



MEDIA RELEASE

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'DARING TO CHANGE' – A new senior leadership development opportunity

Dairy farmers, processors, researchers and service providers from across the supply chain now have the opportunity to participate in a new senior leadership program, designed for emerging senior dairy leaders.

The program – **'Daring to Change'** – seeks to build a network of dairy leaders at the national level. The need for the program at this level was identified in *'Dairy Leadership – An Industry Blueprint 2010/15'* released in 2010 by the Australian Dairy Industry Council. This report estimated that of the 200 leadership roles existing across the industry, more than 80 people need opportunities to develop leadership skills each year.

The three session program is designed for the next generation of senior dairy leaders and will develop skills necessary to tackle the strategic issues facing the industry. Participants will learn skills in leadership, teamwork and communication, strategic thinking, corporate governance and policy development and advocacy.

Gardiner Foundation provided funds to Farming Minds to design and deliver the program which will run between March and June 2012 in Melbourne and regional locations.

The project will be conducted by Rob Patrick, Farming Minds, with design and facilitation support from Leith Bouilly, At the Crossroads, and Colin Hendrie, Outback Initiatives. This trio has been working together in the design and delivery of leadership development programs across Australia for a range of industries and clients for more than a decade.

Farming Minds Director, Rob Patrick, advised that 10 positions are available on the program, with a closing date of 30 November 2011. Information about the program, including application forms, is available on www.gardinerfoundation.com.au.

"People with a commitment to the dairy industry, who want to influence the future through collaboration across the supply chain, should apply for this program", Mr Patrick said.

"Delivery of the program will be through hands-on, experiential learning, and we expect participants to foster an ongoing network that will work in the long-term interests of this significant industry", Mr Patrick added.

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