



29 APR, 2021

New chief makes CME WA history

Kalgoorlie Miner, Kalgoorlie

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AMBER LILLEY

For the first time in its 120-year history, the Chamber of Minerals and Energy WA has appointed a female president, with Fiona Hick taking on the role.

Ms Hick has more than 25 years of experience in the mining, oil and gas industries and is presently Woodside's executive vice-president of operations.

Despite the challenges COVID-19 continues to present, Ms Hick said she was excited to take on the presidency in what she described as a time of great growth and opportunity for the mining and resources sector.

"I'm very proud of the way the entire sector has collaborated to operate both safely and effectively through the COVID-19 pandemic," she said. "And there are so many more exciting opportunities set to be realised.

The \$140 billion in mining and resources sector projects in the pipeline around the State reflect how our sector will continue to support economic growth and job creation for WA for decades to come." Chamber CEO Paul Everingham said Ms Hick was a welcome addition to the role as a passionate and skilled leader with experience in the industry.

She will take over from Ivan Vella, who began in April last year, and is now moving to Canada to take on the role of Rio Tinto's aluminium chief executive.

Mr Everingham said Mr Vella's leadership had been "invaluable" during the past year, with his position crucial to how the sector was able to cope with the many challenges that arose.

"Ivan (Vella) could scarcely have taken on the role at a more challenging time for the sector — with so much uncertainty surrounding how COVID-19 might affect the country, our State and also the sector," he said. "His leadership ... helped ensure the entire sector kept operating through the pandemic to generate records in sales, royalty contributions for the WA Government, and jobs in communities around the State."

Ms Hick will be assisted by two vice-presidents: Newmont Australia regional CFO, Felicity Hughes, and Bill Beament from Venturix.



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**Fiona Hick
is the new
president of
the Chamber
of Minerals
and Energy.**