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| **BUSINESS CASE** | |
| **Proposed Project** | ShroomBase |
| **Date Produced** | Friday October, 14th 2022 |
| **Background** | The purpose of our project is to promote awareness and knowledge regarding the many species of mushrooms available to the general public and available in the wild. We will provide information on the appearance, location, benefits, and potential hazards of certain mushroom species. |
| **Business Need/ Opportunity** | In the seventeen years from 1999 to 2016, there have been 133 700 cases of mushroom poisoning with 704 resulting in serious harm and 52 resulting in death. We believe the majority of these injuries could have been prevented with better access to information and knowledge of mushrooms, their risks, and their appearances. [(Source)](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/30062915/)  Now you may be wondering "why do people consume mushrooms if they are poisonous?" many mushroom strains offer significant health benefits such as fibre, protein, and antioxidants. Mushrooms have also been proven to reduce the risk of heart disease, Alzheimer's, cancer, and diabetes. ([Source](https://www.webmd.com/diet/health-benefits-mushrooms#:~:text=Mushrooms%2520are%2520a%2520rich%252C%2520low,Selenium))  We believe that everyone should have access to mushroom information, and be able to find a mushroom, check if it is edible, poisonous, or other and perform an educated decision on further action. |
| **Options** | 1. We can perform this project. 2. We can start this project and source the rest out to another group. 3. We can abandon this project. |
| **Cost-Benefit Analysis** | |
| Option 1: There is no price associated to budget with this project. It is a passion project which has motivated individuals willing to work for free. The time required for this project is two months. There are no major risks if we decide to go ahead with the project. This project has many benefits in which we can create a positive impact. This project has the potential to provide important information and save individuals from unintentional harm. If we complete this project ourselves, we will be in control and reduce errors by leaving it to others. This project will also grant us experience project management which will aid us once we are ready to step into the field of Software Engineering.  Option 2: By sourcing out our project we would have to pay another group to complete it. This would cost us money from our budget that we cannot afford. This would save us time but runs the risk of the project not being completed to the standards that we want.  Option 3: If we decide to abandon the project people will not have access to important information regarding mushrooms, leaving people susceptible to danger. | |
| **Recommendation** | |
| [We recommend that we perform this project, it will be a positive learning experience and will allow the public to have another outlet to access valuable information surrounding mushrooms.] | |