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MEDIA RELEASE

National wine authority appointments

Wine Grape Growers Australia (WGGA) and Winemakers' Federation of Australia have welcomed the appointments of an acting Chair and Board to the new Australian Grape and Wine Authority (AGWA).

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

Mr D'Aloisio and WGGA Chairman Vic Patrick thanked past board members of the previous two bodies for their dedication and hard work, and to staff who have worked through the transition process.

"This marks a new era as this organisation has vital importance to the industry and we are pleased it will be up and running from July 1," Mr Patrick said.

"The WFA is looking forward to working with the new body to progress important marketing and research initiatives which form part of WFA's industry improvement plan," said Mr D'Aloisio.

The appointees are:

- Chairman - Brian Walsh
- Eliza Brown
- John Casella
- Brian Croser AO
- John Forrest
- Ian Henderson
- Janice McDonald
- Kim Williams AM

The new authority officially comes into being Tuesday, July 1, following the merger of 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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