Dear Fellow Woolgrower,

We are writing to you to seek your support for the AWI board elections next month on November 19 in a joint ticket for Michael Field and Steven Read. We have very similar ideals, complementary skills and bring diversity to the current thinking and experience of the board. There are other candidates running for election, and we respectively ask that you divert your voting entitlements away from them, and support Michael Field, Steven Read as new Directors and Don Macdonald who is standing for re-election.

Principally we have offered ourselves as candidates for the election to the AWI board to:

- Oversee good corporate governance and push for the finalisation of recommendations in the 2018 Ernst and Young report.
- Work closely with our major financial contributor, the Federal Government along with re-building the bridges with both the Domestic and International wool supply chain companies and other research entities such as MLA, State Departments of AG, CSIRO, AWEX and Universities.
- Ensure any proposed research projects are rigorously assessed to ensure they help woolgrower shareholders and provide major economic and animal welfare benefits;
- Push for increased and expanded funding for tackling the current shearer and shed hand staff shortages;
- Maintain the current wool levy at 1.5% and increase it in a future Woolpoll, once woolgrowers see increases in productivity, demand for our product and higher prices, and directors have been able to demonstrate AWI is achieving its objectives.
- AWI is NOT the industry spokesman, it is a Research and Development Corporation (RDC). It needs to embrace and adopt the Wool 2030 plan, and encourage and provide the information to wool producers to follow the recently launched Sheep Sustainability Framework metric to replace, reduce and refine painful animal husbandry practices. In other words, we should urge and provide the know how to eventually phase out mulesing.
- Reinstate The Information Nuclear Flock (INF) to improve the productivity of both Merino meat and wool traits easily, cheaply and make it available to growers.
- Investigate how to best approach the issue of methane emissions in sheep and becoming carbon neutral along with other livestock industries.
- Support the Federal Government’s goal of having a $100 billion agricultural industry by 2030 by continually improving the productivity of our flocks.
- Use Steven Read’s manufacturing and international supply chain knowledge to look for diversification in other markets and move away from our reliance on almost a single destination market for early stage processing while looking to supporting innovation in processing to reduce the cost of converting wool fibre into fabric.
- Continue to support organisations encouraging younger industry engagement through grower groups such as Hay Inc and MerinoLink.
- Push for funding of MerinoSelect currently supported by MLA to be shared with AWI and simplify how it is reported, so the uptake of its use can be easily understood and profit detractors can be reduced or removed.
- Encourage all levy payers, to become registered shareholders with voting entitlements, to allow them all to have a say in the direction of the industry.
- Continue supporting current recommendation for director terms to be capped at 10 years and Woolpoll being held every five years, to align it more with other research and development corporations.

If elected as directors Michael and Steven will be working as hard as possible to help AWI become one of the best R&D and marketing organisations in Australia and improve the profits of our woolgrower shareholders and downstream users and do so in a positive manner.

VOTE
MICHAEL FIELD, STEVEN READ & DON MACDONALD
DIRECT YOUR PROXY TO MICHAEL FIELD OR STEVE READ
TO CAP DIRECTORS TERM TO 10 YEARS

Michael Field
Steven Read

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