

Ministerial Boating Round Table

Expression of Interest: 11-25 November 2020

Information for Applicants

Background

The Victorian Government is committed to improving the recreational boating experience. This includes implementing a series of commitments including:

- Allocate the proceeds of collected recreational marine licence and boat registration fees to improving boating facilities and safety;
- Establish a Better Boating Fund to facilitate boating facility upgrades and maintenance of Victoria's boating infrastructure;
- Abolish boat ramp parking and launching fees at Victorian Ramps;
- Deliver upgrades and important maintenance at Mordialloc, Queenscliff, Point Richards, Hastings, Rhyll and Cowes Jetty;
- Review the management of boat ramps in Port Phillip and Western Port a view to establishing a dedicated boating infrastructure authority; and
- Establish eight new casual berths for public use across Port Phillip.

Implementation of these initiatives is being managed through the Department of Transport. However, through the establishment of a dedicated boating portfolio, it has been recognised that more broad boating reforms are needed to improve the boating experience, which will be identified through the development of a Victorian Recreational Boating Strategy.

In recognition of the significance of undertaking recreational boating reforms and the importance of engaging with stakeholders to ensure the aspirations, priorities and concerns of stakeholders are understood and considered, particularly through the development of the Boating Strategy, the Minister for Fishing and Boating, with the Department of Transport, is establishing a Ministerial Boating Round Table.

Purpose

The primary purpose of the Ministerial Boating Round Table is to involve representatives of diverse participants of the boating community to inform the development of a Victorian Recreational Boating Strategy through a co-design process.

It is an opportunity for these representatives to share their knowledge, skills and experience to assist the Minister and Department with identifying priorities for Boating Strategy.

Role and function

The Ministerial Boating Round Table provides an opportunity for recreational boating industry stakeholders to inform and co-design a recreational boating strategy, including identifying future needs and priorities.

The functions of the Round Table are to:

- Provide a forum for advice and discussion associated with key issues relating to boating reforms to be identified through a Victorian Boating Strategy; and
- Provide for the opportunity to inform the progression of a boating strategy that identifies key boating priorities.

Members of the Ministerial Boating Round Table will not have decision making powers but will have the opportunity through the Round Table to present their views and opinions to the Minister for Fishing and Boating, and the Department of Transport, for consideration.

Membership

Membership of the Ministerial Boating Round Table will be determined based on knowledge of the recreational boating sector, recognition amongst the recreational boating community as valued contributors, willingness to engage constructively and objectively and also the ability to embrace a strategic perspective and work collaboratively with the Minister for Fishing and Boating, other recreational boating stakeholders and the Department of Transport to improve recreational boating in Victoria through identified reforms.

Applicants should have knowledge of, or experience, in the following:

- Needs of the boating community
- Boating facility management
- Boating Safety and Education (including Marine Search and Rescue)
- Strategic planning in the marine/reservoir/river environment
- Awareness of the challenges facing Victorian boating
- Waterway management

Responsibility of members

Members will be expected to:

- Attend meetings in person and participate in discussions
- Work collaboratively and understand that the overall objectives for boating reform are of greater strategic importance than individual interests or concerns
- Sign-up to a confidentiality deed and respect the confidentiality of information being provided
- Discuss and/or distribute relevant non-confidential information within the community and/or your networks
- Present your views and issues, or of the organisation or community you represent
- Allow open discussion to occur and encourage a number of views to be presented
- Respect the right of all members to make comments and have different opinions
- Refer all media enquiries to the Department of Transport

Frequency of meetings and location

Meetings of the Ministerial Boating Round Table will be held on a six weekly to bi-monthly basis with the frequency to be reviewed as required until such time that the Boating Strategy has been developed.

Pending COVID requirements, meetings will be held at 1 Spring Street Melbourne (or virtually if required)

Term of involvement & Remuneration

The Ministerial Boating Round Table has been established for the planning and development of a Recreational Boating Strategy.

Membership of the Round Table is voluntary. No remuneration, sitting fees or reimbursement of expenses will apply.

Application process

To apply, applicants must complete the Expression of Interest Form on the Department of Transport [Get Involved engagement platform](#), which addresses the following:

1. **Tell us briefly about yourself and your experience in recreational boating**
2. **What organisation, if any, do you represent (as it relates to recreational boating)**
3. **Are you located in Metropolitan Melbourne or regional Victoria?**
4. **Have you previously held membership of a Ministerial or Government Committee or working Group?**
5. **Can you briefly tell us what you think are the challenges facing boating in Victoria?**
6. **What skills, experience or knowledge do you have that will contribute to the development of the Recreational Boating Strategy, particularly in one or more of the following:**
 - a. *Needs of the boating community*
 - b. *Boating facility management*
 - c. *Boating Safety and Education (including Marine Search and Rescue)*
 - d. *Strategic planning in the marine/reservoir/river environment*
 - e. *Awareness of the challenges facing Victorian boating*
 - f. *Universal access needs (all-abilities access) for boaters*
 - g. *Waterway management*

Please note that late applications will not be considered. By applying, you certify that your answers are true and complete to the best of your knowledge.

Evaluation Process

After the closing date, applications will be reviewed and assessed to ensure that there is sufficient representation of all aspects of the recreational boating system. This will include the following:

- 1) Holistic representation of experience and knowledge in recreational boating to ensure capacity across the following:
 - a. *Needs of the boating community*
 - b. *Boating facility management*
 - c. *Boating Safety and Education (including Marine Search and Rescue)*
 - d. *Strategic planning in the marine/reservoir/river environment*

- e. *Awareness of the challenges facing Victorian boating*
- f. *Universal access needs (all-abilities access) for boaters*
- g. *Waterway management*

- 2) Previous representative experience in Ministerial or Government committees or working groups
- 3) Representation of metropolitan and regional members
- 4) Ability to support the Minister for Fishing and Boating and the Department of Transport, and work collaboratively to co-design a Strategy
- 5) Users of boating facilities

All applicants will be contacted by email as soon as possible once an outcome has been reached.

For applicants who are unsuccessful, it should be noted that the Department of Transport will also consult the broader boating community about the Victorian Recreational Boating Strategy to ensure all boaters have say in its development. Public consultation will begin in the first half of 2021.

Confidentiality and privacy

The selection process and all matters relating to it are treated in the strictest confidence. Personal information received during the selection process will be managed in accordance with the *Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014* and the DoT Privacy Policy.

How to apply

Applications close on Wednesday 25th November 2020 at 23:59pm

To apply, applicants must complete the Expression of Interest Form on the Department of Transport [Get Involved engagement platform](#).

For further information please contact community@transport.vic.gov.au