

MEDIA RELEASE

NEW PREMIER AWARD TO RECOGNISE GIPPSLAND FEMALE AGRIBUSINESS LEADERS

April 1, 2020 – for immediate release

Entries are open for the Food & Fibre Gippsland Excellence in Agribusiness Awards, with an expansion in the number of categories, and the introduction of a new premier award.

The Female Agribusiness Leader of the Year Award has been added to the list, with generous sponsorship from Leadership Victoria providing the opportunity for the winner to take part in their Women's Leadership Program.

This highly regarded Program provides participants with the skills, confidence and network to lead others and be a change maker in their organisation or community.

Leadership Victoria's Business Development and Marketing Manager, Nicole Murphy says they're delighted to be supporting the Awards program.

"It's a great way for us to really show our commitment and our passion for supporting women, and the Awards really speak to our values in a very practical way "

"Our vision is for a better world where everyone is able to exercise purposeful leadership and contribute to a sustainable future, and we're very much looking forward to welcoming the winner into our program where her enthusiasm and all her life experience will be a wonderful addition to all the other fabulous women participating "she said.

The prize is valued at six thousand dollars, with the winner being recognised for her leadership, courage, passion and foresight, whilst contributing to the agribusiness industry and the region.

Excellence Awards Program Manager Kate Gunn is confident this new category will attract an impressive and diverse range of entries from across the entire region.

"There are so many amazing women in the agribusiness sector, so we really encourage them to put themselves in the spotlight, be recognised and rewarded for what they are achieving. We're looking forward to telling their stories throughout the entry process and in the lead up to the winner being announced" she said.

The entry process is an easy online application via the Food & Fibre Gippsland website – www.foodandfibregippsland.com.au

There are 13 "excellence" categories including Service to the Food and Fibre Industry, Sustainability, Workforce Capability, Entrepreneurship, Excellence in the Fibre Industry, Excellence in Innovation, Excellence in Exporting, Excellence in Safety, Excellence in Collaborative Partnerships, Excellence in Research and Development and Excellence in Adaption to Change. There are two awards for Excellence in Food & Drink Manufacturing - one for businesses with less than 10 employees, and one for those who employ more than 10 people.

As well as the new Gippsland Female Agribusiness Leader of the year, the premier awards also include the Gippsland Agribusiness of the Year and Young Agribusiness Leader of the Year.

Entries close on May 21st, with judging arrangements currently being planned to comply with COVID-19 restrictions and directives that are highly likely to still be in place.

FOR MORE INFORMATION – PLEASE CONTACT JODY O'BRIEN 0416 222 899

Pic attached: Awards Program Manager – Kate Gunn