Naomi Cleary

About me

I am an experienced Chair and Non-Executive Director with strong strategic and business skills. I have experience in the government, private and not-for-profit sector with a strong focus on stakeholder engagement, audit and risk, and broad connections to the community.

Personal qualities

Professional integrity is one of the strongest qualities I have demonstrated throughout my career and personal life. I have excellent audit and risk, and financial management skills which I have further in my role as Chair of the group of all Audit and Risk Chairs in the Victorian Water sector. I also chaired the Audit, Risk and Governance Committee at Southern Rural Water.

My sound independent judgement allows me to act in the best interests of the organisation I am representing. My honesty and level of commitment to the roles I undertake allow me to build a high level of trust with my colleagues and the stakeholders I have relationships with.

Knowledge and skills

In addition to my business degree and experience on a number of boards, I have completed the Australian Institute of Company Directors Company director course and have been admitted as a Fellow. As part of my Certified Practicing Accountant qualification I have also undertaken study in Governance, Financial Reporting, Management and Strategic Planning. My business experience demonstrates my strong strategic and analytical expertise and commercial success.

Stakeholder engagement has been a key part of the roles I have undertaken. My experience in Australia supports a new model of engagement in an open and transparent way.

Specialist expertise

My executive and board career have given me experience in the following areas:

- Corporate governance
- Finance and audit

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- Diversity and Inclusion
- Stakeholder engagement
- Event management
- Safety culture
- Government liaison
- Cultural change

Experience

Southern Rural Water Non Executive director 2015 - 2023 Deputy Chair

Rural Water with \$1.8bn infrastructure assets. Active board member with a strong understanding of the business. Roles in the following committees; Audit, Risk and Governance (Chair), People, Safety and Culture (Chair), Previously Customer Consultative Committees (Board Representative) and Property Committee (Chair), CEO recruitment.

Director - Vicwater 2018- 2023

Victorian Water industry association, revenue of sector \$6.3bn pa. Chair of Victorian Water Industry Audit and Risk Chairs, Events Committee (Chair), CEO Recruitment (Chair)

President – Oceania Council for Sport Climbing 2021 - 2025

Organising International Sporting events, working with National Federations, Olympic selection events, selection policies, improving diversity and inclusion, growing the number of officials in region, supporting development of individual NFs

Director – International Federation for Sport Climbing 2021 - Current

International Sporting Federation for an Olympic Sport, rapidly growing organisation with responsibility for events and development activities. Governance restructure, policy approval, strategic planning.

Finance Committee (Member), Task Force for inclusion Neutral athletes with Russian Belarusian passports (Chair), Commercial subsidiary working group

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Director and Company Secretary- Sport Climbing Australia 2015 – 2021

National Sporting Organisation for sport climbing in Australia.

Policy development, extensive stakeholder engagement, annual report writing, governance, structure change, statute review, Sport Integrity Australia (ASADA) compliance & reporting, selection criteria development, committee charter development, athlete development, grant writing, compliance, Australian Olympic Committee representative, event management, workforce development, diversity in officials and events.

Head of Olympic activities in the lead up to Tokyo 2020 and Paris 2024.

Chief Financial Officer – Elmstone Property Group 2002-2015

Property development company operating across Western Victoria.

Commercial, urban infill, affordable housing, NRAS, integrated development.

Financing, project selection, cash flow management, compliance, grant writing and acquittal, contract management, financial reporting.

Director - Clearview Properties 2008- Current

Property Investment group in Regional Victoria.

Founding Board Member & Director – Sport Climbing Victoria 2014-2016

Peak sporting body for Sport Climbing in Victoria. Event management, government liaison, statute development, grant writing.

Benjamin Partners Real Estate 1999-2002

Trust Accounting, Reconciliations, payments, audit preparation.

BHP Bluescope Steel – Various Roles 1995-1999

Marketing, Business Development, Profitability Analysis, Distribution, Pricing, Australian Competition Consumer Commission (ACCC) compliance.

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Skill Sets

Event Management Stakeholder Engagement

Policy Development Commercial Business

Governance Asset and Land Management

Financial Management Strategic Planning
Financial Reporting Performance Analysis

Risk Management Project Delivery

Communication Relationship building

Compliance Management Leadership

Audit Infrastructure building

Qualifications

Certified Practicing Accountant (CPA) - 2019

Australian Institute of Company Directors Graduate (AICD) - 2016,

AICD Fellow - 2023

Monash University - Bachelor of Business Studies (Marketing) -2000

Memberships

CPA Australia
Australian Institute of Company Directors
Sport Climbing Australia
Commerce Ballarat