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## **AWARD WINNERS SHOW ACT GREAT PLACE FOR NEW BUSINESSES**

The winners and finalists of last night's Canberra BusinessPoint\* Awards demonstrate that the ACT is an excellent incubator for successful small businesses.

"Awards were announced in six categories which recognise the diversity of start-ups and existing firms in the ACT," Canberra Business Council CEO, Chris Faulks said. "Winners were chosen in recognition of their innovation, effective business planning and future potential."

The winners in each category were:

- Web and Mobile – myinfoQ. myinfoQ has focused on the growing popularity of social media as a forum for business to consumer communication. It allows people to keep track of brands, products and services that interest them and for businesses to assess the success of their lead generation campaigns.
- Clean and Green – Envirolove. This company helps increase recycling and divert tonnes of waste from the ACT landfill through programs such as its food waste recycling system that is being implemented in shopping centres.
- Bricks and Mortar – Mighty Mount. This local business was born when founder and owner, Stephen Holgate was working on home improvements and realised there was a market for a simple mounting system for the building industry.
- Creative and Design – Canberra Academy of Dramatic Art (CADA). CADA was established in 2009 and has doubled its turnover every year. It provides training and communication skills for children four and up through to adults.
- Micro-Enterprise – Alice Be Curious. This clothing boutique in New Acton sells unique shoes, clothes and accessories.
- High Growth – Contractor Compliance Australia. For 19 months this new business has been providing auditing, compliance and business services to small, medium and large businesses. Its head office is in Canberra but it has satellite offices in Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane.

"Canberra BusinessPoint had over 800 enterprises come to it for assistance or advice this year and each of those were in the running to take out one of the awards. It was very difficult to choose finalists and winners from such a strong field," Lighthouse Business Innovation Centre CEO, Anna Pino said.

"The awards not only reflect the success of each of the winners and finalists but the high-quality assistance being provided to new and growing businesses by Canberra BusinessPoint in areas such as strategic planning, IT and finance."

Ms Faulks added, "It is great to see so many people seek advice and training from Canberra BusinessPoint to ensure they give their businesses the best chance for success. I commend all the winners and finalists."

*\*Canberra BusinessPoint is an ACT Government program which provides practical advice and support to businesses in the ACT. It is delivered by Canberra Business Council and Lighthouse Business Innovation Centre*

More information about the award categories, winners and finalists is attached.

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PROGRAM DELIVERED BY:



AN ACT GOVERNMENT INITIATIVE

