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A lot has happened in Orrego’s life since he moved to Victoria from Barranquilla, Colombia in 2014, so it’s interesting to learn that, at first, he didn’t want to stay. “So many times I thought about leaving, maybe going to Florida, but school was way too expensive down there,” he says. “I came from a big city—Barranquilla is about the size of Vancouver—there was a language barrier, I had no friends here, no social life.”

Orrego also left behind a vast, close-knit family with no fewer than 70 cousins. “We’d meet up every Sunday most of the year, and we still have Christmas and New Year’s together,” he says. “I had a great, very family-oriented childhood.”

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JUAN ORREGO MIXES VISION AND DETERMINATION TO CREATE A FLOURISHING START-UP

by Aaren Madden

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