PRESS RELEASE

**Closing date approaches for Cork innovates Bursary**

Application submissions for €30,000 bursary to close on 21 October 2013

**Cork, 7 October 2013**: Earlier this year Cork innovates, an initiative driving entrepreneurship in the Cork region, announced an increased bursary of €30,000 in business support for the winning business. Now there are only two weeks left to apply for the Cork innovates bursary, which is sure to have a very significant impact on the winning business.

The Cork innovates bursary offers a wide range of services from marketing, advertising, mentoring and financial and legal services to membership supports. Everything a business and entrepreneur could need to get started and get ahead is included in this year’s bursary.

“Last year we received an overwhelming response to the bursary from startups and businesses”, said Siobhan Finn, Cork innovates Coordinator.

“Final submission date is now only two weeks away. We would like to encourage those who have not already submitted an application to do so before the closing date. The shortlisted applicants will get a chance to pitch their business concepts to the judges and mentors at the InBusiness InCork event on 14 November 2013”.

Last year’s bursary winner, James Duggan of Funmanway Adventureland saw off intense competition to take the inaugural business award.

“Winning the bursary was the single biggest step my business made going forward since the launch,” said James Duggan of Funmanway Adventureland.

“It opened new doors and opportunities for me that previously I had thought would not happen for years. The supports we received so far has been fantastic and now I have the propensity to dream a much bigger vision for my business. The Cork innovates bursary has given me the confidence to achieve success with my startup. I will always be truly grateful to Cork innovates and to all partners involved for the opportunity they have given my business to succeed.”

The bursary is now open for applications on [www.corkinnovates.com](http://www.corkinnovates.com) until 21 October 2013.

Those wishing to attend the INBusiness INCork event can pre-register now at <https://inbusinessincorkshowcase.eventbrite.ie/>

**ENDS**

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**Notes to the Editor**

**About Cork innovates**

Cork innovates was established in 2012 to drive entrepreneurship in the Cork Region. The initiative is chaired by Anthony O’Mara and co-ordinated by Siobhan Finn. More information is available at [www.corkinnovates.com](http://www.corkinnovates.com)

The steering group of Cork innovates comprises Cork City Council and Cork County Council, the four Enterprise Boards in the region, Enterprise Ireland, UCC, CIT, Cork Chamber, Cork BIC and the South West Regional Authority (SWRA) as well as a number of entrepreneurs in the Region. These stakeholders have come together to identify and support key projects and activities to promote Cork as a location of choice for regional, national and international entrepreneurs. Meeting regularly and working closely together, the committee members are all equally committed to the success of entrepreneurship in Cork.