

18 October, 2019

Dear Shareholder,

At the Annual General Meeting of Australian Wool Innovation (AWI) on 22 November 2019 three Directors will be appointed as part of the regular turnover of the board.

This year there are eight candidates nominating for election, including two incumbent directors, Mr Walter Merriman and Mr David Webster, and new nominee, Dr Michelle Humphries. **Mr Merriman, Mr Webster and Dr Humphries have all been recommended to shareholders by the independent AWI Board Nomination Committee as having the optimal skills and experience to serve on the board.**

This year's AWI Director election is important because there are some significant issues that will be in play for the next few years. These include a reduced supply of wool, constraints on levy income for the company and uncertain global economics. **The company will require a team with deep sector knowledge, long-term business experience, a strong track-record with AWI and an ability to understand the cycles of the wool economy.**

Nonetheless, the next few years will also be a time of opportunity and one for exploration of new ideas that will improve the productivity of our sheep, tackle issues of sheep health and welfare and improve the marketability of wool. For this, the company will benefit from modern scientific thinking and a fresh approach to strategy.

It is imperative that the industry at large and the rights of woolgrowers are protected. All three of us have a **strong belief in the importance of maintaining the practice of Mulesing for best practice animal welfare and industry viability** until a suitable alternative is available. Research will need to continue to explore ways to make sheep less susceptible to fly-strike and make the fly less able to harm sheep. It is time for novel ideas in this area of sheep science whilst simultaneously defending the ability of growers to care for their sheep with the best current practices.

We urge you to participate in the upcoming AWI Board Election. By voting for Mr Merriman, Mr Webster and Dr Humphries, you will put together a team with a combination of wise experience and new thinking. It is a combination that will provide the skills which are necessary to complement the board with the required experience, knowledge and vision that will take the wool industry and AWI forward into a positive future.

As an individual woolgrower, and as part of the Australian Merino industry, you are important to us. That is why we are committed to ensuring your future in a vibrant and profitable wool industry.

Yours sincerely,

Wal Merriman



David Webster



Michelle Humphries

