

## Presidents Report

CFSVA AGM 9<sup>th</sup> October 2019

Firstly, I would like to sincerely thank Sonia and Kirsti for their enormous efforts and support over the last year or so, and David, the best Vice President a President could ever wish for and of course to every member who has supported the association in a positive way.

We have had some good wins, including our charter, return to work, the reinvigoration of the Sector Advisory Committee including the chair, currently held by myself, the ongoing and increased connection with RVMC's is improving our communication with senior volunteers, more recently CAVFA asked me to become chairman of the organization.

We have plenty of local issues to deal with like 25km, return to work, PSD, pfas etc, but we do need to be involved in wider matters. Whether we like it or not, and most of us don't, emergency services are changing and if we don't get involved at a national level and have decent input we will just get told how things will be. We cannot hope to shape the future of volunteer fire services with our own resources, we just don't have them. As chair of CAVFA I am about to sign a MOU with AFAC regarding consultation on matters affecting volunteers. This is a significant step forward.

With a new co about to start at the beginning of what may be a very bad fds, a new head of safecom with still unknown intentions, and the recent unrest with our minister, we need to be more than ever undivided in our in our approach. Any division is seen by our members, the agency, politicians and others as weakness and will be exploited.

Andy Wood