Chairperson's Summary
SIV Board Meeting #222 of 20 June 2025
Location: Zoom

SIV Financials
- The FAC was satisfied the financial statements were in order.

Port Phillip Bay Gas Terminal
- SIV helped organise a meeting between Vopak Vice Energy and industry members to discuss the proposed location for the marine gas terminal in PPB.
- The location directly conflicts with fishing grounds that would be otherwise accessible by the PPB Fishery. Commercial fishers have also expressed concern regarding risk to safety and gear loss when large scale vessels operate outside of designated fishing channels.
- The Board was provided with legal advice from Clarke Legal on compensation eligibility for Victorian commercial fishing Access Licence holders that are excluded from viable fishing grounds.

Consumer Membership Presentation
- The CEO provided the Board with a presentation summarising recent engagement activity and planning in relation to the Victorian Seafood Consumer project.
- SIV visited several retailers to gauge interest within the sector on the proposed model.
- Feedback received indicated broad in principle support with some challenges and suggestions.
    - The platform could be used to educate consumers and drive market share for seafood.
    - Margins are low for retailers. The ability to discount depends on product availability.
    - Retailers can run their own 'in house' loyalty programs.
    - Charging for subscription won't work. Too many competing apps with a clearer value prop.
    - Consider redeveloping the model to allow for monetising through advertising space for retailers/restaurants rather than consumer subscription.
    - Consumers using a free app could upgrade for access to exclusive offers.
    - There should be a committee to steer the program once development commences.
- The board endorsed the recommendation to proceed to phase 1 - Invest $25K in agency expenditure for proof of concept and then reassess (stop/go point).

FY 25-26 Core Business Budget
- The Board were provided with a copy of the draft budget. The budget had been reviewed previously by the Independent Chair and the Finance Audit Committee.
- The budget reflects SIV's core business and advocacy.
- Engagement agreements, FRDC participation and other initiatives provide additional revenue above membership and levies.
- Commentary was provided around line items where the quantum differed from last FY.

Events

- Trans-Tasman Lobster Conference
    - Registrations progressing well.
    - Several key international and local speakers have been confirmed.
    - Minister Farell has agreed to attend and open the conference.
    - Sponsorship is still lagging, but time still available.
- World Seafood Congress Bid
    - The Melbourne Convention Bureau (MCB) has approached SIV to gauge interest in collaborating on a bid to host the World Seafood Congress in 2029.
    - The MCB is open to helping bring an international committee member to attend the Trans-Tasman Conference as a pre-bid visit.
    - Follow up meetings to be held with MCB to discuss next steps and a draft budget.

Other Business

- New Food Safety Body
    - New food authority model to be introduced in Victoria, similar to that in NSW. It will manage food safety requirements in seafood, meat, poultry, fruit and veg, etc.
    - Individual food authorities such as Primesafe will no longer exist.
    - Concern was raised over the impact this will have on industry in relation to cost associated with auditing and licencing.
    - Agreement that the independent third-party auditing system needs to be maintained.
    - Concern raised regarding potential changes to refrigeration requirements for transport vehicles adding significant cost and complexity to the supply chain.

Next meeting - August 2025

Roland Roccioletti
Independent Chairperson