

## **Expression of Interest**

### **National Livestock Genetics Consortium**

#### **Independent Chair**

**Date:** 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2024

**MLA Program:** Livestock Genetics

#### **1. Purpose**

Meat & Livestock Australia is seeking expressions of interest from individuals for the role of an Independent Chair of the National Livestock Genetics Consortium.

#### **2. Relevant and necessary background**

The National Livestock Genetics Consortium (NLGC) is a skills-based taskforce, established in 2016 by MLA. The NLGC provides direction and support to increase collaboration, transparency, communication and investment in livestock genetics research, development and adoption (RD&A) for the benefit of Australian red meat producers. The primary aim of the NLGC is, through strategic research investments, to increase the rate of genetic progress for traits that drive value chain productivity & sustainability in the sheep and beef industries.

The outcomes of the [NLGC 2030 Strategic plan](#) are:

- An industry improvement of 2% in the rate of genetic gain annually through access to world leading genetic/genomic technologies
- Genetics is an established long-term enabler for achieving productivity and sustainability goals
- Genetic tools addressing sustainability outcomes are available to users across the supply chain
- Data platforms that enable genetic data to be leveraged in R&D to underpin continual data capture are established.

These will be achieved through supporting RD&A investments that align to one of the strategic pillars outlined in the NLGC plan:

- Enabling transparent and flexible investment
- Continuous improvement of world leading genetic tools
- Improved social, economic and environmental outcomes
- Delivering direct impact of genetic investment to industry through adoption
- Facilitating bold, collaborative and impactful R&D

### **3. Role of the Chair, NLGC**

The Chair must provide effective leadership of the NLGC and deliver an impactful administration of the Taskforce and its objectives. In summary, the Chair will:

- facilitate the effective and productive functioning of the NLGC
- facilitate discussions and decision making to achieve the goals of the NLGC,
- work closely with the executive officer for the NLGC including providing input into the strategic direction, review of NLGC Terms of Reference (including positions) and meeting agendas.

#### ***Skills***

The chair will ideally possess the following:

- Experience in chairing meetings and strong governance skills
- Facilitate communications and discussions between members and ensure that each member is making a significant contribution
- The ability to remain impartial and objective
- The ability to synthesise various and at times conflicting opinions
- a strong working knowledge of the functions of Research Development Corporations
- familiarity with the present challenges and opportunities in the beef and sheepmeat sector, with livestock genetics knowledge preferred but not required.

#### ***Personal Qualities***

A balance of desirable personal traits include:

- high personal standards of honesty, reliability, and commitment to the role
- knowing what to prioritise, when to act, and what judgement to make
- tact, diplomacy, and sensitivity
- the ability to reconcile opposing views
- the ability to respect confidences
- strong leadership including by example.

#### ***Remuneration***

Expenses and sitting fees will be paid in accordance with the [MLA Policy on Payment of Expenses and Sitting Fees](#) on MLA Committees.

#### ***Commitment***

To effectively perform in this position, the estimated time commitment is approx. 10 days per year, in addition to associated travel. This includes attending three National Livestock Genetics Consortium meetings (a duration of two half days depending on agenda), preparation and discussions with the executive officer and reviewing projects and other information outside of this where required. The term of the role is three years, with the ability to re-apply for an additional three-year term.

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### ***Review Criteria***

Applicants are required to provide both a **Cover Letter** and **Resume**.

The cover letter is required to be a summary outlining your skills, knowledge and experience, and your motivations for taking on this leadership role.

Please respond to the following items/questions in your cover letter by including them and responding directly:

- What is your previous experience as a chair?
- What has your involvement in the livestock industry been to date?
- How do your skills and qualities from previous experience relate to the role of the chair of the NLGC?
- Outline examples of the key skills listed below and when you have utilized these:
  - Facilitate communications and discussions between members and ensure that each member is making a significant contribution
  - The ability to remain impartial and objective
  - The ability to synthesise various and at times conflicting opinions

### ***Eligibility***

You must not be a current or past employee of Meat and Livestock Australia within the last 24 months. You must declare any conflict of interest if you are employed by an organisation that is currently involved (Project Lead or Sub-Contractor) in any Livestock Genetics Research projects with MLA funding.

For further information on the role of Taskforce members please refer to the [NLGC Taskforce Terms of Reference](#).

### **Submissions**

Applicants should submit both a cover letter and CV to Sarah Day ([livestockgenetics@mla.com.au](mailto:livestockgenetics@mla.com.au)) by **COB 13<sup>th</sup> December 2024**.