

Expressions of Interest for Working Group to Develop a National Strategy for Food and Fibre Education in Schools

A think tank of high-level primary industry leaders met on 21 April 2023 and resolved to boost food and fibre education in Australian schools¹. The meeting was attended by the Federal Minister for Agriculture, Sen Murray Watt and the Assistant Minister for Education, Sen Anthony Chisholm, who pledged their support for the initiative.

The meeting agreed that the Primary Industries Education Foundation Australia ([PIEFA](#)) was the appropriate organisation to be the peak body in this space, however, its scope and operation would require revision and ultimately expansion once a national strategy was in place.

To oversee the development of a national strategy, a Working Group will be formed which will report back to the larger group of RDCs and Ministers in approximately six months.

A Working Group is sought to be made up of members with the following skills and background:

- An independent chair
- A PIEFA representative
- A policy and funding expert
- An education or curriculum expert
- A corporate representative
- An RDC representative via the Council of Rural Research and Development Corporations
- A project manager/secretariat

SUBMITTING AN EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Those wishing to express interest in being appointed to the Working Group should submit an email application to: office@piefa.edu.au before **5pm AEST on Friday May 26, 2023**.

The following criteria must be addressed:

- Indicate area of expertise
- Skills and experience, including a brief Curriculum Vitae (maximum five pages)
- Contact details of two referees
- Availability for monthly half-day online meetings and at least two day-long, in person meetings in Sydney within the next six months

It is expected that Working Group members' time will be contributed by their employees but in instances where this is not the case, the PIEFA Director sitting fee will apply.² Expenses involved in attending in person meetings will be reimbursed.

The selection committee reserves the right to approach individuals who they believe have the skill sets appropriate for the task.

CONTACT: Luciano Mesiti, PIEFA CEO: ceo@piefa.edu.au

¹ Food and fibre mean the agriculture, horticulture, forestry and fisheries industries. Education means from preschool to year 12. This strategy will encompass whole of food and fibre supply chain education in schools whereas to date PIEFA has mainly focussed on the production component.

² This based on the fee set by the Australian Government Remuneration Tribunal sitting fees for Committees of Rural Research and Development which is currently \$701/day. <https://www.remtribunal.gov.au/sites/default/files/2022-01/PTO%202021%20-%20Compilation%20no.%204.pdf>