MEDIA RELEASE

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LAUNCHVIC SUPPORTS THE PENINSULA'S FIRST HACKATHON

Local startups and entreprenuers will come together to build solutions to local problems such as high youth unemployment and job availability in the Mornington Peninsula's very first hackathon, PeninsulaHACK, set to kick off on Friday 11 August.

Backed by LaunchVic, Frankston Foundry will run a three-day event that will see 150 entrepreneurs, businesses and community leaders from the Peninsula come together to discuss and explore opportunities around the gig economy and the future of work.

As part of PeninsulaHACK up to 15 teams will work on solutions to address local employment issues including high youth unemployment. They will then pitch their ideas to a panel of judges, with winning teams taking a share of $6,000 prize money.

LaunchVic CEO Dr Kate Cornick said part of LaunchVic's role was to engage Victorians in the startup ecosystem.

"We are delighted to support PeninsulaHACK, which provides a great opportunity for the Mornington Peninsula's best and brightest to engage in Victoria's vibrant startup ecosystem," Dr Cornick said.

Frankston Foundry received $154,500 in January 2017 as part of LaunchVic's funding Round 2 to help connect entrepreneurs on the Peninsula with the Melbourne startup sector.

Frankston Foundry co-founder James Bertschik said the Peninsula is one of the fastest growing regions for startup entrepreneurship in Victoria but is also home to high unemployment among youth and people leaving traditional industries.

"With a population growth forecast of 12 per cent for the region through to 2036, we still have a way to go," Mr Bertschik said.

Frankston Foundry co-founder Cameron Rambert said PeninsulaHACK will be vital in encouraging local leaders and industry to engage in a conversation about the role entrepreneurship will play in addressing the Future of Work on the Mornington Peninsula.

Frankston Foundry runs pitch evenings, seminars and workshops for the local startup sector. PeninsulaHACK is their biggest event to date.

To get tickets to PeninsulaHACK, visit here.

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