Media Release



17 August 2021

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

Tasmanians passionate about agriculture are invited to apply for new scholarships offered by Primary Employers Tasmania and the Tasmanian pork industry to enhance personal development and achieve best practice.

Two Agri Development Scholarships – each valued at \$5000 – will be offered each year, enabling successful applicants to attend a conference or event, participate in training, facilitate the attendance of a guest speaker at a primary industries function in Tasmania or organise an agricultural event in the State.

Primary Employers Tasmania President Felicity Richards said the scholarships aimed to encourage individuals to reach their full potential and achieve best practice in the Tasmanian agricultural sector through exposure to rural leaders at conferences and events and in education.

"It is vitally important that those working in our agricultural industries are able to access the latest technology, innovation and opportunities to ensure continuous learning and improvement," Ms Richards said.

"These scholarships will ensure attending a national conference or signing up for further education or organising an agricultural event in Tasmania is more affordable, and that the outcomes can be shared with the wider industry."

Ms Richards said many farmers and others in the agricultural sector had been unable to access education and training due to their remote locations, and COVID had prevented others from travelling to conferences or organising events in Tasmania.

Primary Employers Tasmania previously offered an Empower the Employer scholarship, but decided to broaden the criteria by removing age restrictions, opening applications to those beyond the organisation's membership and doubling the value.

Tasmanian pork industry spokesman Geoff Terry said he was delighted to partner with Primary Employers Tasmania to inspire and advance the rural sector.

"We know that not everyone working in agriculture has the same opportunities," Mr Terry said.

"We want to help those who need support to further their education and management skills so that our agricultural entrepreneurs and workforce can continue to grow and take advantage of the opportunities developing for agriculture in Tasmania."

The scholarships are open to Tasmanians aged 16 or over with a passion for agriculture.

The first Agri Development Scholarship opens today and closes on 31 October 2021. The next scholarship will close on 31 March 2022.

Application forms are available online from today at www.primaryemployers.com.au.