

## More than \$9 million in funding available for business and industry initiatives

Members are advised of two circular economy funding programs released by Sustainability Victoria and the Victorian Government that are aimed at the business, non-profit and research communities.

### Those programs are:

- Recycling Victoria's \$4.34 million Business Support Fund (Round 2) – applications close 7 July.

The Business Support Fund aims to assist in the development and implementation of circular economy business models and practices that avoid waste generation in Victoria.

Note that this a co-contribution model with applicants required to contribute \$1 for every \$1 funded.

You can find more about this program, including a link to an Information Session to be held on 7 June by taking this [link](#).

- Recycling Victoria's \$5 million Markets Acceleration Fund – **applications closing 23:59 hrs, June 2, 2022.**

The Acceleration Fund grants support projects that develop, demonstrate, and validate new innovative uses for recycled materials with grants ranging from \$30,000 to \$400,000.

Note that this a co-contribution model with applicants required to contribute \$1 for every \$1 funded.

You can find more about the Acceleration Fund by taking this [link](#).

### How is this information relevant for you as a retail automotive participant?

Simply put automotive industry businesses deal with complex automotive related waste daily and with all probability you have a solution for how that waste could be managed or reused.

Industry has also seen an upsurge of compliance and enforcement activity from the Environmental Protection Agency and other regulators focusing retail automotive business with regards to waste management practices (for e.g., the storage and disposal of whole vehicles, waste tyres, oil, disposal of cleaning chemicals and air-conditioning gases). This activity has heightened since the introduction of new environmental laws mandated under the Environmental Protection Act 2017 (Vic), laws that became active from 1 July 2021.

We have also seen both state and federal governments announce firm policy direction that is seeing the incentivized and regulated transition to cleaner automotive technologies. For too long we have seen suppliers to our industry take the running on these opportunities. Members who have what they believe is an idea for a new innovation or solution with regards to the uses for recyclable automotive components and residue are encouraged to make application for funding.

### **Other**

If you need support identifying a suitable research institute, industry partner or project partner Sustainability Victoria can help.

Email your query to [grants.enquiries@sustainability.vic.gov.au](mailto:grants.enquiries@sustainability.vic.gov.au)

VACC members are encouraged to contact me, Michael McKenna on [mmckenna@vacc.com.au](mailto:mmckenna@vacc.com.au) or 9829 1280 for any other queries.

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