Business case

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Community & UN SDG(s):	Regina Food Bank & UN SDG #2 (Zero Hunger)
Date:	Oct 20th, 2023

Proposed Project	CellarRecipes A food inventory tracker and recipe recommendation application.
Date Produced	Oct 20th, 2023
Background	The Regina Food Bank is an organization that helps people with food insecurity in Regina. In particular, one part of the services they provide includes hampers of assorted food items on a two week interval. The demand for Food Bank services has increased in recent days. Cost of living has increased and inflation has gone up. Charities don't have funding to support software development, because they're focused on their primary objective. The Good and Cheap Cookbook is a recipe book that is designed to fit with the SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, i.e Food Stamps), and is available under Creative Commons.
Business Need/ Opportunity	The opportunity here is to link the two systems. Making a way to use the items in a food hamper more efficiently by recommending and planning out different recipes specifically for them. While software for managing a food bank and finding recipes from ingredients (or generating them with language models), this application is trying to fill a gap between them. In particular, trying to make managing food inventory in a portable (non-organization level) format, and having stored recipes rather than searching the internet for them.
Options	• Making a web application • Making an Android application • Extending onto the existing projects from ENSE 271

Cost-Benefit Analysis

Web Application
- Already familiar with web applications, having already worked with them in previous classes, would probably take less time to get off the ground
- Less accessible, especially given the clientele's potentially limited resources.
- Need to set up some kind of web server and host it (both during and after development), which will incur costs.
- A lot of large, competing, web applications already exist, and already have similar features and additional ones on top what's proposed

Android Application
- New to developing these. Will take extra time to learn and might not be able to implement as much as with a web application.
- More portable and accessible. It's just not as convenient or quick to open up a computer to a website and enter food and a search, compared to doing it on a phone application(including taking images of the food).
- A lot of the competition is mired in the mobile "freemium" model, putting most important features behind a paywall, or putting advertising in the way. Making a Free and Open Source alternative would be beneficial.
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Building on ENSE 271 Projects
- In spite of previous experiences with WordPress, still not very proficient with it, would need to relearn how develop on it, which would take additional time.
- Remembering how things went last time, being able to implement the desired features could require managing several through different (potentially) paid plugins.
- Different requirements than initially proposed, would need to update and add onto existing documentation and planning.
- Would be completing something that didn't fully get off the ground before. Seems like the people at the Regina Food Bank were actually interested in a new system, so getting it to work would be nice.

Recommendation

Due to the accessibility of an Android Application, it seems like the preferred choice, in spite of the difficulty learning. Still in the process of meeting people from the Regina Food Bank, so might still try and integrate some of the material from 271, though in a new context rather than getting back into WordPress.