



Institute of Water
Administration

The John Robbins Significant Contribution Award

Definition

The John Robbins Significant Contribution Award recognises an outstanding initiative, project, or event that has delivered meaningful and demonstrable benefit to the Victorian water sector.

This may include a major program, collaboration, reform initiative, industry event, or delivery milestone that has:

- Advanced sector capability, performance, or resilience
- Delivered measurable value to customers or the community
- Strengthened collaboration across organisations or with stakeholders
- Contributed to innovation, knowledge sharing or industry leadership

The award celebrates collective achievement and recognises the impact of well-executed initiatives that drive tangible outcomes for the sector.

Selection Criteria

Submissions will be assessed against:

1. Impact and Outcomes

- Demonstrated value delivered to the sector, customers, or community
- Evidence of measurable outcomes (e.g. efficiency, service improvement, innovation adoption)

2. Significance of the Event or Initiative

- Scale, ambition and strategic importance of the initiative
- Contribution to key sector priorities or challenges

3. Collaboration and Leadership

- Extent of cross-sector or stakeholder collaboration
- Evidence of strong leadership, governance and delivery

4. Innovation and Learning

- Introduction of new approaches, practices or insights
- Contribution to broader sector learning or capability uplift

5. Replicability and Legacy

- Potential for the initiative to be scaled or replicated
- Enduring contribution beyond the immediate event or project

Eligibility and Nominations

- Nominations may be submitted by current members of the IWA or current employees of an IWA member organisation, (including all Victorian water corporations).
- Nominees must a current or former member of the IWA or a current or former employee of an IWA member organisation.

Submission Requirements

All nominations must include:

- A two-page nomination addressing the relevant selection criteria
- Supporting materials, which may include:
 - A brief citation or case summary (for event/initiative or lifetime achievement awards)
 - Evidence of impact or outcomes where applicable

Assessment and Shortlisting

- All nominations will be reviewed by a selection panel comprising members of the Board of the IWA
- The panel will assess submissions against the selection criteria

Selection and Endorsement

- The recommendation of the selection panel will be submitted to the Board for approval.

Submit your Nomination

- Please send your completed nomination and supporting paperwork to executive@iwa.org.au before the closing date – **30 September**.

Queries

- Any queries, please contact executive@iwa.org.au.

2026 Submission Timeline

30 July	Call for nominations
30 September	Nomination period closes
October	Selection panel assesses nominations
18 November	Award recipient/s announced at Annual Conference