Outdoor City USA in 2019. Knowing that you are working with businesses that are aligned for developing an experience for bringing together the outdoor community in Central Oregon was a perfect fit.

– David McRobie, 2019 Outdoor City USA (www.outdoorcityusa.com)

BOW offers support by bringing community partners to the table that we would otherwise not have been able to tap into. It allowed us to form long standing relationships that we continue to work with today.

– James Nicol & Ryan Holmes, SnoPlanks (www.snoplanks.com)

I work with the local adventure planning app, Tribe Pilot. I am utilize OOA, looking for participants to sit down and talk through the applications in order to take notes and improve the product. Connecting with OOA allowed for instant industry connections and resources that would otherwise have taken far more time. A fun fact, I met my boss (currently at Tribe Pilot) at an OOA event two years ago, and it has completely kickstarted my career!

– Sydney Hoeper, Tribe Pilot (www.tribepilot.com)

In large part due to the support of connections made through Oregon Outdoor Alliance and Bend Outdoor Worx, my company has grown to 11 employees, with more projected on the way. Food products is an intensely competitive industry, but I believe our base in Bend (and Oregon in general) gives us a leg up for hiring people with a passion for the outdoors, brand authenticity in our market, and building a sustainable company culture around a balanced work hard / play hard mentality. While we've created an emerging and respected name for our brand and our products, we still have a way to go to be truly competitive nationally. We have benefited from the local support, but statewide investment into these programs would help us significantly. I also believe that our company is a proxy for many more in the area - young companies with high potential who would benefit significantly from targeted support by the state of Oregon.

– Jesse Thomas, CEO & Co Founder, Picky Bars, Inc. (www.pickybars.com)

We began attending regular meetings of the Oregon Outdoor Alliance (OOA) and eventually accepted a spot in BOW's fourth cohort. Our experience with BOW was nothing short of transformational. Their mentorship and connections in the outdoor products industry provided Zealios with the foundation needed to grow. We have grown over 200% since completing the program and have hired two salaried employees to our small and growing team. In fact, my positive experience with OOA/BOW motivated me to join the OOA Board of Directors, where I currently serve as the Vice President. While serving on the OOA board, I've seen similar success stories countless times.

– Austin A Britts, Co-Founder, Zealios (www.teamzealios.com)

BOW Mission: We're here to lead Oregon outdoor industry entrepreneurs.

OOA Mission: We believe in the power of the Oregon outdoor industry to nourish vibrant communities.