



11th March 2020

MEDIA RELEASE

At the February 2020 FWDV Board meeting the resignation of our President, Michael Martin, was received. Michael is a member of the TLCCV. He had been with the Board nearly seven years, first as an ordinary Board member, then Vice President and recently as President. This period of time has seen our association strengthen its position as an effective peak body, advocating for the needs of our members and growing our relationship with our land managers. We offer Michael our grateful, hearty thanks for his work and wish him and his wife Diane all the very best for their newfound freedom to travel and go four-wheel driving across this great land of ours.

Subsequently, at the March 2020 Board meeting, with unanimous approval, Colin Oates was appointed the new President of our Association. Colin was elected to the Board of FWDV in 2012 and served a two year term. After a break he was re-elected in 2017, served a further year as a Board member before being elected Vice President in 2018. The position of Vice President is now vacant.

Colin is a foundation member of the Offpeak 4WD Club, one of our association's smaller clubs, formed in 2007. In 2008 he became President of his club, a role he held for seven years. During that time, he became his club's FWDV delegate where he learnt the benefits of being affiliated with FWDV.

In 2015 he took up the role of FWDV Regional Representative for the Murrindindi district (DELWP) and the Upper Goulburn region (Parks Victoria). This is a relationship building liaison role with the rangers, local government, tourism operators and promoters. It enables our club members to participate seamlessly as volunteers with the appropriate land managers.

Recently, Colin has become one of FWDV's two representatives on the Four Wheel Drive Ministerial Advisory Committee. The role of this group is to advise the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change, the Honourable Lily D'Ambrosio, about four wheel driving in Victoria and how this legitimate leisure and tourism activity can be promoted and participated in safely, while sustaining our environment.

FOUR WHEEL DRIVE VICTORIA

Victoria Association of Four Wheel Drive Clubs Inc.

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ABN 40 891 301 368 ASSN No: A0013539A RTO 21605

Driving in a sustainable environment



Colin sees a number of challenges facing our Association as we look towards the future and how we will continue to enjoy four wheel driving in Victoria. Keeping tracks open yet sustaining the environment for the enjoyment of future generations is a big challenge which will require much collaborative work between our Association and Victoria's land managers. Likewise, becoming self-sustaining will be a challenge for our organisation, as will improving communication with our members and the general public.

Sincerely yours,

Wayne Hevey

Chief Executive Officer

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