Chairperson's Summary
SIV Board Meeting #223 of 29 August 2025
Location: SIV Office / Zoom

SIV Financials

- The Finance Audit Committee reported that SIV remained solvent and in a strong financial position.
- The Board agreed that voluntary membership fees would remain unchanged for the current financial year at $1,500 for full members and $300 for associate members.

Corner Inlet Code of Conduct

- The CEO presented the draft Corner Inlet Code of Conduct.
- The document was well received by the Board and will be finalised/published after feedback from fishers and stakeholders.

Consumer Engagement App - Phase 1

- The CEO sought Board endorsement to engage Dave Clark Design to deliver Phase 1 of the Consumer Engagement App project.
- Some Directors raised concerns about the consumer value proposition and whether an app would achieve sufficient take-up.
- The Board recognised the need for SIV to develop a product or service capable of generating ongoing revenue, and agreed Phase 1 was necessary to properly test the concept.
- The Board agreed to commit $25,000 to Phase 1, funded from SIV's term deposit account.
- Dave Clark Design will commence the discovery phase, including a Board workshop following the AGM on 31 October.
- Further detail will be sought on the consumer value proposition and revenue-generation potential, and a project update will be provided to SIV members and licence holders.

Events & Promotions

- Trans-Tasman Lobster Conference
    - The CEO and attending Directors reported very positive feedback, valuable information sharing and strong networking outcomes.
    - A financial report on the conference will be prepared.
- World Seafood Congress Bid
    - The Melbourne Convention Bureau has approached SIV regarding a joint bid for Melbourne to host the World Seafood Congress in 2030.
    - The Board considered the opportunity a strong platform to showcase Victorian seafood internationally. In-principle support has been provided while indicative budgeting is developed; no legally binding commitment has been made.
    - SIV has also informally floated with Seafood Industry Australia the idea of holding Seafood Directions 2030 in conjunction with the Congress.

- Tidal Festival & Beach Clean-up
    - SIV will again sponsor and participate in the San Remo Tidal Festival on 20-21 September, including an industry information stand and speech at the Blessing of the Fleet.
    - SIV is supporting a Sunday beach clean-up with OceanWatch Australia and the San Remo Fisherman's Co-op, with Coastcare Victoria grant support.
- Victorian Lobster Podcast
    - SIV is contributing to an episode of Sunderland Marine's Alongside podcast focused on the resilience of the Southern Rock Lobster fishery in the face of climate change.
- Victorian Seafood Industry Awards
    - The Board supported holding the Awards in conjunction with Crayfest in Port Campbell on 21 March 2026, as a more casual cocktail-style regional event.

SIV Board Composition Review

- Several Directors will reach election or term-limit points at the 2025 AGM: Luke Anedda and Wayne Dredge are eligible to seek a second term; Tim Rudge and Travis Baulch will step down following completion of their second terms. Travis is deemed to be in his second term after taking over from Helen Burvill mid-way through her term.
- The Board agreed that the CEO will take the feedback given to him and draft recommendations on the industry sectors, skills, knowledge and experience that would complement the current Board.
- The recommendations will be reviewed by the Board before being circulated to members and licence holders with a nomination form for new industry Directors to replace Tim and Travis.

Other Business

- Bass Strait Seafood Protection Alliance Inc
    - Wolfgang Platzer presented on the potential overlap between proposed offshore wind developments in Eastern Victoria and productive commercial fishing grounds.
    - The Alliance has been established to raise awareness of risks to seafood access and to help set expectations for developers in relation to fisheries consultation, environmental assessment and transparency.
- New Food Safety Regulator
    - The CEO updated the Board on industry concerns about the amalgamation of Victorian food safety regulators, particularly the risk of losing seafood-specific expertise in auditing and regulation.
    - Agriculture Victoria has advised that current sector programs will remain unchanged in the short term and that future changes would require industry consultation. The Board agreed SIV should monitor the situation closely.

AGM

- The AGM is scheduled for Friday 31 October 2025.

Next meeting - October 2025

Roland Roccioletti
Independent Chairperson