

ICUBE COLLABORATES WITH UNIMAS TO PRODUCE MORE ENTREPRENEURS

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Liew (left) and Kadim (right) shake on the deal in the presence of Len Talif. – Photo by Muhammad Rais Sanusi

KUCHING: iCube Innovation Sdn Bhd (iCube) inked a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (Unimas) yesterday to turn more youths in the state into entrepreneurs.

iCube founder and chairman Dato Patrick Liew said the MoU outlined strategies for the innovative business incubator.

“iCube Innovation opens doors of collaboration opportunities and provides a platform for co-incubation for our partners. The partnership will extend to workshops, training, talks, seminars and similar events related to entrepreneurship grooming, e-commerce development, business coaching, leadership building and more.

“The aim is to provide young aspiring entrepreneurs with expanded access to relevant information and potential opportunities,” he said at the MoU signing ceremony at iCOM Square.

Assistant Minister in the Chief Minister’s Department (Workforce Development and Training) Datu Len Talif Salleh witnessed the signing between Liew and Unimas vice chancellor Prof Dato Dr Mohamad Kadim Suaidi.

Liew said the sharing of the expertise, knowledge and experiences would produce better results compared with a single entity labouring on its own.

“Such collaborations are very much encouraged as we cannot do it all on our own.”

Meanwhile, Len Talif commended iCube and Unimas for recognising the importance of working together.

“Under the chairmanship of Dato Patrick Liew, I believe this can bring government agencies, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), and associations together to see how to develop our manpower needs, especially in the areas of creativity and innovation, and assist the government in developing the required manpower.”

He said his new portfolio required government agencies, NGOs, and statutory bodies to come together.

“With the ministerial function now redefined to also include entrepreneurship development, this will also give us a lot of leeway on how to develop manpower for the future.”

Since Aug 2015, iCube has also signed MoU with Tabung Ekonomi Gagasan Anak Bumiputera Sarawak (Tegas), Malaysian Global Innovation and Creativity Centre (MaGIC), FAME International College, Technology College Sarawak (TCS), OurYouth.my, Sarawak Children’s Cancer Society (SCCS), and Sarawak Entrepreneur Association (SEA).

iCube’s co-working space has been filled up with 33 small-medium enterprises (SMEs) and diverse start-ups, including both tech related businesses such as web hosting, IT solutions, telecommunications and web designs; and non-tech related businesses such as constructions, engineering, publications and education.

It has also organised seven social enterprise workshops, three boot-camps (tech and non-tech), two hackathon, and five talks for local start-up community.

With more partners from various sectors, including NGOs, education, both private and government associations, the establishment is positive to see more results this year.