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**Robert Niven of Dartmouth, NS is the winner of a \$10,000 Manning Award for his breakthrough technology that allows concrete producers to reuse CO2 during the manufacturing of concrete.**

**Dartmouth, NS (October 19, 2016)** – Robert Niven of Dartmouth, NS has won a 2016 Ernest C. Manning Innovation Award for founding CarbonCure Technologies and helping develop a breakthrough technology that allows concrete producers to reuse CO2 during the manufacturing of concrete. The use of CO2 also improves the quality of the concrete, lowers costs and reduces the overall carbon footprint.

The Innovation Award is one of four prizes the Ernest C. Manning Awards Foundation presents annually to talented Canadian innovators who are improving the lives of Canadians and others worldwide through their commercialized innovations. Robert Niven will receive his \$10,000 prize at the Foundation's 35th Innovation Awards Dinner in Halifax on October 20, 2016.

“The Ernest C. Manning Awards Foundation is helping build a culture of innovation by encouraging and rewarding outstanding Canadian innovators,” said Foundation President Jennifer Diakiw. “Our Awards celebrate innovators for the value they add to our provincial and national economies by creating jobs and wealth, and positioning our country as a global competitor. We consider them Canada’s most valuable resource.”

Robert Niven’s passion for innovation has driven both his educational path and his professional career. As the founder and CEO of CarbonCure Technologies, he helped develop a breakthrough technology that allows concrete producers to reuse CO2 during the manufacturing of concrete. The use of CO2 also improves the quality of the concrete, lowers costs and reduces the overall carbon footprint.

It was during his master’s work in Environmental Engineering at McGill University that Mr. Niven began working to explore the technology that became the foundation for CarbonCure. He invested the last of his student loan money to pursue the commercialization of the technology, and later received both government and private support.

Cement – the active ingredient in concrete – contributes to over 5% of the world's annual greenhouse gas emissions and concrete is the most widely used building material on the planet. The patented CarbonCure process is used in 35 plants across North America and the product is in use in hundreds of buildings. This innovation allows the concrete industry to improve its product, while reducing its environmental impact – all at a cost equal to traditional concrete.

He has received numerous science and business awards, sits on federal advisory boards for innovation, and has presented at dozens of international conferences, including the United Nations climate change negotiations.

He is honoured by his award and believes it shows how supportive Canada, and in particular Nova Scotia, is to innovators. “I don’t think I could have seen this kind of success anywhere else.”

*The Ernest C. Manning Awards Foundation was established in 1980 by Alberta Energy Company CEO David Mitchell. Working with former Alberta premier Ernest C. Manning and others, he built the foundation to recognize and celebrate Canadian innovators of all ages and across all disciplines. Since then, the Foundation has built a national network of 3,000 young and adult innovators who are leaders in technology, business, engineering, and social innovation advancement. It has awarded innovation prizes to 265 Canadians who have demonstrated innovative talent in developing and successfully marketing a new concept, process or procedure. For more information, including the full list of 2016 Innovation Award winners, visit: [www.manningawards.ca](http://www.manningawards.ca).*