



The Ernest C. Manning Awards Foundation Celebrates New Youth Can Innovate Awards

CALGARY (March 1, 2017) Trustees and staff of the Ernest C. Manning Awards applaud the Gwyn Morgan & Patricia Trottier Foundation for adopting the annual Young Canadian Innovators program, which has been held for the past 25 years at the Canada-Wide Science Fair.

Started as an extension of the Manning Foundation's 35 years of leadership in recognizing and encouraging innovators in this country, the Young Canadian Innovators program, will now be known as **Youth Can Innovate**. The Gwyn Morgan & Patricia Trottier Foundation will launch the expanded and newly named awards at the 56th national science fair held this year at the University of Regina campus May 14 – 20, 2017. (See www.youthcaninnovate.ca)

The Ernest C. Manning Awards Foundation will continue its work to create a culture of Canadian innovation by discovering, encouraging and rewarding Canadian innovators and telling their stories. The rigorous evaluation and selection process, informed by the Nobel Organization's model, is underway to identify the four 2017 Manning Innovation Award Laureates.

"When the Manning Awards were first presented in 1982 they were the only annual recognition of Canadians who were making a societal difference with their creative minds," explained Foundation Chairman John Read, one of the early Trustees. (See www.manningawards.ca) The awards were the brainchild of Alberta Energy Company President and CEO David E. Mitchell, supported by fellow Canadian corporate leaders who shared Mitchell's vision. They were originally announced in 1980 to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Province of Alberta.

"We have been able to honour more than 250 Laureates with the \$100,000 Principal Award; the \$25,000 David E. Mitchell Award of Distinction, and the \$10,000 Innovation Awards. This has been made possible through the ongoing generosity of corporate sponsors and private foundations. In addition, a great number of Canadians have contributed their time and talent, volunteering in governance service as Trustees, as independent evaluators and selection committee members, and as members of Regional Chapters that promote Innovation across the country," said Read.

"Very few national non-profits like ours can claim the solid, unwavering 36-year support of national corporate sponsors such as Cenovus Energy and its predecessor companies, easily the largest supporter, or the likes of Scotiabank, the Arthur J.E. Child Foundation, Shaw Communications, and Syncrude. Additionally, generous and loyal individuals including past Laureates such as Vancouver's Dr. Jim McEwen or Edmonton's Quinn Holtby (KatchKan Enterprises) have supported the Foundation's work. These sponsors and donors are joined by regional supporters at the Awards Dinner and Symposium."

The 2017 Awards Dinner will celebrate this year's Laureates in Toronto on November 29th. In conjunction with the Dinner, the Laureates will be featured at the Manning Innovation Symposium on November 30th at OCAD U. The Symposium engages post-secondary students and the general public who are interested in innovation and entrepreneurship to participate in this interactive event.