

STL G Class Director election 2024

A message from Paul Schembri

Dear Kalamia members,

I am currently seeking election as an STL Grower Director, and so I wanted to let you know what I hope to bring to the role and ask for your support.

I've worked with the Kalamia team on industry issues before, but for those of you who don't know me, I'm a proud and lifelong canegrower who is passionate about our industry and who firmly believes that the sugar terminals are key to its future. As well as farming in Mackay for my entire working life, I have spent over 40 years working to represent cane farmers and the great Australian sugar industry in a number of roles, including as Chairman of Queensland and Australian CANEGROWERS, Vice President of the World Association of Beet and Cane Growers, and as a director of Queensland Sugar Limited.



My board experience also includes time as a Ravensdown Fertiliser Australia Director (2013-2016), CANEGROWERS Superannuation Pty Ltd Director (2004-2012); CANEGROWERS Financial Services Ltd Director (2004-2019) and as a member of the committee of Regional Development Australia, Greater Whitsundays (current).

Throughout the decades I've spent in our industry, I must say that my proudest achievement was working with growers and grower groups from around the state, including Kalamia, to help secure Marketing Choice. Our strength on that occasion was in our unity, and so I'm keen to work closely with Kalamia and other groups to also ensure a strong grower voice with STL.

The terminal assets built and paid for all those decades ago by growers and millers are the jewel in the crown of the Queensland sugar industry. While our international competitors can produce plentiful and high-quality sugar to target our traditional markets, it is the strength and efficiency of our terminals that helps us attract premiums and maximise our pricing. These terminals must be protected and optimised – not only to deliver returns to shareholders, but to be responsive to industry needs and maintain our international competitiveness.

STL, like many other companies, is facing some serious challenges, not least increasing costs, with the largest slice of these costs borne by growers. So, it is absolutely imperative that all G Class Shareholders get out and vote to ensure the grower voice and perspective is strong around the STL board table.

I want to help bring people together, create trust, and ensure that STL operates a profitable business that provides equitable access to the terminals while also meeting the expectations of the industry. I respectfully ask for your support to do so and for your vote for STL G Class Director.

Yours Sincerely,

Paul Schembri