

Media Release



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ADF calls for expressions of interest in Policy Advisory Groups

For immediate release

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Australian Dairy Farmers (ADF) today called for Expressions of Interest from ADF members asking them to become part of one of the peak body's Policy Advisory Groups (PAGs).

PAGs play a key role in setting business objectives for industry and driving policy formulation.

In the case of the dairy industry, PAGs focus on policy areas like markets and trade, farming systems and animal welfare in order to ensure dairy interests are properly represented at a domestic and international level.

Mr Noel Campbell, President of ADF, said the role of the PAGs was critical to the long-term future of dairy.

"We face many challenges as an industry and have always relied on the vision and passion of people within dairy," said Mr Campbell.

ADF PAGs recommend policy settings to the ADF via the National Council and also act as consultants providing feedback to Dairy Australia Reference Groups, state dairy farmer organisations (SDFOs) and other bodies like Dairy Australia, the National Farmers Federation and the Australian Dairy Products Federation.

"PAG members have made a great contribution to dairy over the last 70 years and we want this to continue," Mr Campbell said.

Campbell said the five PAGs including: Markets, Trade and Value Chain; People and Human Capacity; Animal Health and Welfare; Farming Systems and Herd Improvement and Natural Resources needed to be driven by farmers.

"We welcome and encourage more direct involvement from dairy farmers to drive policy in the right direction," said Mr Campbell.

PAGs are appointed by the ADF Board every year to ensure ADF business members with the right skills, talent and interest are involved.

PAGs can meet up to three times a year. There is a requirement for PAG members to attend the majority of meetings. When PAGs do meet, expenses and sitting fees are covered by ADF in line with internal policy.

Background

PAG Skills and Interest

Ideally, a PAG will have members with a specific interest in that policy area and a complementary mix of skills and experience. The ADF National Council's appointment of PAG members is based on assessment of each prospective PAG member and the likely contribution they will make to that policy area.

Generally PAGs will consist of six members including two to three National Councillors (some PAGs may be larger in order to accommodate members with specialist skills).

PAG Expression of Interest Process

ADF uses an Expression of Interest (EOI) process to invite ADF business members to register interest in serving on a PAG. The EOI process seeks people with interest and enthusiasm and a strong commitment to the policy area.

ADF business members are invited to lodge a brief statement indicating reasons for interest in the PAG and a brief summary of experience relevant to the PAG. If a prospective PAG member is interested in joining more than one PAG, they can apply to do so.

Policy Advisory Group Expression of Interest Forms can be obtained by contacting the Australian Dairy Farmers office on (03) 8621 4200.

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