

The Hon Gayle Tierney MP Minister for Skills and TAFE Minister for Water



Thursday, 13 February 2025

PUT YOUR HAND UP TO SUPPORT THE GIPPSLAND LAKES

The Gippsland Lakes Coordinating Committee is recruiting community members to help coordinate projects, activities and community engagement to improve the health of the Gippsland Lakes for locals and visitors to enjoy.

Minister for Water Gayle Tierney today announced the opening of expressions of interest for community positions on the Gippsland Lakes Coordinating Committee, with five positions open for community members with a passion for the Gippsland Lakes.

The committee will oversee Allan Labor Government investment of \$6 million to continue improving the health of the Lakes through management, improving facilities and community engagement.

This work is vital for ensuring the Gippsland Lakes remain a vibrant wetland, supporting families to experience the great outdoors with boating and camping while providing a home for local native wildlife.

Positions are available for community members with a background in waterway management, natural resources management, environmental science or conservation, as well as Traditional Owners and recreational water users.

Candidates will be selected by an independent panel, chaired by former Managing Director of East Gippsland Water and chair of Lakes Entrance Fishermen Limited and Noweyung Limited Bruce Hammond, and work alongside Government representatives that help manage the Lakes.

Expressions of interest are also open for an independent chairperson to lead the committee.

The Gippsland Lakes Coordinating Committee was formed in 2015 to prioritise and oversee investment in community and agency projects that focus on improving the environmental health of the Gippsland Lakes.

The Gippsland Lakes is a Ramsar listed wetland recognised for its significant coastal wetland values and features, including vital habitat for migratory bird species.

The site also supports threatened wetland species, waterbird breeding and fish spawning sites.

Expressions of interest for the Gippsland Lakes Coordinating Committee close at 5pm Wednesday 5 March 2025. For more information visit <u>boards.vic.gov.au</u>.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Water Gayle Tierney

"The Gippsland Lakes Coordinating Committee has played an invaluable role in protecting and improving the health of the Gippsland Lakes over the past decade, for more locals and visitors to experience."

"I encourage everyone with the relevant knowledge, expertise and passion to help the Lakes thrive to apply and make sure this funding will benefit the Lakes now and into the future."

Quotes attributable to Member for Eastern Victoria Tom McIntosh

"The Gippsland Lakes support a diverse range of plant and animal species and attract visitors from all over the world, it's vital we continue to support the health of this important site.

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