



*Celebrating 28 years of service  
and support for the small  
business community*

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **Belmont Business Enterprise Centre Inc. (BBEC) Announces New Chair**

Mr Paul Faix, Founder and CEO of Fortix®, has been elected to the role of Chair for the Belmont Business Enterprise Centre Inc. (BBEC). Mr Faix has replaced Mr Jules Lewin, who had been Chair since 2015. Mr Faix joins an esteemed group of leaders, with previous Chairs including Ben Wyatt, Tim Hammond, and Cassie Rowe MLA.

Belmont BEC is an award winning, not for profit community-based organisation established in 1994 to assist the start-up, growth, and development of small business. Belmont BEC assists its clients develop their business skills in a range of different areas including business planning, marketing, online training, mentoring and support through professional referrals. Since its inception, Belmont BEC has assisted over 33,000 intenders, start-ups, and small businesses both in Western Australia and across the country.

Over the past 28 years, Belmont BEC has originated a range of well-known projects and events to further support small business. The Belmont and WA Small Business Awards, TCFWA, designedge Innovation Festivals and MY Business Incubator® projects are just a few examples of the successful programs that have helped launch small businesses.

Paul Faix founded Fortix® in 2004. Since its inception, Paul has worked hard to ensure Fortix® delivers business management systems that are highly personalised to their clients. Additionally, Fortix® is the WA based technology company that provides a full end-to-end business automation. Their innovative technology and dedication to providing their clients exceptional service and products is evident in their growing client base, with many clients of Fortix® for ten years or more.

It has also earned both Fortix® and Paul recognition through various awards, 2010 Quality Customer Service Award and 2016 Technology Award at the Belmont and WA Small Business Awards and in 2014 and 2015 recognised in the Influential 100 Awards WA . As well as running a successful business, Paul also serves as Honorary Consul of the Slovak Republic in Western Australia. Besides business and diplomatic activities Paul also dedicates his time to mentor future leaders in business and community.

“It is an honour and a responsibility to be elected as Chair. I’ve been involved and supported Carol for a number of years. The team spirit and dedication of people involved in BBEC is second to none. Everyone here is thriving in helping others to succeed. I will do my best to provide space for creativity and personal growth.” Mr Faix commented on his appointment.

Carol Hanlon, CEO of Belmont BEC said, “We are thrilled with the appointment of Paul Faix to become the Chair of Belmont BEC, to continue its important work. Paul’s areas of expertise in the digital world, as well as his connections will help Belmont BEC to refresh some of the existing business services and introduce new ones.

We also commend the hard work and dedication of former Chair Jules Lewin. Jules’ commitment to Belmont BEC was second to none, and he remains a well-respected and integral part of the Belmont BEC support network.”

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