**MEDIA RELEASE**

**Social Innovation Development supports the 24th Belmont & Western Australian Small Business Awards!**

The Awards provide recognition and encouragement for small business achievements and will be open for small businesses, individuals and organisations in Belmont and from across Western Australia from the 27th of April until 5pm, 26th of September, 2017.

Social Innovation Development will support the Non-Profit Organisation Initiatives Award. To be eligible to enter this award category, organisations can be located anywhere in WA and the award will recognise leadership and/or initiatives and innovation in a not for profit organisation.

Social Innovation Development is a new small business and social enterprise which has grown from the development of social innovation skills training program. The program is based on many years of research on the application of skill-based learning to the development of an innovative organisational culture.

Dr Simon Colquhoun founder of Social Innovation Development said, “We have developed a new Social Innovation Skills Program and see a real need for social change at all levels of social relationships. We see NFP organisations as leaders to social change in our society. We are thrilled to be supporting these state-wide small business awards that recognise the work of NFP organisations”.

Belmont BEC CEO and Founder of the Belmont & Western Australian Small Business Awards Carol Hanlon said “The Awards are open to small businesses and organisations both within the Belmont area and across the state with 26 categories available for entrants to consider. This is the 24th year we have held our Small Business Awards and it is exciting to see the awards grow each year to provide recognition to those striving for business excellence and acknowledging community achievements”

Potential entrants will be able to access a wide range of support in preparing their submission that includes Free Award Entry Kits, Workshops, Webinars and access to Award Mentors who can assist with tips in preparing award submissions to impress the judging panel.

Winners of this year’s 24th Belmont & Western Australian Small Business Awards 2017 ’will be announced at the ‘Night of Stars’ event that will take place in the Ballroom of the Perth Exhibition and Convention Centre on Wednesday, October 25th, 6pm - 8.30pm.

For more information on how to enter the awards and other categories, please contact awards@belmontbec.com or phone: (08) 9479 3777 or visit [www.belmontbec.com/awards](http://www.belmontbec.com/awards)

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