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Gamers hunt for support

3rd December 2007, 5:00 WST

The co-creator of a modern-day scavenger hunt, which aims to get computer gamers out from behind their computer screens and exploring Perth, has urged the State Government to build on the city's growing reputation as a gaming hub and support small gaming entrepreneurs.

The innovative Ghost Town uses players' mobile phones to help them uncover clues and solve puzzles as they explore the streets of Perth.

It is being run in conjunction with the week-long ByteMe! Festival, a celebration of WA's growing digital industry.

Kate Raynes-Goldie, one of the developers of Ghost Town, said it was difficult for young software developers to get the attention of government and industry, despite often being the creative drivers of the sector.

"While we're thankful for the indirect support provided by sponsors of the ByteMe! Festival, we've had to fund this game out of our own pockets and time," she said.

Industry and Enterprise Minister Fran Logan, who was the first person to play Ghost Town, said that the Government was working at capitalising on the growth of the \$55 billion global gaming industry.

PETER KERR

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