



\*\*\*\*\***MEDIA ADVISORY**\*\*\*\*\*

**Ottawa Regional Celebration Event**

**What:** Presentation of Ottawa Nominees for the prestigious Manning Innovation Awards.

**When:** Monday, 24 April, 2017 – 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM

**Where:** Please contact Mark Kershey for details at: [mkershey@magnitudepartners.com](mailto:mkershey@magnitudepartners.com) or (613) 862-8660

**Why:** The Ottawa Chapter of the Manning Innovation Awards will present the Ottawa nominees for the 2017 Manning Awards, which recognize outstanding Canadian innovators.

These nominees are eligible for one of the Foundation's four awards, which will be announced on November 29<sup>th</sup> at the 36<sup>th</sup> Manning Innovation Awards Dinner, presented by Scotiabank.

The awards include two \$10,000 Manning Innovation Awards, the \$25,000 David E. Mitchell Award of Distinction and the \$100,000 Principal Award.

**Who:** Three 2017 Ottawa nominees will speak at the reception and will be available for media interviews. Ottawa-based Frank Bouchard, the 2016 Manning Innovation Award Laureate will also be speaking at the event. Brief profiles of the nominees and Laureate follow:

**Corey Ellis** and his team's travel to Iqaluit to deliver entrepreneurship programming led to his innovation **The Growcer**, which is a turnkey approach that addresses food security. Using aquaponics within retrofitted shipping containers, this technology grows nutritious and affordable foods all year round in remote and northern communities. This arctic growing system includes a business model that promotes self-determination and positive social and economic outcomes. There are 292 highly remote communities across Canada and around the world where food security is an issue. The system improves the quality of life and diets, while providing residents with easy-to-implement businesses that provide them with a means to earn a living.

**Suhayya Abu-Hakima** and **Ken Grigg** have developed **Amika™ Mobility Server (AMS)**, which links multiple alert inputs (including CCTV, alarms, event and motion sensors and open source alert messages that are Common Alerting Protocol compliant) through a central processor which then distributes alert messages through a variety of message distribution channels to those in an area at risk. The innovation is twofold; the Server

can recognize various event types (including fire, break-in, gunshot, natural event, etc.) and tailor an alert message or action that is applicable to the individual event type through the various output channels. It then recognizes users who are connected to the Internet in the area under threat without them having to specifically log into or preload software.

**Frank Bouchard** received a 2016 Manning Innovation Award for his innovation **Wipebook**, a reusable, recyclable dry erase paper notebook that allows users to create, solve, erase and start again. Developed initially as an entrepreneurial class project at the University of Ottawa, consumer demand for Wipebook was overwhelming. When Mr. Bouchard started a crowdfunding campaign to raise \$4,000 in pre-orders, the campaign raised an astounding \$424,000 in under 30 days. Today, Wipebook is sold in over 340 retail locations across Canada including chains such as Staples and Walmart and is shipped to 68 different countries around the world.

**Background:** The Ernest C. Manning Awards Foundation is helping create a culture of Canadian innovation by discovering, encouraging and rewarding Canadian innovators, and telling their stories. The 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 281 Canadians who have demonstrated innovative talent in developing and successfully marketing a new concept, process or procedure.

The Ottawa Chapter is one of 11 Chapters across the country, which are a dedicated group of volunteers who are passionate about innovation.

**For more information, visit: [www.manningawards.ca](http://www.manningawards.ca).**

**For more information and to book interviews, please contact:**

Mark D. Kershey  
Ottawa Chapter  
(613) 862-8660

Nilufer Erdebil  
Ottawa Chapter  
(613) 850-0854

Jennifer Diakiw  
President  
(403) 681-9575