



# Join Our Board

### Partners in Ag Incorporated

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Incorporation Number: A0099041A

ABN: 77 516 242 978



12 Davis Avenue, Nhill VIC 3418



www.partnersinag.org.au



adminepartnersinag.org.au

## About

Partners in Ag delivers quality professional training to the agricultural sector across Victoria. We are proud to be a not-for-profit organisation with a passionate and dedicated Board who are all farmers or employed in the agriculture industry. With over 20 years of assisting the industry, we are a highly reputable and professional organisation working to support and upskill farming communities in rural Victoria.

We are a not-for-profit incorporated organisation governed by a volunteer Board of Management (The Board). We support the work of our staff and provide leadership and strategic governance to the organisation.



#### Our Vision

Agricultural businesses and their rural communities are safe, sustainable and profitable for current and future generations.



#### $\square$ Our Purpose

To build confident, profitable, sustainable, and innovative agricultural and rural businesses through professional learning. We are inclusive of the community and business ecosystem of rural and remote areas.



#### History

#### 2001

Partners in Grain was launched as a national organisation in 2001 and was managed across Victoria and Tasmania by a State Reference Group

#### 2017

In 2017 Partners in Grain (Vic) became its own Incorporated Association, changing its name to Partners in Ag to better reflect the organisation's vision - delivering quality training to the entire agriculture sector.

#### 2020

Partners in Ag expanded its services to include third party event management including the Wimmera Machinery Field Days and Gather, Grow & Thrive rural women's event.

## Our Values

Our vision and service delivery will be guided and informed by our values.



Collaboration

We value and recognise the contribution and impact of collaborating with others.



Holistic

We recognise the many integrated parts of the agricultural sector



**Inclusive** 

Our training workshops and events are tailored to meet the needs of rural communities and address diverse topics that are relevant.



Quality

We strive for excellence through quality learning delivered by professional presenters with industry expertise.



We develop and deliver education and professional development opportunities to meet identified skills gaps in rural and remote communities.





### Board Overview



#### **Key Details**

Meeting Schedule

100% Online Meetings 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of Month No Meeting in December

In-Person Attendance

Annual Face-to-Face Planning Day

Partners in Ag is governed by a board of farmers and industry stakeholders. They have a strong interest in ensuring quality, interactive workshops that would not otherwise be available, are delivered locally.

The day-to-day operations are led by the Executive Officer (EO). The Board is responsible for setting the direction of the organisation, and monitoring its performance including both financial and targeted training objectives.

Board Members are encouraged to utilise networking opportunities to advocate on behalf of Partners in Ag for funding grants and to develop collaborative opportunities where appropriate. There are opportunities to represent our organisation on various industry sub-committees.

This is an extraordinary opportunity for an individual who is passionate about education and training to be invited onto the Board. You should have a track record of agricultural networks and a passion to improve the professional learning opportunities for the Agricultural sectors of Victoria.

Service on Partners in Ag's Board is without remuneration, except for reimbursement of approved expenses related to Board Directors' duties.

## Our Impact

We pride ourselves on delivering meaningful education and professional development opportunities where participants can learn, practice and apply skills relevant to their business.



- Tailored to demographic, commodity, location, topic
- Workshop numbers kept small (10-30) to ensure genuine engagement, networking and shared learning
- Provides social connection and networking
- Practical displays and presentations



**Events** 

- Increasing awareness of agriculture to primary and secondary schools
- Promoting careers in agriculture to school students
- Rural women's events education and connection
- Supporting other stakeholders in event management and promotion



- Flexible learning options in your own time, from home
- Lifetime access
- Self-paced
- Additional, relevant resources and links included

#### **Popular Topics & Events**

#### **Farm Safety**

- Staff Safety Induction
- Farm Managers
- Psychological Safety
- Pre-Harvest Safety
- Farm Safety Walk

#### **Essential Skills**

- Succession Planning
- Paperless Office
- Communicating for Success

#### **Technical Skills**

- Spray Application
- Ag Tech / Digital Farms
- Carbon / Soil Management

#### **Wimmera Machinery Field Days**

- 2020, 2023, 2024, 2025
- Ag Ed Quest fact finding mission
- Careers in Ag panel discussion

#### **Gather, Grow & Thrive**

- 2022, 2023 sold out events
- Blending education and social connection for rural women

## About You

There are multiple positions currently vacant on the Partners in Ag Board.

We're looking for passionate rural advocates who are driven by a deep respect for the land and a belief in the transformative power of knowledge. You have the opportunity to bring both head and heart to the table—balancing strategic acumen with lived experience and a genuine care for the people who grow our future.

With strong governance capabilities (or a willing to learn), you will be a champion of innovation in education, ensuring programs remain practical, inclusive, and future-focused. Above all, you are a values-led leader who listens, inspires, and unites, committed to empowering the people of agricultural through opportunity, connection, and purpose.



#### **Desired Skills and Experience**



Financial Management



Risk Management



Marketing / Communications



Agriculture



Education



Law



Farmer or from farming background



Working in agriculture-related industry/field



Live and/or work in regional or rural Victoria



Board experience not neccessary



Strong networks across regional Victoria

#### Do you have a passion for:



Continuous learning and rural education opportunities



Contributing to improved farm practices



Supporting innovation and growth in agriculture



Promoting careers and opportunities in agriculture



Big picture thinking that contributes to genuine change for farmers

## Find Out More

We're ready to answer any questions you have about joining our Board. Contact us today to learn more about Partners in Ag.





#### **Partners in Ag**

Katherine Colbert, Executive Officer



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www.partnersinag.org.au



adminepartnersinag.org.au





Appendix number:	17a Board Director Position Description		
Drafted by:	Katherine Colbert	Last Reviewed:	May 2024
Responsible person:	Chair	Approved by Board:	26 August 2024
Scheduled review date:		May 2027	

#### 1. Partners in Ag

For more information about Partners in Ag, please visit Partners in Ag website at <a href="https://partnersinag.org.au">https://partnersinag.org.au</a>.

#### 2. Position

The Board supports the work of Partners in Ag and provides mission-based leadership and strategic governance.

While day-to-day operations are led by the Partners in Ag Chief Executive Officer (EO), the Board is responsible for setting the direction of the organization, and the appropriate involvement of the Board is both critical and expected.

#### 3. Specific Board Director responsibilities include:

#### Leadership, governance and oversight

- Serving as a trusted advisor to the EO as they develop and implement the Partners in Ag strategic plan.
- Reviewing outcomes and measures created by Partners in Ag for evaluating its impact, and regularly measuring its performance and effectiveness using those measures; reviewing agenda and supporting materials prior to Board and committee meetings.
- Approving the Partners in Ag annual budget, audit reports, and material business decisions; being informed of, and meeting all, legal and fiduciary responsibilities
- Contributing to an annual performance evaluation of the EO
- Assisting the EO and Board chair in identifying and recruiting other Board Directors
- Partnering with the EO and other Board Directors to ensure that Board resolutions are carried out
- Serving on committees or task forces and taking on special assignments



- Representing Partners in Ag to stakeholders; acting as an ambassador for the organization
- Ensuring Partners in Ag's commitment to a diverse Board and staff.

#### 4. Board participation

Board meetings will be held monthly and Committee meetings will be held as required.

#### 5. Qualifications

This is an extraordinary opportunity for an individual who is passionate about the Partners in Ag mission and Vision, and who has a track record of agricultural networks and a passion to improve the professional learning opportunities for the Agricultural sectors of Victoria. Ideally, candidates will have the following qualifications:

- Extensive professional experience in business, education or agriculture
- Personal qualities of integrity, credibility, and a passion for improving the lives of Partners in Ag's beneficiaries

Service on Partners in Ag's Board is without remuneration, except for administrative support, and reimbursement of approved expenses related to Board Directors' duties.



Appendix number:	17b Board Director Selection Criteria		
Drafted by:	Katherine Colbert	Last Reviewed:	May 2024
Responsible person:	Chair	Approved by Board:	26 August 2024
Scheduled review date:		May 2027	

#### 1. Partners in Ag's Vision:

Agricultural businesses and their rural communities are safe, sustainable and profitable for current and future generations through education.

#### 2. Board Selection Criteria

The Board of Partners in Ag comprises **up to nine (9)** members each of whom is elected based on a set of skills deemed important by the Board. These skills requirements will change as the requirements of Partners in Ag change. The specific skills and qualifications being sought currently are as set out in section B below. General skills and experience requirements are set out in section A.

#### a. General Skills and Experience

Partners in Ag is seeking members of the Board who have:

- Experience in Governance, or an understanding of the role of a Board and good Governance
- Commitment to the Partners in Ag Mission
- Good Communication Skills
- Collaborative Leadership style
- Strategic thinking
- Commitment to Impartial Decision-Making
- Ability to participate in constructive discussions
- Good reputation and a record of Integrity

#### b. Specific Skills and Qualifications

Partners in Ag is seeking members of the Board who:

- work in an Agricultural business in Victoria
- work as an Agricultural Consultant or provide an Agricultural support service in Victoria
- understand the professional learning needs of the Agricultural sector in Victoria
- have financial skills and/or an accounting qualification



Appendix number:	17c Board Expression of Interest Process		
Drafted by:	Katherine Colbert	Last Reviewed:	May 2024
Responsible person:	Chair	Approved by Board:	26 August 2024
Scheduled review date:		May 2027	

#### 1. Expression of Interest Procedure:

When a Board vacancy arises, the position may be filled by invitation or application and interview. It is Partners in Ag policy to endeavor to secure Board Directors with an appropriate mix of knowledge, experience, geographic spread, and skills to provide the necessary breadth and depth of knowledge, experience and skills to meet the Board's responsibilities and objectives.

Partners in Ag seeks Board Directors who can bring the following general skills and experience (A) and a specific skill or qualification (B):

#### a. General Skills and Experience

- Experience in Governance, or an understanding of the role of a Board and of Governance
- Commitment to the Partners in Ag Mission
- Good Communication Skills
- Collaborative Leadership Ability
- Commitment to Impartial Decision-Making
- Availability for Constructive Engagement
- Good reputation and a record of Integrity

#### b. Specific Skills and Qualifications

- work in an Agricultural business in Victoria.
- work as an Agricultural Consultant or provide an Agricultural support service in Victoria.
- understand the professional learning needs of the Agricultural sector in Victoria.
- have financial skills and/or an accounting qualification

Please submit your written application addressing these selection criteria, your CV and two (2) referees to the Partners in Ag Executive Officer at eo@partnersinag.org.au.

Your application will be considered when the next Board vacancy arises, and the Board may invite you for an interview.

Successful applicants will be invited to continue the nomination process to join the Partners in Ag Board.



Appendix number:	17d Board Director Nomination Form		
Drafted by:	Katherine Colbert	Last Reviewed:	May 2024
Responsible person:	Chair	Approved by Board:	26 August 2024
Scheduled review date:		May 2027	

Name	
Postal Address	
Phone	
Email Address	
ASIC Director	
ID	

	nominate to serve
on the Partners in Ag Board for the next two ye	ears.

I agree to always make decisions in the best interest of Partners in Ag and declare any conflicts of interest.

I agree to abide by the Rules of Association and policies adopted by Partners in Ag.

I bring the following skills to the Partners in Ag Board. (Please tick all that apply)

#### A. General Skills and Experience

- Experience in Governance, or an understanding of the role of a Board and of Governance
- Commitment to the Partners in Ag Mission
- Good Communication Skills
- Collaborative Leadership Ability
- Commitment to Impartial Decision-Making
- Availability for Constructive Engagement
- Good reputation and a record of Integrity

#### **B. Specific Skills and Qualifications**

work in an Agricultural business in Victoria



- work as an Agricultural Consultant or provide an Agricultural support service in Victoria
- understand the professional learning needs of the Agricultural sector in Victoria
- have financial skills and/or an accounting qualification

I have submitted an updated CV (including Referees) to the Partners in Ag Executive Officer.

I understand that my nomination will be voted on and position confirmed at the Annual General Meeting unless otherwise stated.

I understand that I can resign in writing to the Chair at any time.

Re-nomination for a subsequent term is permitted.

Signed:	Date: