

**From:** Down To Earth Organising Committee <ocmail@dte.org.au>  
**To:** ocmal@dte.org.au  
**Cc:** board@dte.coop, oc@dte.coop, directors@dte.coop  
**Subject:** GMWG resignations  
**Date:** Mon, 07 Sep 2020 18:02:08 +1000  
**Reply-To:** ocmal@dte.org.au  
**User-Agent:** Roundcube Webmail/1.4.6  
**Organization:** Down To Earth

---

Dear OC, members and Board,

we, the General Meeting Working Group inform you of the following circumstances and resignations.

The DTE Board moved a resolution for postal ballots on all SGM motions, including using an electronic postal ballot.

The Organising Committee moved that;

- (a) the OC rejects the Board's call for electronic postal voting
- (b) the General Meeting Working Group continue with the SGM as normal.

Our Rules and the CNL both provide for the calling of a postal ballot. One of our Rules allows the Board to call a ballot. The Rules also place the responsibility for the running of GMs on the OC. As the GMWG subcommittee of the OC, we take the OC motion, that the SGM runs "as normal", to mean voting as a physical postal ballot. However, the Victorian Government restrictions around Covid on assembly, prevent gathering to count and scrutineer.

All this means that we cannot see a way forward that fulfils all the requirements placed on us.

We have therefore resolved to resign our roles in the General Meeting Working Group, effective from the end of tonight's SGM discussion meeting. We are open to returning to a role in the GMWG at any time we are satisfied these conflicts have been resolved.

We leave it to the OC to appoint replacements who believe they can fulfill all the requirements of the role.

We also note the advice of Fred Green, Registrar at CAV (the main oversight body for co-operatives, just as ASIC is for corporations) that we cannot validly hold GMs or vote electronically. Troy has written to Fred arguing that he has advice to the contrary regarding meetings. We take voting to include ballots. We do not wish to enter into this debate, but simply ensure members are aware there is disagreement.

Regards,

John Reid and Tania Morsman.  
The General Meeting Working Group.