

Communique

Meeting No: 2022.02

Date: Monday 26 September 2022

The Animal Care and Management (ACM) Industry Reference Committee (IRC) met via video conference on Monday 26 September 2022. Present at the meeting were IRC members, guests and representatives from Skills Impact.

2022 Industry Skills Report and Industry Summary

The 2022 ACM Industry Skills Summary and ACM Industry Skills Report were approved by the IRC after the completion of industry and public consultation. The IRC noted that health and biosecurity in animal care cross-over with other industries, requiring collaboration.

The IRC recommended priorities for consideration under the new system:

- review of qualifications in veterinary nursing, including addressing mandatory workplace requirements consistent with new standards introduced in 2022
- review of qualifications in animal technology, including updating of superseded units from other qualifications and training packages.

The IRC also agreed that the industry should work with other Agribusiness, Food and Fibre industries on:

- research and planning projects to identify and address skills gaps relating to traceability, provenance and blockchain
- identifying digital skills needs using the Digital Workforce Capability and VET framework currently in development (along with other digital capability frameworks).

Extension request for ACM40321 Certificate IV Animal Behaviour and Training

The ACM IRC requested Skills Impact submit an application to the Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA) for an extension of the transition period for ACM40321 Certificate IV in Animal Behaviour and Training for an additional 12 months on behalf of the RTOs currently delivering that qualification.

VET Reform

Skills Impact provided an update on VET reform processes including the Industry Clusters grant program, qualifications reform and the national microcredential framework pilot.

Acknowledgement and thanks

Skills Impact thanked the ACM IRC for their dedication and work to improve the Animal Care and Management industries. Appreciation for the time, effort, input and expertise voluntarily given by members of this committee and a particular acknowledgement of Dr Julia Crawford's leadership.