

MEDIA RELEASE



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EXPERTS TO BOOST STARTUPS AT MELBOURNE'S COWORKING SPACES

LaunchVic, Victoria's startup development agency, today announced the first five coworking spaces to receive funding under its Experts-In-Residence (EIR) program.

Under the EIR program, coworking spaces across Melbourne, the birthplace for some of Melbourne's most successful startups, will now be able to boost more startups through access to experienced mentors.

United Co, The Commons, One Roof Coworking, Happy Spaces and Eastern Innovation Business Centre have been selected to host an EIR to provide business guidance, mentorship and support to their startup members.

Andre Eikmeier, Co-Founder of one of Australia's fastest growing companies, Vinomofo, will deliver workshops, events and one-on-one mentoring sessions at United Co, while startups at The Commons can look forward to mentoring sessions with investor and Startmate mentor Oscar McLennan.

Female-focused One Roof Coworking is offering a 12-week pre-accelerator startup pilot program by global tech entrepreneur Kate Kendall, Founder and CEO of talent marketplace CloudPeeps.

Happy Spaces Black Rock and Hampton offices are bringing Ruy Lopes De Barros, Impact and Innovation Manager at Flying Rhino, from Brazil to deliver a program focused on facilitating global connections. The founder and CEO of DiffernThinking, Dr. Zivit Inbar, will deliver events, workshops and mentoring at the Eastern Innovation Business Centre.

"Founders that have access to experienced mentors are more likely to succeed. This Expert-in-Residence program will provide many Victorian startups with access to invaluable industry knowledge and practical advice from experienced people", said Kate Cornick, CEO of LaunchVic.

"We know that coworking spaces are hubs for innovation, and we are delighted to be working with the successful recipients to support startups to gain access to world class experts."

Victoria is home to approximately 170 coworking spaces, with Startup Genome's 2018 Melbourne's Startup Ecosystem report calling the state the 'coworking capital' of Australia.

Further funding is available through LaunchVic's EIR program. For more information visit <https://launchvic.org/rounds/round-9-expert-in-residence>

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NOTES TO EDITORS

About LaunchVic

LaunchVic is Victoria's lead startup ecosystem development agency. We invest in organisations and projects that empower entrepreneurs to scale innovative companies, and deliver new industry benefits to the Victorian economy. At LaunchVic, we're fuelling the startup ecosystem by supporting entrepreneurs and investors to sustainably grow and deliver economic and cultural benefits for Victoria. To date LaunchVic has invested \$x million and funded an exciting x projects that have delivered services and support for the benefit of the Victorian startup community.

To find our more, visit www.launchvic.org