

Media Release



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Election candidates to face off at local farmer forums

Rural communities will have the opportunity to test the candidates standing in a number of electorates ahead of next month's Victorian election at upcoming forums to be hosted by the Victorian Farmers Federation (VFF).

VFF President Emma Germano will host the forums and said it will be a great opportunity for the candidates to share their vision for the local community.

"We want to ensure the voice of our farming community is respected by those standing for office. The forums are an opportunity to focus on the issues that matter to farmers and to our regional communities."

Ms Germano said the forums are part of the VFF's 'Fair Go for Regional Vic' campaign, which calls on all candidates and parties to prioritise regional communities.

"Too often, elections are focused on how to make Melbourne the most liveable city on earth, rather than making Victoria the most liveable state."

"That's why the VFF is focused on delivering a fair go for regional Victoria as part of this year's State election campaign. We want to draw attention to the challenges and opportunities that our communities face on a daily basis."

Ms Germano said candidates will be asked for their position on the key commitments sought by the VFF in its [election policy statement](#), which was launched in June.

"Whether its road and rail, farm and rural crime, rural health or regional housing, the VFF is championing the issues that matter to everyone living in regional Victoria."

"Candidates will be asked how they will address these key issues if elected, as well as there being the opportunity for community members to ask their own questions."

"I encourage all community members to take part in the forums by bringing their questions and to come and hear what the candidates have to say," Ms Germano said.

All forums will begin at 7:00pm and will be held:

- Monday 24 October, venue to be confirmed shortly;
- Tuesday 25 October, St Arnaud Sporting Club;
- Wednesday 2 November, Colac Mid-City Motor Inn;
- Thursday 3 November, Creswick RACV Goldfields Resort;
- Monday 7 November, Shepparton RSL;
- Wednesday 9 November, Grantville Hall;
- Monday 14 November, Mansfield Delatite Hotel
- Tuesday 15 November, Benalla Bowls Club

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