



BOARD COMMUNIQUE MEETING NO. 2023-1

HELD ON 7 March 2023

Board Matters

1. The Board meeting was inquorate and decisions were subsequently dealt with by circular resolutions.
2. The Board was pleased to welcome Daniel Miller and Lois Whelan to the Board as Directors appointed by GLAWAC.
3. The Board accepted the finance report, including the ongoing position and solvency of the organisation.
4. The Board also noted the Federation Enterprises Report particularly indicating the increased income generated by Barpa over the year and Federation Enterprises' participation in the Barpa strategic planning particularly to consider the forecasted activity, growth and consequent capacity to generate dividends.
5. Daniel Miller was appointed to the Finance, Audit and Risk Management Subcommittee of the Board.
6. The Board, following an *in camera* discussion, approved the reappointment of Paul Paton as the CEO.

Strategy Oversight

7. The Board considered a paper outlining the background, purpose and process for the Federation's strategic planning in preparation for a renewed strategic plan for 2024-27. Directors discussed the focus and fit for the Federation over the coming years recognising the practical need to balance strategic, financial and operational requirements.
8. The national Referendum on the Voice to Parliament was addressed, with agreement to taking an active advocacy role to bring better information and myth busting. The Board noted the FAQ prepared for the Federation website and noted that further work would be undertaken to support community in discussing the issues over the coming months.

Corporate Matters

9. The Board was appraised of the draft 2023-24 operational work program, indicating the broad strategic areas and alignment with the current strategy, specific key projects and noting key areas building on the mid-term review undertaken in mid-2022.

10. The Board also noted the proposed areas of management focus for the year under the following headings:
 - Sustainability
 - Directly providing services to TOCs
 - Planning services
 - Policy/regulatory advisory services
 - Adding and showing value
 - don't stop now, 10 years strong, get to know your TO
 - forums/workshops
 - media and communications
 - further stories/podcasts
 - Positioning – building a national presence
 - TONFABS
 - ICIP
 - Cultural Heritage
 - Voice
 - Renewable Energy

11. Paul Paton among other things provided an update on key project areas including outlining:
 - the Federation's role in facilitating, through the TOC CEOs' Forum and subsequently with TOC key personnel, a proposal for Traditional Owner-led Fisheries Strategy. It was noted that further meetings with the Victorian Fisheries Authority have been planned
 - key elements of Victoria's renewable energy policy and the Federation's work with the First Nations Clean Energy Network to advocate to the State government and strengthen the TOC's knowledge and capacity to participate in the design, development and implementation of policies and programs.

Website: www.fvtoc.com.au

Communiqués: www.fvtoc.com.au/communiqués

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land we work on as the First People of this country.

