

Media release



FROM THE MINISTER FOR ROADS AND PORTS

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NEW CHAIRS APPOINTED TO PORT OF HASTINGS AND VICTORIAN REGIONAL CHANNELS AUTHORITY BOARDS

The Minister for Roads and Ports, Tim Pallas today announced the appointment of new chairmen to the boards of the Port of Hastings Corporation (PoHC) and the Victorian Regional Channels Authority (VRCA).

Neil Edwards will assume the position as chair for VRCA and James Cain will head up the PoHC board.

Mr Pallas said the new chairs are experts in their fields and bring extensive experience to their roles.

“Mr Edwards has a proven track record of quality performance with ports corporations – he’s currently a director on the VRCA board and also chaired the Port of Melbourne Corporation board from 2003-05,” Mr Pallas said.

“He is former secretary of the Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development, has considerable experience at senior levels in State and Commonwealth government, and is currently chief executive of the Chifley Business School.

“Mr Cain is the former executive director of Major Projects Victoria. He has also worked in the private sector in a variety of roles including general manager of Bovis Lend Lease for Victoria, South Australia and Tasmania at Lend Lease Corporation.

“Mr Cain is currently director of consultancy firm M21 Pty Ltd which he established. He has broad experience in the property, project design and construction fields in the government, commercial and industrial sectors.

“The new appointments will help ensure our corporations retain their sustainable and competitive positions in the ports sector.”

The terms of incumbent chairs Michael Dowling (VRCA) and John Warburton (PoHC) are due to expire on 31 March.

Mr Pallas thanked the outgoing chairmen for their contributions to the success of these key Victorian port corporations.

“Victoria’s ports make an enormous contribution to the economic wellbeing of the state, handling over \$80 billion in trade per annum,” he said.

“Boards are tasked with the role of overseeing an efficient freight and logistics network and meeting the ongoing challenges posed by increasing trade.

“We are lucky to have had access to the incredible experience, advice and guidance of Mr Dowling and Mr Warburton for more than a decade each.”