



Position description

Position title	: Chief Executive Officer
Reports to	: Chair, SVA Board
Employment type	: Permanent, Full-time
Location	: Sydney or Melbourne
No. of direct reports	: 6-8
Travel	Interstate travel required
Date	: July 2024
Approved by	: Chair, SVA Board

The operating environment

SVA overview

SVA was created to solve challenging social problems. As Australia's most innovative social impact organisation we speed-up innovation in the social sector so more people in Australia can live their best life.

Putting our extensive know-how to work re-designing systems. Helping institutions think differently. Working hand in hand with our partners and communities to create social impact at scale.

SVA has a rich history of innovation, deep experience in the social sector and a wide base of capabilities with which to pursue its vision.

In the last two years we have re-examined SVA's strategy to ensure it is focused on achieving our vision and have assembled a capable leadership team to implement it.

We are now searching for our next Chief Executive Officer (CEO) who can leverage SVA's strengths, knowledge, values and culture, to continue implementing our strategy and driving positive impact in Australia. As SVA's fourth CEO in the organisation's 20+ year history this appointment will be a critical leader of the next iteration of SVA's social impact.

Reporting directly to the Chair of the SVA Board, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) works with the Board and senior leadership from SVA's major business units, including Consulting, Social Impact Initiatives, Partnerships (fundraising), the Innovation Hub and Connect (shared corporate services).

At SVA, we value diversity and encourage applications from candidates of all backgrounds, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, as well as other diverse lived experiences. We value people of all abilities and diversity of culture, faith, gender identity and sexual orientation. We welcome the unique contributions and perspectives of all people to ensure our work is representative of the communities in which we operate.

Social Ventures Australia Limited

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SVA Values

As a purpose-driven organisation, our values guide who we are, how we work and the decisions we make.



People at the centre



Difference gives us strength



Open and ready to learn



Real change takes time

Learn more about SVA's values [here](#).

First Nations Practice Principles

SVA is committed to providing a culturally safe workplace for all our First Nations employees, partners and clients. We commit that our work with First Nations peoples is aligned with our First Nations Practice Principles set out below.



Learn more about SVA's First Nations Practice Principles [here](#).



Position purpose

In consultation with the Board, the CEO provides strategic leadership and overall management of SVA including,

- being a strong ambassador for SVA's brand, vision, purpose, work and culture,
- providing intellectual leadership about SVA's role in creating transformative change in Australia,
- accountability for employee engagement and wellbeing, social impact and financial sustainability of the organisation,
- enhancing and diversifying SVA's funding base,
- modelling SVA's values, behaviours and First Nations Practice Principles.

The CEO is the senior spokesperson for the organisation and has a critical role in advocating for SVA's priorities and nurturing strong relationships with,

- Board and Members
- Funders and philanthropists
- Governments
- Not for profit organisations, peaks and social enterprises
- Corporates and businesses
- Impact investors; and
- First Nations community organisations, elders and leaders.



Position responsibilities

Specific responsibilities include:

Strategic leadership and culture

- Continue to lead the next phase of implementation of SVA's vision, purpose and strategy, driving innovation and evolving SVA's operating models to meet the changing needs of the organisation and the role it plays in Australia.
- Drive adaptive and collaborative leadership, business agility and strengthen partnering across levels and business units in the organisation.
- Provide direction and guidance to senior leadership and management and ensure active participation and shared accountability in the development and delivery of strategic business plans, objectives and priorities.
- Ensure SVA's financial performance, sustainability and growth, and oversee the organisation's business planning, budgeting and reporting.
- Oversee SVA's risk profile, ensuring that all compliance and regulatory obligations are met as a registered charity and an Australian Financial Services License (AFSL) holder.
- Champion SVA's work as an ally of First Nations people and communities and contribute to the implementation of SVA's Reconciliation Action Plan.
- Cultivate an environment of continuous learning and operational excellence.
- Reinforce and promote the principles of Equal Employment Opportunity and diversity in the workplace.

External relationships and influencing

- Provide thought leadership in how SVA seeks to create impact, and represent SVA across sectors in different forums (e.g., media, government roundtables, ministerial briefings, conferences, etc.)
- Lead SVA's partnerships and fundraising efforts, to enhance and diversify the organisation's funding base for social impact.
- Lead strategic partnerships and collaborations, with existing and potential stakeholders, including First Nations people and communities.
- Oversee and contribute to SVA's delivery of high-quality engagements, activities and experiences with partners and clients.
- Amplify the strengths and knowledge from all parts of SVA, working closely with the Board, internal leaders and subject matter experts.

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Role requirements

The successful candidate will have demonstrated strengths in many of the following areas:

Knowledge

- Knowledge, passion and commitment to working in the social impact sector on society's most important challenges.
- Understanding of the key issue areas impacting disadvantage and the drivers of better outcomes.
- Strong financial acumen to ensure SVA's sustainability and resource generation to pursue vision.
- Political acumen and awareness of the changing policy environment.
- Applied knowledge of innovation within the social impact sector.

Experience

- Executive leadership experience across strategy development, management, fundraising and entrepreneurial functions.
- Established relationships and networks across sectors.
- Experience in complex multi-stakeholder and cross-cultural environments, as well as leading, leveraging and developing multi-disciplinary teams.
- Established experience in engaging and inspiring diverse audiences and people from different professional backgrounds.
- Experience in building sustainable business models which deliver value for the organisation, partners and communities.

Skills & Abilities

- A growth mindset and the ability to adapt and innovate in a constantly evolving business environment.
- Working collaboratively in a team environment to effectively harness the diverse skills and perspectives of multi-disciplinary groups.
- Emotional intelligence, self-awareness, humility, vulnerability and empathy, as well as openness and commitment to personal development and growth.
- Holistic leadership approach which considers the impact of decisions on others, including employees, partners, and the broader community.
- Empowering others to reach their full potential through driving organisational success and social change.
- Conveying complex ideas in a clear and concise manner with an ability to actively listen and respond appropriately.

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