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Media release

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REIA welcomes new President and Deputy

The Real Estate Institute of Australia has welcomed the election of the new President, Neville Sanders from Victoria and Deputy President, Hayden Groves.

Mr Sanders was elected to the presidency today at the Annual General Meeting held in Canberra. Mr Sanders is a third-generation estate agent and has been actively involved in real estate for over 48 years. He became a Member of the Real Estate Institute of Victoria in 1971 and joined the REIV Board in 2006.

Currently, Neville is the general manager of Whittles Australia, is an REIA Fellow, an REIV-accredited owners' corporation manager, vice chairperson of the REIV Owners Corporation Chapter committee and a qualified valuer. In accepting the role, Mr Sanders thanked outgoing President Peter Bushby from Tasmania who has served in the position for two years.

"Peter has provided excellent stewardship of the organisation since 2012 and during that time he has achieved much in ensuring that our members have a strong national voice," Mr Sanders said.

"On behalf of the board and staff, we extend our sincere thanks to Peter for his professionalism and commitment to the role during an important chapter in REIA's history."

"I'm very pleased to also welcome Hayden Groves from WA as REIA Deputy President. Mr Groves owns real estate business, Dethridge GROVES since 2004, after having worked as a successful sales representative for the firm for many years. Mr Groves is REIWA Deputy President, President of the Real Estate Employers' Federation WA.

"Next year will be an equally important one for the sector with the release of the much anticipated Government white paper into taxation. I see it as an absolute priority that agents have a national voice at the table on tax reform in advocating for the abolition of stamp duty funded by an increase in GST and the retention of negative gearing," Mr Sanders concluded.

The Real Estate Institute of Australia (REIA) is the national professional association for real estate agents. For further information or interview opportunities, please contact:

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