C4: FUTUREPROOF MARKHAM

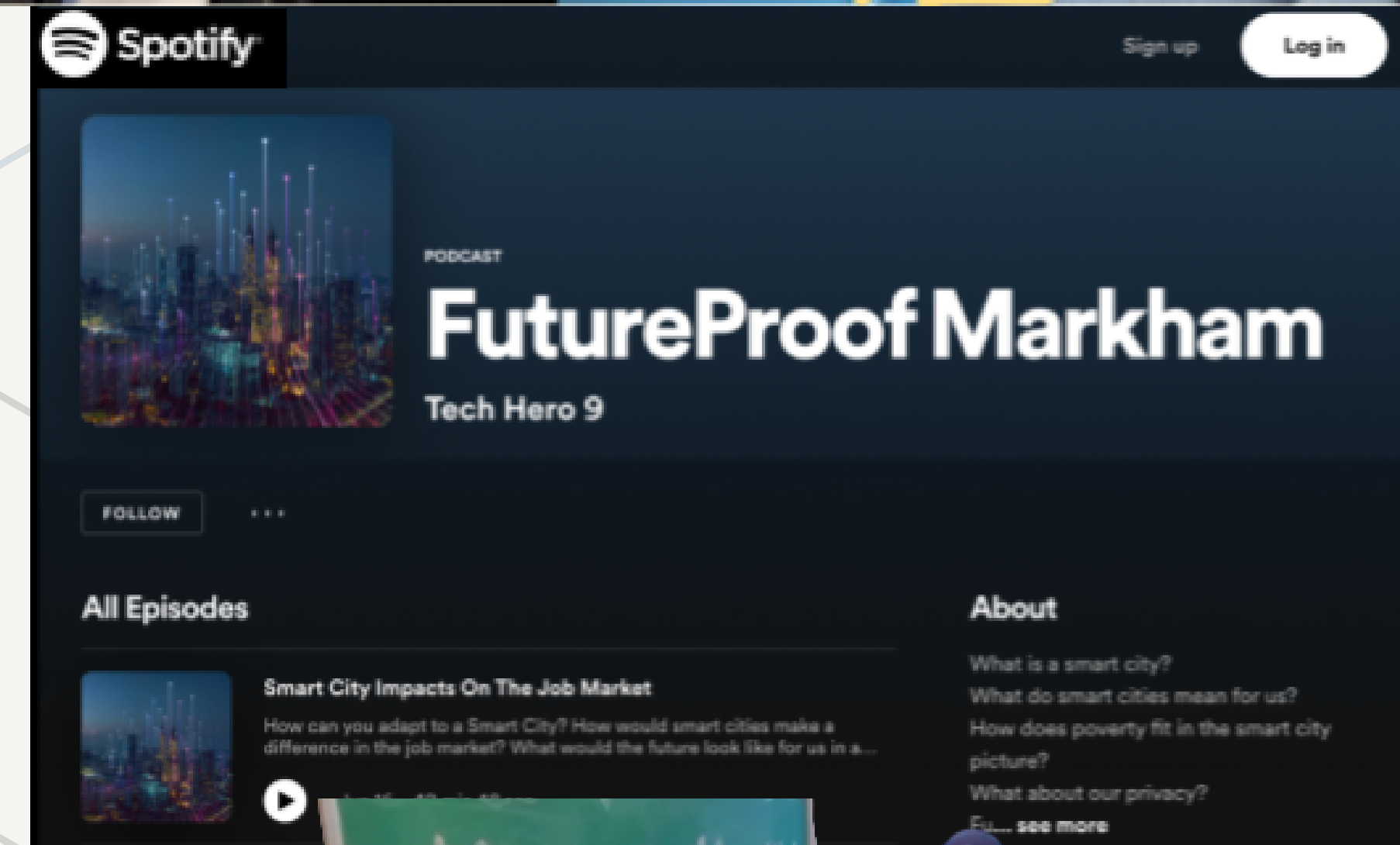## MAHRAEEL TADROS & MAHAKPRIT KAUR

THE PROJECT

The project a part of C4 (cross-campus capstone classroom). The focus of our class was to address Sustainable Development Goal 1 (SDG-1): **No Poverty** at the intersection of Smart Cities. We created a **podcast series** targeting pertinent issues relating to the development of the City of Markham as a smart city and the implications for low-income residents.

TAKEAWAYS

- **FAIL FAST**: view failures as challenges to overcome rather than as the end of the road
- **FOCUS ON THE JOURNEY**: improving is just as important as arriving at the destination
- **PARTICIPATE IN OPPORTUNITIES:** Take advantage of experiential education opportunities because they enrich the educational experience
- **COMMUNICATION:** active listening skills and gaining the experience of working with an interdisciplinary team are crucial as we head into our professional careers.

ROLES

We are **TechHero9** and we had the opportunity to work as either **interviewers** (formulated informed questions and conducted interviews) or **producers** (edited audio files, learned Audacity software, and published episodes on Spotify). We also had a **mentor** who had taken the course before and guided team members through their journey by providing advice and resources.

LEARNINGS

Through **in-class presentations and workshops**, we each gained a greater awareness pertaining to social issues in general, unseen poverty in the City of Markham, and the implication of technology in emerging smart cities.

Beyond learning the technical skills of conducting interviews and producing podcast episodes, each member gained a **substantial amount of implicit knowledge** about working in a team to pursue a common goal despite our distinct disciplines and perspectives.

We had the opportunity to develop **valuable interpersonal skills** such as leadership, accountability, and resilience. Throughout the process, we also had the opportunity to **reflect** at various stages of the project. This allowed for **reiterative evaluations of performance** which are not generally a part of a traditional classroom.

PODCASTING TO BRIDGE THE SMART CITY INFO GAP