

Request for Expression of Interest

Sheep Sustainability Framework Steering Group - Chair

September 2021

Introduction

Following nearly 2 years of design and development, Sheep Producers Australia, WoolProducers Australia and the Sustainability Steering Group released the world first Sheep Sustainability Framework (SSF) on 21APR2021. It was well received by industry stakeholders, external stakeholders, and the media.

After two years of impactful and exemplary leadership, inaugural Chair Professor Bruce Allworth will resign from the Sheep Sustainability Framework Steering Group upon the appointment of a new chair.

This document is an open call for expressions of interest for the role of chair.

The Sheep Sustainability Framework

About The Sheep Sustainability Framework

In today's commercial environment, demonstration of sustainable production of sheep meat and wool is critical to secure access to our domestic market, global markets, and capital.

The SSF will monitor and measure industry performance against priorities. This presents evidence to our stakeholders that Australian sheep meat and wool has been produced responsibly to build trust and confidence in the industry. It demonstrates that Australia has a commitment to improvement and a clear path towards more sustainable practices where needed.

The SSF also helps industry better understand its opportunities, challenges, and impacts in key areas such as animal care, the environment, economic resilience, and people and community. It will ensure that Australia can demonstrate that we are a global leader in sustainable sheep production.

Governance

The SSF is an industry owned initiative.

Sheep Producers Australia (SPA) and WoolProducers Australia (WPA) lead the Framework and are represented on the SSF Board.

The Sustainability Steering Group (SSG) reports into the Board. The SSG is responsible for the continuous strengthening and promotion of the SSF in line with the SSF guiding principles and the delivery of the annual update on prioritised industry themes and focus areas. The Sustainability Steering Group (SSG) features strong representation across the wool and meat value chain.

Australian Wool Innovation (AWI) and Meat & Livestock Australia (MLA) are providing funding, together with strategic and secretariat support.

Vision

The SSF vision for a sustainable sheep meat and wool industry is:

Sustainably producing the world's best sheep meat and wool, now and into the future.

SSF Key Objectives 2021-2023

With the foundational work complete, the SSG will need to attend the following SSF objectives:

1. To communicate and integrate the Sheep Sustainability Framework across the value chain.
2. To continuously strengthen the value and potency of the Sheep Sustainability Framework
3. To develop a clearly articulated strategic plan to set the direction, priorities, programming, and activations to support these working objectives.

For more information and to download a copy of the Sheep Sustainability Framework, please visit <https://www.sheepsustainabilityframework.com.au>

The Role of Chair, Sheep Sustainability Steering Group

Role Description

The Chair must provide effective leadership of the Sustainability Steering Group (SSG) and deliver an impactful administration of the SSF and its objectives for the industry as a whole.

In summary, the chair will:

- work with the project team (current Chair and MLA / AWI secretariat) to recommend SSG members to be ratified by the SSF Board
- be the main spokesperson for the Framework.
- work closely with the Secretariat for the Framework
- be primarily responsible for
 - facilitating the effective and productive functioning of the SSG in line with key objectives and guiding principles
 - seeking to ensure that communications and consultations with stakeholders are accurate and effective

Skills

The chair will ideally possess the following:

- a strong working knowledge of the agricultural and commercial aspects of sheep production
- familiarity with the present challenges and opportunities in the sector
- strong connections and respect within the sector
- effective communication skills – articulate, an excellent listener and have proven ability in disseminating and broadcasting information
- experience in chairing

Personal Qualities

A balance of desirable personal traits for the SSG Chair include:

- high personal standards of honesty, reliability, and commitment to the role
- knowing what to prioritise, when to act, and what judgement to make
- tact, diplomacy, and sensitivity
- impartiality and objectivity
- the ability to reconcile opposing views
- the ability to respect confidences
- strong leadership including by example
- the ability to encourage and get the best from all team members

Remuneration

Expenses and sitting fees will be paid in accordance with the MLA Policy on Payment of Expenses and Sitting Fees on MLA Committees.

Commitment

To effectively perform in this position, the estimated time commitment is 16 hours per month. This includes Steering Group meetings, Board meetings, consultative committee workshops, industry forums and discussions with the Secretariat. The term of the role is 2 years.

Review Criteria

Interested applicants are required to provide a summary of no more than 750 words outlining your skills, knowledge, and experience and your motivations for taking on this leadership role.

You should take into consideration the information about the SSF and the role of Chair of the SSG when drafting your response. Where possible, include specific and relevant examples of your work and experience. When you include examples, you should:

- set the context by describing the circumstances where you used the skills or qualities
- detail what your role was
- describe what you did and how you did it
- describe what you achieved – what was the result and how does it relate to the role of Chair of the SSG.

Submissions and Deadline

Please email your expression of interest to Sarah Hyland, Manager - Sheep Sustainability at shyland@mla.com.au by COB Friday 1 October 2021.