

27 July 2026

MEDIA RELEASE

Australian Grape & Wine welcomes new Wine Australia Directors

Australian Grape & Wine has welcomed the appointment of two new Directors to the Board of Wine Australia.

Earlier today the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, the Hon. Julie Collins MP, announced the appointment of Mr Darryn Hakof and Mr Stephen Strachan to the Board of Wine Australia, the Australian Government's statutory authority responsible for research and innovation, marketing and the regulation of Australia's wine sector.

"Mr Hakof and Mr Strachan bring a wealth of wine industry experience, strong commercial expertise and a genuine passion for Australian wine" said Helen Strachan, Chair of Australian Grape & Wine.

"These appointments will further strengthen the breadth of skills and experience around the Board table and provide valuable leadership as the industry works through one of the most significant periods of structural adjustment in generations".

"We look forward to working with Mr Hakof and Mr Strachan, together with the broader Wine Australia Board, to support a sustainable and profitable future for Australia's grape and wine sector."

Australian Grape & Wine also acknowledges the extension of Dr Michele Allan AO's appointment as Chair of Wine Australia while the process to recruit a permanent Chair is finalised.

"The appointment of a permanent Chair is an important decision for both Wine Australia and the broader industry. We appreciate the Government taking the time to ensure the right appointment is made and look forward to working with the successful candidate once that process is complete."

Media Contact: Lisa Scott, 0411 133 294 / lisa@agw.org.au

About Australian Grape and Wine Inc

Australian Grape and Wine Inc is the national association of grape and wine producers. We address issues across the supply-chain that impact on the profitability and sustainability of the sector. We lead and advocate public policy that enhances the ability to responsibly produce, promote and enjoy Australian wine in moderation.

Australian Grape & Wine is recognised as a representative organisation for winegrape and wine producers under the Wine Australia Act 2013, and is incorporated under the SA Associations Incorporation Act 1985. We work in partnership with the Australian Government to develop and implement policy that is in the best interests of winegrape growers and winemakers across Australia.