



MEDIA RELEASE

National wine authority appointments

Wine Grape Growers Australia (WGGGA) and Winemakers' Federation of Australia have welcomed the new Directors of the Australian Grape and Wine Authority (AGWA).

"We congratulate the Chair and Board appointees and we look forward to working with them," Federation President Tony D'Aloisio AM said.

Mr D'Aloisio and WGGGA Chairman Vic Patrick also thanked the interim board members for their work over the past year through the establishment phase of the new authority.

"The AGWA Board is responsible for decisions about the biggest slice of industry funds for improving profitability in the wine sector in addition to a significant contribution from government in matching funds for R&D," Mr Patrick explained.

"The importance of the appointments is therefore inestimable and we appreciate the selection panel's and the Minister's efforts in making the appointments."

Mr D'Aloisio said: "The WFA looks forward to working with the new board to progress important marketing and research initiatives which will build global recognition and demand for Australian wine."

The appointments have been made under the *Australian Grape and Wine Authority Act 2013* for three years commencing October 1.

The appointees are:

- Ms Eliza Brown (Victoria) - reappointment
- Dr Brian Croser AO (South Australia) - reappointment
- Mr David Dearie (Victoria) – new appointment
- Mr Edouard Peter (South Australia) – new appointment
- Ms Mary Retallack (South Australia) – new appointment
- Mr Keith Todd (South Australia) – new appointment
- Mr Kim Williams AM (New South Wales) - reappointment

Chairman Brian Walsh's reappointment was announced on June 23, 2015.

The authority – more often referred to as Wine Australia – officially came into being in July 2014 following the merger of the Wine Australia Corporation and the Grape and Wine Research Development Corporation.

Wine Grape Growers Australia and the Winemakers' Federation of Australia worked over a number of years to bring the merger of their two statutory authorities to fruition.

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