Chairperson's Summary
SIV Board Meeting #226
05 February 2026

SIV Financials

- The Finance Audit Committee provided an update on SIV's year-to-date financial position, including its review of petty cash, insurance prepayments and annual leave/long service leave entitlements.
- The P&L report is now presented against the January reforecast rather than the original budget.
- The Board discussed the PAYG tax payable shown on the Balance Sheet, with the CEO explaining that a significant portion related to the recent payment of long service leave and other obligations to Joeanne Tripylas' estate.

2026 Victorian State Election Platform

- The CEO presented a working document setting out draft objectives, policy positions, potential alliance partners and a timeline for release.
- The Board generally supported the direction and suggested including improved infrastructure projects and initiatives to enhance employment opportunities for people of diverse backgrounds and work histories in regional coastal communities.
- The Board suggested increasing the proposed budget figure to strengthen the impact of the platform and emphasised the value of community-focused headline announcements for engaging Members of Parliament.
- Member feedback will be sought to sense-check SIV's positions and contribute ideas before the platform is finalised.

Portfolio and Departmental Shift

- The Board discussed the Government announcement that Outdoor Recreation Victoria will become the regulator for fisheries, including commercial fishing and aquaculture, from 1 July 2026.
- There was general support for advocating that commercial fisheries and aquaculture sit within the agriculture portfolio and be managed by Agriculture Victoria, alongside other food production industries.
- The Board acknowledged that structural change would most likely occur after the State Election; a realistic pre-election objective is to secure commitments from both sides of politics to work with industry in 2027 on a model providing greater focus and support.

Consumer App Project

- Dave Clark Design is testing three concepts with consumers: a Real-Time Tracker for finding fresh, seasonal local seafood; Confidence in Cooking; and a game designed to build seafood knowledge and consumption among children.
- SIV is working with selected retailers to recruit seafood consumers for the survey phase and is supporting $25 vouchers for participants who provide input to guide the design of a pilot app.

Next meeting - April 2026

Roland Roccioletti
Independent Chairperson