

Cheesemaker Kris Lloyd breaks mould in new ILF role

SA cheese queen Kris Lloyd will bring her perspectives and opinions to the board of a well-respected organisation in a strategic move to expand the state's leadership pool.

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May 4, 2021 - 6:30AM



Kris Lloyd of Woodside Cheese Wrights. Picture Matt Turner.

One of South Australia's best-known businesswomen, Woodside Cheese Wrights founder Kris Lloyd, has been appointed a member of the select Industry Leaders Fund (ILF) board.

The 18-month appointment to add Ms Lloyd's voice to the historically male-dominated board comes as the ILF seeks to boost diversity among its scholars' network.

The ILF supports industry leaders, with funds to pursue advanced learning from national and international institutions to enable them to boost the local economy through jobs creation.

Now in its 12th year, the ILF has granted \$2.4m to SA business leaders through professional education, attending programs offered by Harvard Business School in the US, INSEAD Business School in Switzerland and Singapore, Oxford's Said Business School in the UK, as well as Melbourne Business School, the University of South Australia and University of Adelaide, among others.

"Ms Lloyd is eminently qualified as a successful business person, as a major contributor to the success of the SA business community and as a keen advocate of the ILF," its chief executive, Geoff Vogt, said.

"She has already made a major contribution to the success of the ILF as chair of the scholars network committee and I expect, as a director, she will provide significant insights, energy, profile and new perspectives to what is already a very successful organisation."

The maximum term for any director is two years, commencing from the date of the annual general meeting, which is scheduled in November each year. Ms Lloyd, who completed an Australian Institute of Company Directors course with support from the ILF in 2012, said she was very fond of the ILF and its work.

"As a past scholar and through my work with the committees, I feel like I can contribute to the board with my experiences and networks," she said.

She is encouraging both male and female leaders across SA to apply for this year's round, which close on May 31.

"As part of the board, I will have the opportunity to add value to the judging process as we seek to support leaders across sectors and industries and increase skills and training for all."

Two of the 22 scholars from 2020 were women, and the ILF is encouraging more women to apply for the scheme this year. Of the 199 scholars overall, only 51 are female.

The ILF hopes board diversity will also eliminate any perceived disincentives to applying for the funds.

The ILF has had an all-male board for a considerable period and, until recently, could only be elected from among ILF members, who were office bearers of the Australian Industry Group SA Advisory Council, among other conditions.