

ECIA(VC) Membership Review –May 2005

ANNOUNCEMENT FOR ALL CURRENT MEMBERS:

The *ECIA(VC) Committee* has reviewed membership categories and benefits. The review has resulted in the decision to have one membership category only. The former associate member category will cease, and there will be Individual membership only. A number of extra benefits are being made available to members, making subscription and membership more attractive.

Current associate memberships will expire on June 30.

Current associate members will need to choose to

- (a) upgrade to individual membership, or
- (b) join the ECIA(VC) website mailing list.

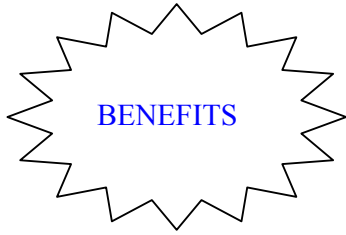
BACKGROUND:

There were a number of reasons for this review and decision:

- The majority of current members are in the Individual Category.
- The majority of ECIA State Chapters offer individual membership only. The change means *ECIA(VC)* is consistent with other states.
- There is confusion between the terms association and associate, creating a false perception that membership extends beyond one person.
- Separation and management of the benefits for associate and individual members has been cumbersome and is not financially sustainable.
- The former associate benefit of receiving general information is available via the newly established website membership.

ECIA(VC) MEMBERSHIP TERMS AND CHARGES

- The cost of an Individual Membership will remain the same:
\$77.00 for individuals and
\$44.00 for families and full time students.
- A new development is that Membership is taken from the month of joining, rather than by financial year.



Membership of *ECIA National*

To assist *ECIA(VC)* continue:

- Involvement with other State Chapters and the National Council.
- Representation with key funding and policy bodies.
- Involvement with ECI priorities, initiatives and service development.
- Professional development opportunities.
- Support to established network groups.

Early Talk – quarterly newsletter.

Voting rights.

Discounts apply to *ECIA(VC)* events and publications.

Tax deductibility status.



Access to the *Member Forum* on the *ECIA(VC)* website - professional support and be involvement in discussions with other members from across the state.

Promotion of member events on the website and via the website mailing list.

Membership of the *ECIA(VC)* website mailing list, receiving general information and updates, including *ECIA(VC)* *Bulletins*.

An *ECIA(VC)* membership card allowing trade discounts, and other opportunities negotiated by *ECIA(VC)*.

For more information contact: eciavic@bigpond.com.