

## PIEF Submission to Green Paper

The Primary Industries Education Foundation is the peak body for the Primary Industries sector to enhance learning about food and fibre production in Australian schools. It is a tripartite, not for profit entity, setup as an initiative by the Australian government in 2010.

The Foundation's stakeholders are education, government and industry sectors and are supported by a number of Research and Development Corporations as well as having philanthropic support.

The Foundation has been successful in working with the Australian Curriculum Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) to have a greater prominence of food and fibre production topics within the Australian curriculum. It continues to undertake this work. At the time of its establishment there was a limited inclusion of these topics in the Australian curriculum.

The Foundation has been active in funnelling the energy and support from the Primary Industries sector into the school curriculum and continues to do this. It has been funded to prepare curriculum resources which are consistent with the national curriculum. It works closely with the other organisations such as Agrifood Skills Australia and the Education Services Australia.

The foundation has recently developed a partnership with Career Harvest, an organisation established by the Australian Council of Deans of Agriculture; through this partnership, The Foundation will be able to actively channel information about careers in primary industries into Australian schools.

The Foundation supports the sentiments expressed in the Green Paper, it believes there needs to be strong and consistent input into the schools from the primary industries sector over a number of years for its efforts to be effective.

Primary Industries must maintain its social licence at all levels within the community and this can be done through a sound and effective educational system. It must also create an environment whereby school students become aware of the career opportunities within primary industries and therefore undertake post-secondary education and training within the various fields of primary industries, through either the vocational education training system or the higher education system.

The Foundation looks forward to continuing to working with the Australian Government and the various industry sectors to ensure the concerted effort which has been commenced in recent years is continued for many years to come.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cameron Archer".

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