

Communique

Meeting No: 2020.02
14 May 2020

The Animal Care and Management Industry Reference Committee (IRC) met via Zoom video conference on Thursday 14 May 2020. Present at the meeting were members and representatives of Training, State and Territory ITABs/ITACs.

Vacant IRC positions

A list of potential candidates to fill vacant IRC position as suggested by IRC members was reviewed at this meeting. The IRC were in agreement to approach the suggested candidates for their interest in the IRC membership.

Project Update

Skills Impact presented a progress report on the [Exhibited Animal Care & Marine Wildlife Project](#), and [Pet Care & Animal Training Project](#).

The Exhibited Animal Care & Marine Wildlife Project is at the 'Validation' Stage. The Case for Endorsement will be further developed on a matching timeline with the Pet Care and Animal Training Project, due to cross over of shared units and newly reviewed qualifications.

The consultation stage for the Pet Care and Animal Training Project was extended to allow for improved participation in a consultation environment affected by Covid-19. This was welcomed by industry who were able to provide feedback. Feedback was received from the exhibited animal industry on the *Certificate IV in Animal Facility Management* and *Certificate IV in Animal Behaviour & Training* that these are the preferred option over a reviewed *Certificate IV Captive Animals*. The project includes subject matter experts from the exhibited animal industry. The Case for Endorsement is on track for submission at end of October 2020.

Response to Covid-19 update

Skills Impact thanked the IRC for their quick response to urgent and critical questions for planning relating to the covid-19 crisis. The IRC were advised that further information is welcomed for ongoing submission.

The role of Industry Regulation in VET

The IRC are considering the influence of increased industry regulation and whether this may positively influence the role of VET in improving animal welfare. The IRC are considering the evidence relating to increasing support for additional regulation, and the potential roles for the IRC and the AISC in this environment.

Next Meeting

The next IRC meeting is scheduled early September, with the date to be advised.