



Media release

The Hon Dr Denis Napthine MP

Minister for Ports
Minister for Regional Cities
Minister for Racing
Minister for Major Projects

Tuesday 29 March 2011

Minister appoints new members to regional channels board

Minister for Ports Denis Napthine today announced the appointment of a new Chair and Director for the Victorian Regional Channels Authority (VRCA).

Dr Napthine said the newly appointed Chair Mr Ken Jarvis and Director Mr Lindsay Ward will join current Deputy Chair Merran Kelsall, and will be valuable assets for the VRCA bringing a wealth of knowledge and experience to the job.

“I’m pleased to appoint Mr Ken Jarvis as Chair of the VRCA. He has held a variety of senior positions in business and the community including Mayor of Geelong,” Dr Napthine said.

“Mr Jarvis is currently serving as Chairman of GMBHA, a not-for-profit health fund, and is a Director of ADAL Ltd, the company that runs the Australian International Air Show.

“The appointment of Lindsay Ward as the new Director will bring valuable ports experience to the VRCA.

“Mr Ward has worked at a very senior level across a range of industries within the ports and freight sector, most recently working as General Manager of Patrick Ports and Pacific National Bulk Rail, as well as previously CEO of the Port of Geelong,” Dr Napthine said.

The role of the VRCA is critical to Victoria’s economic future and in its role of managing the commercial navigation of the channels in Geelong port waters and overseeing the channel licence for the Port of Portland.

The VRCA will also have a critical part in planning for the development of the Port of Hastings as Victoria’s second container port, a key Baillieu Government commitment, when the Authority takes control of the channels to the port.

At the Port of Geelong, the VRCA will carry out an important advisory role in the government’s recently announced \$2 million feasibility study to moving the car import/export trade from the Port of Melbourne to Geelong.

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“Victoria’s regional commercial ports are a vital part of our state’s economy and continuing to manage maritime infrastructure effectively will provide for regional growth, the generation of jobs and new business opportunities for regional cities,” Dr Naphine said.

“I am confident that these new appointments will enable us to continue to manage our regional port waters and channels safely and effectively, providing strong leadership, and safe and secure management of port waters.”

Minister Naphine said the new appointments would replace current VRCA Chair Neil Edwards and Director John McQuilten.

“I would like to thank Mr Edwards and Mr McQuilten for their hard work and service throughout their time with VRCA,” Dr Naphine said.

The new appointments are for a two year period and are part time positions.

For further information on the VRCA visit www.regionalchannels.vic.gov.au

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