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Dear Member

The Automobile Repairers Division (ARD), recently held its annual general meeting whereby Mr Frank Grocl, Chair of the ARD Executive Committee delivered his 2019 report.

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The committee considered the following issues impacting the division throughout 2019 as well as focusing the future.

- Access to repair information
- Vocational education and training
- Apprenticeships
- Skills shortages
- Industry training
- Australian standard for mechanical workshops
- ARD strategy day
- Implementation of VicRoads e-Certificate
- Divisional rules and accreditation review

Message from the Chair of the Automobile Repairers Division Executive Committee.

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the Annual General Meeting of the Automobile Repairer's Division (ARD) for 2019, a year which is significant for the service and repair sector but particularly independent repairers.

Of course, I refer to the recent announcement by the Government that they will legislate the sharing of manufacture repair information. This means that vehicle manufacturers will be required by law to make available to all independent repairers the same level of repair information they make available to their franchised dealers and authorised repairers, that is, at a fair and reasonable cost. This is a fantastic result after such a long campaign, all credit to VACC and ARD members who gave up their time to write to their local members of parliament, conducted site visits and demonstrated the impact to business and motorists.

I'd like to finish by saying that I am incredibly excited about the year ahead and hope that it will be a prosperous year for all. My heartfelt thanks to all members of the ARD Executive committee for their commitment, dedication and generosity in giving their time to ensure all issues impacting this division are thoroughly considered and well represented.

Given 2020 is an election year for VACC Divisional Executive Committees, I'd like to extend an invitation to anyone who is interested in joining this committee to contact the ARD Industry Policy Advisor or myself for more information.