# CREATING A 21st CENTURY CANNABIS BRAND





#### Daniel Stein, Founder & CEO | Evolution Bureau (EVB)





E VOLUTION BUREAU





### Our cannabis journey started six years ago...



### Our cannabis journey started six years ago...





# FLOWER

THE CANNABIS COMPANY



### ...which lead to...

# HARBORSIDE













# interesting Six challenging years later... exciting









CHEMISTRY.

































#### WHAT WE'VE LEARNED

Cannabis is hard Cannabis clients have special needs Move at a different pace Different budget expectations Regulatory and compliance issues

#### WHERE WE GO FROM HERE

Coming out of the shadows

Applying the lessons we've learned



Daniel Stein | Founder and CEO

BUILDING CANNABIS BRANDS





# WHAT IS A BRAND?











## "A BRAND IS THE INTANGIBLE SUM OF A PRODUCT'S ATTRIBUTES."

The expectation someone has about your product.



\$10B **FIXED** ASSETS

# \$80B

BRAND



# WHERE TO START?











#### **Ground Work**

Your business Defining the problem Your ambition



#### Springboard

The extent of your ambition Shocking the world The next steps

#### **The Marketplace**

Your unique product Your typical consumer Your major competitors

## Download framework at https://essentialgood.com/cma











#### Narrative

Finding the stage Writing the story Presenting it in the best way





#### Messaging

Finding the words that define you Creating the message you want conveyed Identifying your stye









FOR AND AGAINST?





#### WHO YOU ARE TALKING TO And what are their needs and wants?

**OWN ABLE AUDIENCE** 









#### HOW ARE YOU DIFFERENT to the consumer in the marketplace?

POSITIONING



### **BUILDING YOUR BRAND**

# AUTHENTICITY

Logo Visual Identity Product Form Factor Packaging Website Advertising PR Social Events Trade Shows

Product Quality Influencers Endorsements Sponsorships Retail Experience Social Media Swag Sales Collateral



### **DESTROYING YOUR BRAND**

# INAUTHENTICITY

Waste Excess Arrogance Disorganization Dishonesty Not paying your bills

Shortcuts Inconsistency Unfair labor practices Lax quality control Sexism







# **BRANDING IS AN INVESTMENT.**





# CANNABIS IS HARD.



#### **BRANDING CHALLENGES**

Built by activists

Driven by word of mouth

Audience is active

Tastemakers -> Gatekeepers

#### **BRANDING LIMITERS**

No paid social Limited advertising Limited distribution No sampling Budtenders gateway No touch/smell









#### **DIGITAL TOUCHPOINTS**



#### **PHYSICAL TOUCHPOINTS**



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#### **PHYSICAL TOUCHPOINTS**

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#### **DIGITAL TOUCHPOINTS**

### 5 TOUCHPOINTS BEFORE YOU BUY

Packaging

Form factor

Budtender

Collateral

Price

### 5 TOUCHPOINTS AFTER YOU BUY

Unpacking experience

Social

Education

Loyalty

Quality of Product/Experience

We are early in the life cycle of cannabis companies and no one is really there yet.





Google





#### There are some cannabis companies that are **OFF TO A GOOD START.**







**FORM FACTOR: "UN-CANNA"** 

PACKAGING

CONVENIENCE







**GIVING BACK** 

#### **BUDTENDER FAVORITE**

ACCESSIBILITY



























## REBEL COAST











# **5 KEY TAKEAWAYS**

Brand is a continual investment Every touchpoint matters Know yourself Find your difference

Find your north star.





Daniel Stein - <u>daniel@essentialgood.com</u>

essentialgood.com



