**BCA Inform: Championing Your Voice: Election 2024**

On Tuesday October 1st BCA Inform was held to provide insight into available opportunities for members to nominate for key leadership roles including President, Directors, NSW/ACT State Division Committee members, and National Policy Committee (NPC) representatives. Deb Deshayes, BCA CEO facilitated the session which incorporated insights from individuals across various roles.

Angela Jaeschke, BCA’s General Manager Operations discussed the various positions open for nomination and explained the electoral process. Interested individuals are encouraged to review the position descriptions and BCA's code of conduct. And all nominations, along with accompanying statements, must be submitted by Friday, 25th October.

The session then transitioned to offering firsthand accounts of the various roles. Helen Freris, BCA’s Acting President highlighted the hands-on nature of the President's role, including supporting the CEO and staff, and representing the organization. She concluded by mentioning the practical aspects of the President's role, such as chairing meetings, administering processes, and overseeing events like the Convention.

Then Francois Jacobs, Chair of the NPC spoke about the NPC being a great stepping stone to becoming a director in the future. As an NPC member, you’ll have the chance to contribute to outputs like position papers and fact sheets. You’ll also have opportunities to make submissions to parliamentary inquiries and potentially participate in reference groups. Francois noted that the NPC meets five times a year and encouraged expressions of interest for becoming a state representative. He emphasized that this is a valuable opportunity to learn from others while making a meaningful impact.

The session then moved to Stephen Belbin, Chair of the NSW/ACT State Division, who spoke about the State Division’s purpose and history. Stephen explained how the committee serves members within the NSW and ACT regions, alongside the branches, and he encouraged participation, highlighting it as an excellent opportunity for personal and professional growth.

Neale Huth, BCA director, then shared his experience of becoming a director over the past ten months, following his time on the NPC. Andrew Webster followed by discussing his journey as a director and his role on the Finance, Audit and Risk Management (FARM) committee. Both Neale and Andrew highlighted the vast learning involved due to the many moving parts of BCA, noting the unexpected opportunities that arise, the diverse experiences gained, and the lasting friendships formed along the way.

The session concluded with a reminder that everyone involved with BCA works together as one unified team to advance BCA's mission. Participants were encouraged to reach out with any questions that might arise – by email: companysecretary@bca.org.au or phone 1800 033 660