

## **IMPORTED MOTOR VEHICLE INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION**

### **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:**

### **NATIONAL EXECUTIVE- CHAIRMEN'S REPORT 2019-2020**

2020 has become a year of profound change across our Industry, our nation, and our Association.

At our last Annual General Meeting held in 2019, we confirmed that VIA required either significant restructuring, an injection of Supporter funding, or a combination of both, in order to ensure survival beyond 2020. We sought the support of our Members to begin the process of restructure, against the uncertainty of a Government with support partner ideology running at times against the principles of our business, the looming final step-change of mandatory ESC inclusion, and the on-going management of biosecurity risks and strategic management of our borders.

Having canvassed VIA's corporate supporters and Members for solutions to the on-going issue of funding the essential functions of the Association, National Executive set about forming and placing in motion a plan to re-structure the Governance and funding of VIA, accepting that the future would see an increased role to be played by the majority of financial supporters towards the direction and Board management.

In essence, the Governance model that gave VIA direction and Member accountability needed to change to suit the needs of 2020 and beyond.

On-going discussions between National Executive and a working group of the Association supporters determined the necessary changes to the structure and Constitution. This resulted in the Special General Meeting held in March, to enable National Executive to seek a vote by Members to accept this new framework and the changes in representation it would create.

We are pleased to say that this Annual General Meeting provides for this shift in the Governance and funding models, to enable not only the on-going financial stability required to see the Association in to the next decade, but strong, representative management through the changes voted upon at the Special General Meeting.

At this Annual General Meeting, the current National Executive of VIA will step down, along with the regional structure and Member vote-based Governance.

It will be replaced by the newly created Council, with representation formed by a series of tier steps dependent upon a combination of financial contribution and in-tier Member selection. Although the top two Tiers make up a significant proportion of Council seats by way of contribution levels, ordinary Members retain the ability for representation via at least four allocated seats at current Membership levels, to be voted upon at this Annual General Meeting.

While the role of the Council will be to determine the policy direction of VIA, the new Board of Directors, drawn from the sitting Council members following the AGM, will take on the direct role of Governance, responsible for the financial and legal management of the

Association and member funds, and ultimately, direction and guidance to the Chief Executive and staff of VIA.

While change is always met with a degree of trepidation given the relative success of the model now being replaced, National Executive has worked to ensure such change is made with only the best interests of the Industry and Association to continue to move forward.

What is certain, is that the environment we now face nationally and globally is a very different one to that anticipated but twelve short months ago, and that not only must VIA be financially secure to continue operation in these extraordinary times, but it will surely be a critical force to ensure the fight to allow the continued access to the New Zealand market of quality used vehicles from other global jurisdictions.

We have confidence that the structure we have collectively built will serve the interests of the Association Members large and small, in to this new phase of Industry advocacy.

As your North and South Island Chairmen up to the Annual General Meeting, we have made the decision to retire from our involvement in the governance of VIA and step away to provide for fresh faces to the table.

Being involved at a Chairman level has been an absolute privilege for us both, never taken for granted, and always with only the best outcomes possible for our Members at the heart of every decision we have made.

We would like to place on record our thanks to both the outgoing National Executive members present and past, whose legacy has been the shaping of the highly respected and professional lobbying and advocacy representative Association of today. These are roles that have demanded significant time and energy, often days away from businesses and family, in a largely unseen and thankless role to provide on-going Governance at times of crisis.

It is also important that we record our sincere thanks and appreciation to the team behind the VIA brand- David Vinsen, Malcolm Yorston, Kit Wilkerson and Bev Purchase. As an Association we should all feel proud to have people of such calibre and commitment working “behind the scenes” to ensure that you- our Members- have a viable, strong business, with a future assured. At the heart of VIA are people- the one real “asset” that your Membership derives real value from, every day that you can open the doors to your business and buy, import, sell, clean, inspect, ship, transport, verify, comply, prepare, finance, insure, wholesale and retail.

Thank-you for the honour of being able to represent you as your National Executive Chairmen, and we look forward to seeing the Association continue in strength for the years beyond.

Graeme Macdonald, North Island Chairman

Lloyd Wilson, South Island Chairman

National Executive, VIA Imported Motor Vehicle Industry Association.