

Media Release

The Hon Jaclyn Symes MLC

Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council

Minister for Regional Development

Minister for Agriculture

Minister for Resources



Wednesday, 8 July 2020

STEERING AGRICULTURAL RESPONSE TO CLIMATE CHANGE

Victoria's ongoing ability to produce high-quality food and fibre in a changing climate will be the key focus of a new advisory council established by the Victorian Government.

Minister for Agriculture Jaclyn Symes today called for expressions of interest for positions on the newly established Victorian Agriculture and Climate Change Council (VACCC).

Expressions are being sought from people willing to share their ideas and contribute strategic advice on how the agriculture sector can prepare for and respond to the impacts of climate change.

Comprising a chairperson and up to eight members, the VACCC will identify the climate challenges and opportunities faced by the Victorian agriculture sector and will support the Minister to respond to climate change and reducing emissions whilst building the resilience of the sector.

The Council will also inform actions planned as part of a national agriculture and climate change work program being led by the Victorian Government on behalf of all jurisdictions.

The chairperson and members will represent a range of industry and community groups, including researchers and climate experts. They will be appointed to the VACCC for a period of up to five years.

The Council is part of the Victorian Government's commitment to delivering strong and meaningful action on climate change with those in the agriculture sector, which is already experiencing impacts first-hand.

This includes working with industry to support action that is already being taken, and to maximise the opportunities for agriculture as the sector strengthens its climate resilience and contributes to a net zero emissions economy.

Recruitment for the VACCC chair and member positions is now underway. For more information or to apply, go to getonboard.vic.gov.au.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Agriculture Jaclyn Symes

"Farmers understand the challenges caused by climate change – while they are excellent at adapting to difficult seasonal conditions, they need continued support to thrive for decades to come."

"The science on climate change is clear – that's why it's important that we work with farmers and their communities to manage the challenges it poses to our agriculture sector."

Quote attributable to Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change Lily D'Ambrosio

"Farmers are best placed to advise on how climate change is already impacting their operations – this first-hand experience is vital to adapting and planning for the future."