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MEDIA RELEASE

AWARD OPPORTUNITY FOR ETHICAL BUSINESSES

For the fourth year running, Australia's most inspirational enterprises can have the opportunity to be recognised and celebrated at Moral Fairground's Ethical Enterprise Award. Nominations open 1st of July 2016 and winners will be announced at the Ethical Enterprise Award dinner in Melbourne on 20 October 2016.

The Ethical Enterprise Award is open to any Australian business or organization of any size that delivers innovative work with positive social, environmental and economic impact locally and/or internationally. Past winners include:

2013 – Western Desert Dialysis based in Alice Springs, Northern Territory

2014 – Seven Women based in Melbourne, Victoria

2015 – Hamlin Fistula Ethiopia based in Turrumurra NSW

The Ethical Enterprise award recognise the commitment of leading social enterprises to improve the world we live in. Through these awards, we hope to encourage innovation in this sector, and celebrate the achievements of those dedicated to improving social and environmental outcomes," said Phil Vernon, Managing Director of Australian Ethical."

The **winner of the Ethical Enterprise Award 2016** will receive a \$10,000 gift and gain national recognition throughout the business, non-profit and social enterprise sector for their contribution to society, and their unique vision and leadership. Additionally, the Award recipient will have access to an array of networking, media and promotional opportunities, advertising and business development packages. This year prizes include \$7,500 cash for the runner-up and third prize winner will receive \$15,000 worth of professional business coaching via One10 founder and entrepreneur, Geoff Gourley.

Lush Australia was a finalist of the Award last year and will form part of the judging panel this year. 'We were so impressed with what the award is aiming to achieve, the inspirational stories and impact of so many of the finalists work, that we wanted to get more deeply involved and help enable these groups to continue their great work around the world.' said Peta Granger, Director of Lush Australia.

Nominees will be asked to submit an account of their organisation and its achievements – outlining projects undertaken, the positive social, environmental and economic impact achieved and innovations embraced that position it as an ethical enterprise.

The judging panel comprising representatives from Moral Fairground, Australian Ethical, Lush and founder of 3Fish, will review the entries in search of the country's most ethical organisation. The finalists will be shortlisted during October with the award recipient being announced at the Ethical Enterprise Award dinner on 20 October 2016.

For those who are still on the early stages of their social enterprise business, they are encouraged to apply for the **Early Ethical Entrepreneur Pitch Competition 2016**. The finalists will have the opportunity to deliver their pitch at the Ethical Enterprise Conference **20 October 2016**. A panel of professional judges will select the winner on the day and offer professional coaching and networks to help early entrepreneurs set up their business.

Applications open July 1, 2016

To apply for the Ethical Enterprise Award visit: www.moralfairground.com.au/ethical-enterprise-award-2016 or

To apply for Early Pitch: <http://moralfairground.com.au/early-ethical-entrepreneur-pitch-competition-2016/>

Deadline: 5pm, September 15, 2016

- Ends -

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Photo opportunity available