

MEDIA RELEASE:

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VOLUNTEERING AUSTRALIA ANNOUNCES THE APPOINTMENT OF A NEW CEO

Volunteering Australia (VA) is pleased to announce the appointment of a new Chief Executive Officer for the national peak body.

Board President, Paul Lynch, today named Mr Brett Williamson as the new Chief Executive Officer for Volunteering Australia from the 1st of October 2013.

Mr Lynch said "After a detailed recruitment process, the board of Volunteering Australia is pleased to appoint Brett Williamson to the role. Brett has spent the majority of the last 30 years involved with Surf Life Saving Australia, the past seven of which have been as Chief Executive Officer. As such, Brett brings a great deal of experience in the not for profit sector, including with an organisation which relies heavily on the support of volunteers".

Mr Williamson will take over from Maureen Cane who has been acting in the position since last October - in conjunction with her role as CEO of Volunteering ACT. The board would like to thank Maureen for her hard work and contribution to Volunteering Australia in taking on this challenging joint role.

The appointment of a full time CEO, is the next stage in VA's journey, one that began early last year with the relocation of VA headquarters from Melbourne to Canberra.

VA conducted its most successful National Volunteer Week celebrations in May 2013, and is now making final preparations for the 15th National Conference on Volunteering – to be hosted by Volunteering SA&NT in Adelaide 4 – 6 of September. In September 2014, VA will also host the 23rd International Association for Volunteer Effort (IAVE) World Volunteer Conference and Youth Forum.

Mr Lynch said "these are exciting times for the national body and the volunteering sector in Australia."

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