



21 February 2020

Guy Barnett, Minister for Primary Industries and Water

Growing tomorrow's agricultural experts

Nurturing and developing our next generation of agricultural professionals is a key part of achieving our target to grow the farm gate value of Tasmanian agriculture to \$10 billion by 2050.

Applications are now open for Extension Accelerator, a pilot program to provide professional development to graduates working in agricultural extension.

The Tasmanian majority Liberal Government worked closely with local agribusiness to co-design this program, which aims to fast-track the development of young Tasmanian agricultural professionals, in partnership with industry employers.

The program will provide successful applicants with mentoring, coaching, professional networks and key workplace skills to apply best-practice, and will be coordinated by the Tasmanian Institute of Agriculture (TIA).

Training and development workshops will be provided by a range of experts from the private sector as well as TIA.

Industry has told us that developing our upcoming agricultural extension specialists is crucial to helping farmers access the latest research, new technologies and best practice that will grow on-farm production and agribusiness profitability.

This partnership is an example of government and industry working together to provide recent graduates with mentoring, professional networks, key workplace capabilities and skills to increase on-farm production and agribusiness profitability.

The Tasmanian majority Liberal Government invested \$140,000 to deliver this pilot program, which is key action under our Growing Tasmanian Agriculture – Research, Development and Extension for 2050 White Paper.

Employers of graduates involved in agricultural extension are encouraged to become Program Partners and register in the expression of interest process, which is now open.

Applications close on Wednesday 4 March 2020.

To apply, visit www.farmpoint.tas.gov.au or www.dpipwe.tas.gov.au/extension

For more information, phone FarmPoint on 1300 292 292 or email farmpoint@dpipwe.tas.gov.au