



Startup Canada and Ernest C. Manning Awards Foundation Bring Together Celebrations of Canadian Entrepreneurs and Innovators

(Edmonton, AB, May 16, 2019)

Today the Ernest C. Manning Awards Foundation (The Foundation) and Startup Canada are celebrating the success of our two award programs together. For many years the Foundation has identified and honoured early stage Canadian innovators for their outstanding innovations and contributions to Canada, and for many years Startup Canada has been identifying and honouring Canadian entrepreneurs for their outstanding work and contributions to Canada. Soon, individuals involved with Startup Canada will be joining the Board of the Foundation. Future awards programs will benefit from their energy and innovative ideas.

The Ernest C. Manning Innovation Awards have been called the most prestigious in Canada. The Foundation discovers, encourages and celebrates Canadian innovators and tells their stories. Since 1981, when Calgary oilman and philanthropist David E. Mitchell created the Foundation, it has recognized over 2800 nominees and awarded over \$4.5M to 160 Manning Laureates. Their innovations span all areas of human endeavour, improving the lives of Canadians and others around the world, while adding value to our nation's economy. In all cases, the innovators have demonstrated entrepreneurial success.

Since launching in 2012, Startup Canada has grown to represent more than 200,000 entrepreneurs and 50 grassroots communities from coast to coast to coast. Startup Canada is the network promoting, inspiring, educating, connecting and giving a voice to Canada's 2.3 million entrepreneurs; supporting them to start, operate and scale businesses that build a better Canada for the world today and for future generations.

"Our Board is pleased and excited about this new and expanded celebration. We feel celebrating innovators and entrepreneurs together will highlight their strong synergies and shared passion for creating new ways of making Canada and our world a better place," says Ernest C. Manning Awards Foundation's Board Chair, John Read.

"Startup Canada is honoured to join with the Ernest C. Manning Awards Foundation in celebrating entrepreneurs and innovators, believing our organizations have much in common," said Brenda Halloran, Chair of Startup Canada. "Working together to

celebrate these outstanding innovators and entrepreneurs will shine a brighter light on the value they bring to our nation's economy and spirit."

We invite participants in and supporters of the past work of the Foundation and Startup Canada to join us in celebrating innovation and entrepreneurship for the benefit of Canadian innovators and entrepreneurs for years to come.

For more information, or to speak with Foundation Board Trustee Preston Manning, or Startup Canada Co-Founder and President, Victoria Lennox, the contacts follow:

For Victoria Lennox:
Maddie Stiles
613-627-0787 ext 105

For Preston Manning
Jennifer Diakiw
403-681-9575