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Thursday, 9 March 2023

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### RDA AHFKI Announces New Board Members

Regional Development Australia Adelaide Hills, Fleurieu & Kangaroo Island is excited to welcome three new members to their Board.

Expressions of interest were made open to the public in late 2022 for regional leaders with vision, drive and business experience to join the board submit an application. An excellent selection of applicants was received, making narrowing the choice to three difficult. However, after much consideration, the final selection saw Nigel Morris, Tom Cosentino and Brett Miller appointed.

Nigel Morris is the current CEO of Alexandrina Council, having stepped across as CEO of District Council of Yankalilla in 2022. IN 2015 he won both a Leadership Excellence Award for Innovative Management at the SA Local Government Professional Awards and a National Australian Local Government Management Excellence Award. With extensive experience in both the private and public sectors, he brings highly effective collaboration and strategic planning skills, along with extensive knowledge and connections throughout the greater Fleurieu area.

“I have been a Local Government CEO on the Fleurieu for the past 7½ years and have witnessed first-hand the influence that Regional Development Australia has had on business from small to large, and the boost the success of these businesses provides to our economy and the communities.

At Alexandrina we have the philosophy of ‘regenerative’ economic development, with Council building a resilient economy which purposefully sustains our people, environment, culture, and history. We need to partner with Regional Development Australia to achieve not only the goals of Alexandrina Council, but those of the greater region. With the mix of talent now on the RDA Board, that brings a diverse group of backgrounds together to collaborate and guide the region, I am confident of success.”

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**Government of  
South Australia**

Adelaide Hills Council • Mount Barker District Council • Alexandrina Council • City of Victor Harbor • Yankalilla District Council  
Kangaroo Island Council

Tom Cosentino holds degrees in Law and Commerce, having been admitted to the Supreme Court as a barrister and solicitor in 2016. He owns and operates a beef cattle enterprise on the Fleurieu Peninsula, works as a consultant in agribusiness advisory and project management, and is currently the secretary for the Fleurieu Beef Group. Tom has also been appointed to the Cattle Australia Policy Council and named Cattle Council NAB Agribusiness Champion SA in 2021. He brings proven experience in primary industry, project management, media engagement, legal and government relations.

“Joining the RDA Board is an opportunity to facilitate regional economic development outcomes and policy alongside other people who live in the regions. It's an exciting prospect that regional people can influence the development of their own communities and environment with buy-in from all levels of Government.

With my accounting background I hope to help contribute to a financially sustainable and effective RDA AHFKI that puts the region's best interests first. A personal focus of mine will be to solidify agriculture, forestry & fisheries as the largest economic contributor to the area by value and to help it to thrive into the future.”

Brett Miller is Co-founder and CEO of Miller Dental Group, a nationally recognised organisation delivering solutions to improve oral health and wellbeing outcomes for Australians. He is also Chair of *Kangaroo Island Business and Brand Alliance* which functions as KI's Chamber of Commerce, and SA Chairperson of *Family Business Australia*. As a 2020 *40 Under 40 Awards* finalist and 2019 *ILF (Industry Leaders Fund) Scholarship Award* recipient, Brett delivers transformational leadership skills founded on a strong understanding of business management.

“It's an honour to be joining the Board of RDA AHFKI given its reputation as a leader not only within our State but indeed nationally. I bring broad experience having worked and consulted with Government and private sectors both at home and in the UK/Europe. During my 5 years at Business SA, I advised businesses of all shapes and sizes, and have also advised primary producers in the Adelaide Hills and Murray Darling Basin during my time in field of Natural Resource Management.

As a co-founder of national award-winning charity, the Australia Dental Foundation, I remain a passionate advocate of accessible primary health care and look forward to actively supporting the AHFKI region over the next 3 years of my appointment.”

This brings the total number of board members to 11 after three positions were refilled by existing members, and two positions were vacated.

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**Chief Executive Officer at RDA Adelaide Hills, Fleurieu and Kangaroo Island, Mr Damien Cooke;**

“I am very pleased with the calibre of applicants who applied for positions on the Boards. The skills that these new Board members bring will enhance the ability of the Board to drive the future direction and priorities of the RDA in our region.”

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