

ABOUT US

The NSW Reconciliation Council (NSWRC) is the peak representative body for reconciliation in NSW. We work to inform, support and inspire the people of NSW to engage in reconciliation. We are an independent, not-for-profit and non-partisan organisation. Our membership is made of local reconciliation groups and individuals across NSW; Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and non-Aboriginal people working together to advance reconciliation in their communities. Our vision is to help create a reconciled, just and equitable community for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and other Australians.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The NSW Reconciliation Council acknowledges the traditional owners of country throughout NSW and recognises their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respects to them and their cultures and to Elders both past and present. We acknowledge the Gadigal people of the Eora nation as the original custodians of the land on which our office sits.



The Messengers by Karina Fiddling (Winmalee High School) Highly Commended, NSW Schools' Reconciliation Challenge 2016



CO-CHAIRS' MESSAGE

This year we celebrated the 25th anniversary of formal reconciliation in modern Australia. As a nation, we have come a long way in that quarter of a century, but we remain faced with challenges on our reconciliation journey.

The NSW Reconciliation Council has continued to explore and redefine our strategic direction and the Board acknowledges the work of the previous Co-Chairs in this process. Over the past 12 months we have had a strong focus on the long-term future and sustainability of the NSW Reconciliation Council. We welcomed the opportunity to undergo a long overdue review by our main funding body, Aboriginal Affairs NSW and we are currently awaiting the outcome of this process. The review was a chance to take stock of our financial position, our achievements, and our aims for the coming years. We are also undertaking a strategic process that commenced with a communications strategy workshop with staff and the Board, and will culminate in a long term strategic direction for the organisation.

2016 has seen a seventh year of continued growth of the wonderful Schools Reconciliation Challenge. This program has grown rapidly over the years and we are now at a point of capacity in terms of managing the more than 1000 applications from school children across NSW that we receive. We hosted the popular "I'm Not Racist, But..." during National Reconciliation Week, and "Defining your future: a conversation about constitutional recognition, treaty and sovereignty" in the Blue Mountains. Local reconciliation groups continued another year of engagement in their local communities. This work at the local, grassroots level will become even more important as the federal government inches the nation towards a referendum on constitutional recognition in the next few years.

"[T]he state of reconciliation in the lands of first contact, New South Wales, remains unfinished work for the NSW Government."

With a view to future sustainability we launched our Reconciliation Action Plan consultancy and began taking our first clients, and in October signed a memorandum of understanding with Local Government NSW. We are looking forward to working closely with local government and local Aboriginal land councils in NSW during 2017 and beyond.

Earlier in the year we joined with other organisations and survivors to give evidence at the NSW parliamentary inquiry into reparations for the Stolen Generations in NSW. The committee's report was tabled in parliament in June and we await the NSW Government's formal response. The report, *Unfinished Business*, is yet another reminder that the state of reconciliation in the lands of first contact, New South Wales, remains unfinished work for the NSW Government.

The NSW Reconciliation Council enjoys strong support from the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, the Hon. Leslie Williams MP, and many state Members of Parliament are members of our organisation. We hope in 2017 these relationships remain strong, and that reconciliation and meaningful relationships with Aboriginal people are reconfirmed as a whole-of-government commitment.

> Lindon Coombes Cecilia Anthony

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

To work at the NSW Reconciliation Council is to be inspired and infuriated, amazed and frustrated – sometimes all at once – on a daily basis. Often, it feels as though we are trying to climb over an insurmountable wall of public apathy and prejudice, and that we should throw up our hands and declare our mission impossible. But then we hear a story, or meet an activist, or read an article that reignites our faith in the work that we do. And so we continue to strive for justice, healing and equality for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

2016 has contained the usual melting pots of inspirations and frustrations. Throughout the year, we have been working hard to improve our operational and governance procedures, at the same time as administering a program of projects and events that will increase understanding and support of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, cultures and histories across the state. Thanks to the hard work and dedication of NSW Reconciliation Council employees and members, there have been many high points and achievements. We were delighted to see a renewed bipartisan commitment to reconciliation - in the form of the establishment of the NSW Parliamentary Friends of Reconciliation group – arise from last year's Reconciliation in Parliament. We were thrilled at the success of this year's NSW Schools' Reconciliation Challenge, which was our biggest ever. We were excited at the opportunities made available through our new partnerships with Local Government NSW, the National Trust NSW, and the Sydney Story Factory, and through our new Reconciliation Action Plan consultancy. We were delighted to see so many local reconciliation groups determinedly pursuing

reconciliation in their communities across the state. These and many other achievements gave us enormous confidence and pride in the work that we and our partners do in pursuing reconciliation in NSW.

Nonetheless, the NSW Reconciliation Council faces numerous challenges in its pursuit of justice, healing and equality. Perhaps most significant amongst these challenges is that of ensuring that we have stable and adequate funding to carry out our work on a strategic, long-term basis. We have received invaluable funding support from the Aboriginal Affairs NSW in the past, and anticipate that this relationship will continue into the future; however, it is becoming increasingly clear that we will need to diversify our income streams in the coming years in order to maintain and expand the current scope of our work. We are continuing to explore a variety of options in this regard, and are confident that we are capable of meeting any financial challenges that may lie ahead. We are determined that, in the years ahead, we will have adequate resources to realise and surpass all of our current strategic priorities: becoming a reconciliation information hub, increasing participation in reconciliation, and holding successful reconciliation-based events across the state.

We are also continuing to grapple with the challenges presented to all cause-based organisations by the changing forms of activism in the digital era. Our members and supporters are passionate and engaged, but it is important that we continue to grow and diversify our membership, and to ensure that our members are able to advocate for reconciliation in a contemporary and effective manner. Engaging young people in the reconciliation cause is a very high



"We must ensure that any notion of reconciliation that we promote is one that reflects the current interests and priorities of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities across New South Wales."

priority for us; however, we are aware that young people nowadays are less likely to join activist groups or attend issue-based events than their older community counterparts. As such, we are constantly seeking to identify new ways to encourage and facilitate young people's participation in the reconciliation journey in NSW. In addition to the NSW Schools' Reconciliation Challenge – which allows us to reach out to school students around the state – we have begun building relationships with local universities, and have been using social media channels to engage young Australians in a conversation about reconciliation. We are already seeing successes with these initiatives, and will continue to prioritise youth engagement in the year ahead.

A final challenge to our organisation is that of ensuring that reconciliation remains a "people's movement". We cannot impose a reconciliation agenda upon our members or stakeholders from the top down, or we risk alienating and undermining the very people whose interests we are trying to serve. It is important for us to always remember that, in the years since the organisation was founded, the idea of reconciliation has been contested and debated, and has evolved significantly as a result of these discussions. We must ensure that any notion of reconciliation that we promote is one that reflects the current interests and priorities of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities across NSW. As such, we must take all steps necessary to consult on the subject of reconciliation with all relevant stakeholders, and to evolve our organisation's operations, objectives and strategy accordingly.

2017 will be an important year for the NSW Reconciliation Council, and for the reconciliation movement more broadly. It will be the 50th anniversary of the 1967 referendum; the 25th anniversary of the High Court's *Mabo* decision; and the 20th anniversary of the NSW Reconciliation Council itself. Our planning is underway for the commemoration of these various milestones, and we are already looking forward to celebrating and reflecting with our members, supporters and stakeholders. We encourage you to begin reflecting on how you can be involved in next year's commemorations – please be in touch if you have any questions or would like further information.

Gilly Dempsey

2016 IN REVIEW

NSW SCHOOLS' RECONCILIATION CHALLENGE: THE BIGGEST AND BEST YET

2016 marked the seventh, and most successful, year of our flagship program, the NSW Schools' Reconciliation Challenge (SRC). This annual art competition seeks to inspire students in years five to nine across NSW to learn more about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, cultures and histories, by asking them to create artworks based on a reconciliation-related theme. We began the year with an exhibition at the Dunghutti-Ngaku Aboriginal Art Gallery in Kempsey, where we displayed the winning artworks from the 2015 Schools' Reconciliation Challenge. The exhibition was launched on 12 February by the Hon. Leslie Williams MP, NSW Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, and was attended by representatives from Kinchela Boys Home Aboriginal Corporation, local school groups, the mayor of Kempsey, and local Member of Parliament the Hon. Melinda Pavey. We were delighted at how well the exhibition was attended and received, and used the launch as an opportunity to have the Minister open the 2016 Challenge.

This year the theme was "Always Was, Always Will Be", and we received more than 1000 entries to our art and writing categories from far and wide across the state. We were astonished with both the quantity and quality of the art and writing received. The entries gave us a tremendous insight into how schools across NSW are seeking ways to increase their understanding and engagement in the reconciliation process. We held a successful awards ceremony and exhibition launch at the Museum of Arts and Applied Sciences (MAAS) in August, with winning students being handed their prize certificates by Minister Williams. The 2016 SRC also gave rise to an exciting set of new collaborations, which have allowed us to extend the competition's learning opportunities further than ever before. In partnership with the Sydney Story Factory and MAAS, we ran a series of digital creative workshops in May, which were designed to educate and inspire students before they began working on their entries to the SRC. John Blair, the Indigenous Storyteller at the Sydney Story Factory, ran virtual workshops with more than 400 students across three days, using MAAS's digital technologies to reach schools in a variety of regional and metropolitan areas. It was wonderful to see new technologies being used to inspire young people to think about reconciliation, and we are already considering how we can mobilise other new digital technologies to make the SRC more efficient, far-reaching and inspiring in 2017.

In the second half of the year, we launched a partnership with the National Trust NSW to tour 16 of the best artworks from this year's SRC to a number of regional locations across NSW. By displaying these artworks at National Trust venues in Yass, Armidale, Woodford and Dubbo, we are hoping to provoke renewed conversations about reconciliation across NSW, and to strengthen our ties with regional and rural communities. Thus far, our SRC exhibitions at Cooma Cottage in Yass and at Saumarez Homestead in Armidale have proved immensely successful, with hundreds of visitors viewing the "Always Was, Always Will Be" exhibition and local exhibition launch events. We are very glad to have begun forging connections with these regional communities, and hope to return there many times in the coming years.



"I'M NOT RACIST, BUT..." 2016: CONSIDERING LANGUAGE, IDENTITY AND BELONGING

"I'm Not Racist, But..." (INRB) has been one of the NSW Reconciliation Council's biggest and most consistent successes over the past few years, and 2016 was no different. Once again, we partnered with Sydney Ideas (University of Sydney) to organise the panel discussion during National Reconciliation Week, which aims to inspire young Australians to engage in an open dialogue about racism in our country. This year, our diverse panel of guests discussed the theme of "Language, Identity and Belonging" in front of an audience of more than a hundred people at Sydney's Giant Dwarf Theatre. The panel was made up of spoken word artist Luka Lesson, journalist Alex McKinnon, Professor Jakelin Troy, and artist Abdul Abdullah, and was moderated by Yatu Widders-Hunt. We were particularly excited to hear from Professor Troy, the Director of the University of Sydney's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Research Network, who spoke at length about her desire to see Australian school students learn Australian – namely, Aboriginal – languages in their schools. She explained that only thirteen of 300 Aboriginal languages are currently spoken in Australia, as a result of government policies that prevented Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples from speaking their own languages. The audience was extremely moved by Professor Troy's speech, and it was adapted for an



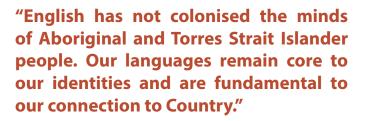
Yatu Widders-Hunt in action at "I'm Not Racist, But...." 2016 Photographer: Shay Tobin

article, "Why Every Aussie Should Learn To Speak An Indigenous Australian Language", for popular news website Junkee.com. The audience also enjoyed the wonderful interval performance from local Aboriginal musician Evie J Willie.

"I'm Not Racist, But..." 2016 received good coverage and engagement on social media this year, with many guests posting on Facebook and Twitter about the perspectives they had heard and shared at the event. Overall, the feedback we received on social media was extremely positive. However, we received feedback from a few Aboriginal Australians who told us they would have preferred us to have an all-Aboriginal panel event during National Reconciliation Week. We have taken this feedback into account in our planning for National Reconciliation Week 2017, and will continue considering ways in which we can ensure that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander voices are prioritised at all NSW Reconciliation Council events.

A NEW PARTNERSHIP WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENT NSW

In October, we were delighted to attend the Local Government NSW Annual Conference to sign a memorandum of understanding with Local Government NSW, the peak representative body for the state's local councils. The memorandum of understanding outlines a shared vision for increasing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander representation in local councils, and for developing councils' cultural awareness and engagement with Aboriginal communities. This is the beginning of an exciting new partnership with Local Government NSW and its members. We will be providing them with our expertise and various services in the coming months and years, and look forward to



Professor Jakelin Troy, INRB 2016

assisting local councils around NSW with the development and implementation of their reconciliation ventures. In particular, we anticipate that this partnership will provide us with further opportunities to collaborate with our local reconciliation groups, and to forge or strengthen connections between the NSW Reconciliation Council, local reconciliation groups, local councils, and local Aboriginal land councils in regions across the state.

LAUNCHING OUR RECONCILIATION ACTION PLAN CONSULTANCY

This year, the NSW Reconciliation Council has launched its very own Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) consultancy. A RAP is a strategy that enables organisations to make relevant, meaningful contributions to a reconciled Australia. Building on three key concepts - Relationships, Respect, and Opportunities - corporate, not-for-profit and government groups use RAPs to consider and commit to the creation of social change and economic opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Since 2006, more than 650 organisations have developed their own RAP through Reconciliation Australia's RAP program, and the NSW Reconciliation Council has now begun working in partnership with Reconciliation Australia to help organisations develop meaningful and appropriate RAPs. The manager of Reconcili-



ation Australia's Reconciliation Action Plan Program, Darryl Monaghan, trained our staff to work with RAP clients, and assisted us with the development of our RAP workshops and resources. We are grateful to Reconciliation Australia for their assistance with this initiative, and have very much enjoyed establishing and launching our RAP consultancy. We recently submitted our first client's RAP for official endorsement, and look forward to developing further RAPs with new clients in the future. The RAP consultancy has the potential to develop into a significant line of work and source of income for the NSW Reconciliation Council over the next few years.

DISCUSSIONS ABOUT CONSTITUTIONAL RECOGNITION, TREATY AND SOVEREIGNTY

As debate continues to rage around the country about the potentials and pitfalls of constitutional recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, we have worked to provide information and facilitate dialogue about these significant proposed reforms. In particular, we have focused on raising awareness about the issues surrounding constitutional recognition within the NSW Reconciliation Council's membership network via social media and web resources. Earlier this year, in consultation with the Blue Mountains People for Reconciliation, we identified that the Blue Mountains region could benefit from a community dialogue about constitutional recognition. We organised a panel discussion at the Mid Mountains Neighbourhood Centre in Lawson featuring Wiradjuri MP Linda Burney, Yuin lawyer Tim Goodwin, NSW Reconciliation Council secretary Clark Donovan (Gumbaynggirr/Gunditjmara) and Yindjibarndi executive and artist Jody Broun. The event was highly engaging and well-attended by both Aboriginal

and non-Aboriginal members of the Blue Mountains community, and received excellent coverage in the local newspaper and on The Deadlee Gap, a nationally syndicated Aboriginal radio program based in the Blue Mountains. We hope to host a number of similar community dialogues in other NSW regions prior to the referendum on constitutional recognition. In the meantime, we will continue to use our website and social media channels to keep NSW Reconciliation Council members and followers up-to-date with the latest in this important, ongoing debate.

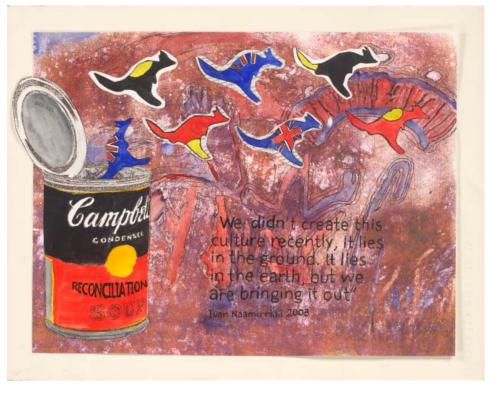


The Hon. Linda Burney MP and Aunty Carol Cooper at our constitutional recognition and treaty forum in the Blue Mountains Photographer: Shay Tobin

LOBBYING FOR RECONCILIATION IN NSW PARLIAMENT

A crucial aspect of the NSW Reconciliation Council's role is to ensure that members of NSW Parliament continue to regard and treat reconciliation as an issue of central political importance. Since 2006, we have been partnering with ANTaR NSW to run Reconciliation In Parliament, an annual event that takes place in NSW Parliament to facilitate open dialogue between parliamentarians and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community members. This year, we were delighted to learn that our 2015

Reconciliation In Parliament event had inspired a number of NSW members of parliament to form the NSW Parliamentary Friends of Reconciliation, a parliamentary friendship group that will work to promote reconciliation in the NSW Parliament and in its members' electorates. The NSW Parliamentary Friends of Reconciliation was officially launched at an event at NSW Parliament House in March, which included a speech from NSW Premier The Hon. Mike Baird, MP. It was a well-attended, engaging event, and we were delighted to see that Reconciliation In Parliament had brought about such a public demonstration of bipartisan commitment to reconciliation. Since then, we have been seeking opportunities to collaborate with the NSW Parliamentary Friends of Reconciliation,



It Lies in the Ground by Ryan Rubinstein (Reddam House) First Prize, NSW Schools' Reconciliation Challenge 2016

and are confident that its members will be strong advocates for reconciliation in NSW over the coming months and years.

In November this year, Reconciliation In Parliament focused on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander justice issues in NSW. Representatives from Just Reinvest NSW – an organisation that advocates for the state government to adopt a justice reinvestment policy – spoke about the need to rethink our approach to the justice system in light of its ongoing and well-documented failures of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Ensuring that the justice system better



serves Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples is a crucial aspect of the reconciliation process, and it is an issue on which we will continue to advocate strongly. Thank you to ANTaR NSW for their hard work in organising this event; we are already looking forward to Reconciliation in Parliament 2017. Outside of Reconciliation In Parliament, the NSW Reconciliation Council has continued to advocate for a comprehensive reparations program for members of the Stolen Generations. We have made submissions to the relevant parliamentary committee's inquiry into this matter, and while we await the NSW Government's formal response to the committee's report, we are liaising with relevant stakeholders and survivors to provide support and assistance where possible. ognised that they are vital means of engaging both our current membership and potential new members and supporters. Our new social media strategy has been highly successful, and we have significantly increased our following on Facebook and Twitter, the reach of our posts, and the level of engagement with the content we publish from our Facebook and Twitter accounts. We have also undertaken a revamp of our website, in order to make it more navigable and informative about the work of our organisation in line with our strategic goal of becoming an information hub. Finally, we have developed and implemented a successful media relations strategy, and have proactively reached out to various media outlets in order to increase media coverage of the NSW Reconciliation Council.

FOCUS ON MEDIA AND COMMUNICATIONS

Throughout the year, the NSW Reconciliation Council has renewed its focus on media and communications, in line with our desire to ensure that reconciliation remains a central issue of public discussion in NSW. First and foremost, we have made the man-



agement of our social media channels an operational priority, as we have rec-

Aunty Jean South in conversation at a NSWRC panel event this year Photographer: Shay Tobin

MEMBERSHIP

The NSW Reconciliation Council has over 1000 members across the state. The majority of these members are also members of our 26 local reconciliation groups, which operate in local communities throughout the Sydney region, New England, the Murray/Riverina, and in Northern, Western and Southern NSW. The NSW Reconciliation Council staff provides financial and logistical support to its local reconciliation groups to assist them with administering community-based reconciliation initiatives. Each year, these groups collectively run more than 50 events around the state; their work is vital in building bridges in local communities, particularly in regional areas that are difficult for the NSW Reconciliation Council to reach from its base in metropolitan Sydney.

Below are reports from just a few of our local reconciliation groups, highlighting some of their main activities for the year.

BLUE MOUNTAINS PEOPLE FOR RECONCILIATION

Blue Mountains People for Reconciliation is based in the Blue Mountains region, and runs a program of reconciliation activities across the Blue Mountains throughout the year.

2016 saw an expansion of our "Aboriginal Artists in Blue Mountains Schools" project. With funding from the NSW Reconciliation Council, we provided workshops with six local Aboriginal artists in eight schools, with support from Aunty Carol Cooper and volunteers from Blue Mountains People for Reconciliation. The students' artworks were displayed at a Cultural Sharing Day at the Mid Mountains Community Centre on Saturday 28 May to mark Reconciliation Week, before being sent to Sydney for judging in the NSW Schools' Reconciliation Challenge.

Members of Blue Mountains People for Reconciliation supported and participated in the 18th Annual Sharing the Journey Elders Lunch was held on Wednesday 21 October at Mid Mountains Community Centre. 121 Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Elders enjoyed lunch and the day's activities. As always, the elders enjoyed an excellent lunch and there were raffles, lucky door prizes, the annual colouring competition and lots of talking, catching up with old friends and meeting new people. Everyone went home with a gift bag loaded with information and goodies.

The annual mirror flash across Gundungurra country was held on 9 April, involving members of the Blue Mountains People for Reconciliation and Wingecarribee Reconciliation Group on Gibbergunyah country near Mittagong. On 30 April Blue Mountains People for Reconciliation supported the NSW Reconciliation Council to hold a conversation about constitutional recognition, treaty and sovereignty in Lawson. The group is also very involved in the Commemorating Aboriginal Diggers from Macquarie electorate ANZAC Centenary project, with a lot of time spent in war memorial archives.

FRIENDS OF MYALL CREEK MEMORIAL

The Friends of Myall Creek reconciliation group is based in Northern NSW, and works to raise awareness of the Myall Creek Massacre of 1838, in which 28 Aboriginal men, women and children were murdered by white colonialists.

On May 11, the Friends of Myall Creek Memorial group



held an event, Australia's Unfinished Nationhood, in the Jubilee Room in NSW Parliament House. A capacity audience heard 14 speakers speaking on the theme "the path to our future passes through the past". Indigenous and non-Indigenous speakers walked us through the history of the Myall Creek Massacre, the trauma of this event for all Australians, the need for healing, and visions for a healed Australia. Speakers from Germany and South Africa also gave us their personal perspectives from their nations' journeys through the Holocaust and Aparthied to ongoing reconciliation. This gave us a good insight into the cost and courage that such a journey requires. A booklet listing known massacres throughout Australia from late 1770s to the 1940s was distributed on the night.

The annual gathering of the Friends of Myall Creek Memorial was held at Myall Creek on Sunday 12 June, with an estimated 300 people in attendance. The guest speaker was Aunty Noeline Briggs-Smith OAM, a Moree historian who has a passion for truth-telling in history. Throughout the day people were entertained by Roger Knox – Koori King of Country – and his friends who provided songs that brought both poignancy and offered hope to those attending. Dance and song performances were given by young people in the Tingha Traditional Dancers group.

As in previous years, we were encouraged by the number of local school communities participating in the commemoration. There was even a busload of students and staff from Radford College in Canberra who had made the long journey to be present. Radford College, like many other schools, organise excursions each year to the Memorial to learn an important part of Australia's shared history.

MT DRUITT AND DISTRICT RECONCILIATION GROUP

Mt Druitt and District Reconciliation Group is based in Western Sydney, and have been working for reconciliation since 1997 when it held its first Reconciliation Walk and Concert.

Our annual Reconciliation Walk is supported by Blacktown City Council with funding for stage and media equipment plus additional funds for major Aboriginal artists. For the past five years we have mentored Community Service students from Nirimba TAFE who volunteer their newfound skills on the day, by manning stalls and displaying an increased understanding of Aboriginal culture. A highlight of this day is the opportunity for new and amateur artists to show that "Mt Druitt has talent".

Since 2009 the group has hosted an annual Apology Commemoration, which is designed to give members of the local Stolen Generations the space to tell their stories and discuss ways to move forward. Past speakers have included Mick Gooda, Senator Malarndirri McCarthy, Aden Ridgeway, and in 2016 we hosted Michael Welsh from the Healing Foundation.

Mt Druitt and District Reconciliation Group supported, with Community Junction, Moogahlin Performing Arts Inc and Curious Works (part of the Casula Powerhouse Arts Centre), a wonderful three-day walk for 14 Indigenous young people. They walked and travelled from the Blue Mountains to the Institute Site at Rooty Hill. The young people were supported by Aboriginal Elders in their quest to learn, experience and understand their Aboriginal culture.



The group has also recommenced occasional Yarning Circles with local Aboriginal storytellers at the Holy Family Centre.

WINGA MYAMLY RECONCILIATION GROUP

Winga Myamly Reconciliation Group is based in the Macarthur region, and organises a number of reconciliation activities throughout the year – most notably the annual Appin Massacre Memorial.

The Appin Massacre Memorial is held annually on or about the anniversary of the Appin Massacre, which took place on 16 April 1816. This year marked the 200th anniversary of this horrendous event, which is significant for being Australia's first government-sanctioned massacre of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

This year's memorial event was organised by Winga Myamly Reconciliation Group and involved a coalition of individuals and organisations from across the Macarthur and greater Sydney region. The event is always well supported by the Macarthur community, and this year community support was stepped up, with Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal community members and organisations working side by side to bring it about successfully.

This year, media coverage in the leadup to the memorial was impressive, and social media made a substantial contribution to spreading news of the event and boosting attendance. There was also significant national and local print and electronic media coverage. This coverage was reflected in the attendance levels – it was estimated that approximately 2000 people attended on the day. Amongst other dignitaries, NSW Governor David Hurley attended the memorial, but protocol prevented him from making an apology for the Appin Massacre on this occasion. A formal government apology is still to be achieved, but a campaign has commenced to make this a possibility.

Winga Myamly thanks NSW Reconciliation Council for its support with this event, and acknowledges other local reconciliation group members who attended on the day. We particularly wish to give thanks to those grassroots community members, Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal, who worked side by side to help make this year such an impressive success.

"There was significant national and local print and electronic media coverage [of the Appin Memorial]. This coverage was reflected in the attendance levels – it was estimated that approximately 2000 people attended on the day."

Winga Myamly Reconciliation Group

WOMEN'S RECONCILIATION NETWORK

The Women's Reconciliation Network has been working in the Sydney region since 1996. This year, they celebrated their 20th anniversary with a special Women's Spirit Event during National Reconciliation Week.

"We want black and white people walking together. We need you young people to step up. We're getting old now, rickety in the knees." That was the call to action Aunty Ali Golding made to a room filled with women, both young and old, at the Redfern Community Centre on Thursday 2 June. More than 90 Indigenous and non-Indigenous



women gathered together to mark Reconciliation Week and celebrate the twentieth anniversary of the Women's Reconciliation Network (WRN). The network started in Sydney to help support Aboriginal women, bridge the gap between communities and shift attitudes on issues affecting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Aunty Ali, a Biripi woman from the NSW north coast, has been one of the WRN's Indigenous mentors from the start. "Way back then my desire and the spirit in my heart was to build a lot of bridges, left, right and centre" she said. "To have our Aboriginal people give the message across to non-Aboriginal people and tell our stories of our struggle, our pain, our suffering in this country. And if there are non-Indigenous people there who could understand that and take that into their spirits, then that's like bridge building."

Another woman who was at that first meeting of the WRN was Elaine Telford. Ms Telford shed a tear when she spoke about the volunteers of the network. She used the analogy of water to explain the network's determination to change the psyche of the nation. "Water can look very soft and clear but can wear out rocks, however this doesn't happen overnight," she said. "It's that long, slow consistent work that brings about change."

That work is what Aunty Ali now wants to pass on to the next generation of young people. "We need more respect, and understanding of one another's cultures and customs," she said. "With that deeper understanding we can get to know each other more. If we do something about communication now, we'll be great teachers for our next generation's kids."

LOCAL RECONCILIATION GROUPS

- Aboriginal Support Group Manly Warringah Pittwater
- ANTaR Armidale
- ANTaR Inner West
- Bennelong and Surrounds Residents for Reconciliation
- Blue Mountains People for Reconciliation
- Friends of Myall Creek Memorial
- Harbour to Hawkesbury Australians for Reconciliation
- Hornsby Area Residents for Reconciliation
- Kyogle Reconciliation Group
- Lane Cove Residents for Reconciliation
- Moree Reconciliation Group
- Mosman Reconciliation Group
- Mt Druitt and Districts Reconciliation Group
- North Illawarra Reconciliatoin and Treaty Group
- Nyerna Deniliquin Reconciliation Group
- Parkes Reconciliation Group
- Pioneer Reconciliation Group
- Projects for Reconciliation
- Reconciliation for Western Sydney Incorporated
- Reconciliation Network Northern Sydney Region
- Sisters for Reconciliation (Northern Rivers) and
 Cavanbah Reconciliation Group
- Sutherland Shire Reconcilation
- Winga Myamly Reconciliation Group
- Wingecarribee Reconciliation Group
- Women's Reconciliation Network

GOVERNANCE & OPERATIONS

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The NSW Reconciliation Council is managed by a Board (Management Committee) of eight members, elected annually by our membership at the Annual General Meeting. Members of the Management Committee act in a voluntary capacity and oversee the operations of the NSW Reconciliation Council office, the management of reconciliation projects and our campaigns. At least 50% of the Management Committee must be Indigenous, with one Indigenous Co-Chair and one non-Indigenous Co-Chair. The management committee in 2015/2016 has been as follows:

Lindon Coombes (Indigenous Chair)

Lindon has worked in Aboriginal Affairs for over 18 years, He held senior executive and leading roles at the NSW Department of Aboriginal Affairs, the National Congress of Australia's First Peoples, and Tranby Aboriginal College in Glebe. He has worked fo¬r ATSIC and spent a number of years as Senior Policy Advisor to successive Ministers for Aboriginal Affairs in the NSW Government. He is now Director of PwC's Indigenous Consulting.

Cecilia Anthony (Non-Indigenous Chair)

Cecilia Anthony is a strategic expert with a professional background in advocacy and campaigning, training, politics and policy. She has worked extensively in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander policy development in government and at NGO level in a range of positions, including senior advisor to the New South Wales Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Principal Policy Officer at the Department of Aboriginal Affairs, Government Relations Manager at the National Congress of Australia's First Peoples, and advisor to former Prime Minister Kevin Rudd.

Gerard Sullivan (Treasurer)

Gerard is a sociologist whose research focuses on access and equity and the provision of health, education and welfare services. He has been an educator at the secondary and tertiary levels, and held higher education management roles. Gerard is also a volunteer at the National Congress of Australia's First Peoples where he advises on education policy.

Clark Donovan (Secretary)

Clark Donovan is a proud Gumbaynggirr and Gunditjmara man. He is currently in his fourth year of a Bachelor of Laws and Languages (Mandarin). While studying he has been heavily involved in the Indigenous collective at the University of Technology Sydney, advising and helping other Indigenous students with their studies. Clark has also, through the Career-Trackers program, been interning at Gadens for the past 3 years.

Rebeckah Mooney (Member)

Rebeckah is a Birri and Kaanju woman from Queensland who has lived in Glebe for more than 30 years. Rebeckah has worked as the Aboriginal Education Officer for Sydney Secondary College for the past ten years. In this role and as an active member of her community she has worked on many projects that encourage reconciliation.



Zoe Betar (Member)

Zoe Betar is a proud Bundjalung woman from Northern NSW. Zoe works for the National Centre of Indigenous Excellence as the Learning Experience Designer in the Indigenous Digital Excellence (IDX) Team. She is involved in building, collaborating and presenting workshops to and for young ones in the areas of Digital Making (such as coding and building online games, 3D printing and robotics) using an Indigenous cultural lens.

Fiona Britton (Member)

Dr Fiona Britton is a strategic communications consultant with more than 20 years' experience. She is now Principal at Archer and Arrow Communications.

Alison Faure-Brac (Member)

Over the past 20 years Alison has conducted research and evaluation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. She has worked as a researcher and evaluator with the Cultural and Indigenous Research Centre Australia since 1998.

STAFF

The NSW Reconciliation Council's operations are carried out by a small team of staff, interns and volunteers at our office in Newtown, Sydney. The team is led by a director, and currently comprises three parttime project officers, a communications intern, and a part-time office manager.



The Women's Reconciliation Network "Women's Spirit Event" Photographer: Jenny Templin

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES' REPORT

The Responsible Entities of New South Wales Reconciliation Council present their Report together with the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2016 and the Independent Audit Report thereon.

Responsible Entities' details

The following persons were Responsible Entities of New South Wales Reconciliation Council during or since the end of the financial year:

- Lindon Coombes (Indigenous Chair) elected on 07th November 2015)
- Cecilia Anthony (Non-Indigenous Chair) elected on 07th November 2015)
- Gerard Sullivan (Treasurer)
- Clark Donovan (Secretary) elected on 07th November 2015
- Rebeckah Mooney (Ordinary Members Indigenous)
- Zoe Betar (Ordinary Members Indigenous) elected on 07th November 2015
- Fiona Britton (Ordinary Members non-Indigenous) elected on 07th November 2015
- Alison Faure-Brac (Ordinary Members non-Indigenous) elected on 07th November 2015.

The following persons resigned during the financial year:

- Carla McGrath (Indigenous Co-Chair) resigned on 07th November 2015
- Kate Brennan (Non-Indigenous Co-Chair) resigned on 07th November 2015
- Tennille Lamb (Secretary) resigned on 07th November 2015
- Jenny Donovan (Ordinary Members non-Indigenous) resigned on 07th November 2015
- Rebecca Gallegos (Ordinary Members non-Indige-

nous) resigned on 07th November 2015

• Dominic Wy Kanak (Ordinary Members Indigenous) resigned on 07th November 2015.

Principal activities

New South Wales Reconciliation Council raises awareness and understanding of reconciliation and Indigenous issues, advocates for social justice, equity and Indigenous rights and grows and supports the people's movement for reconciliation. There have been no significant changes in the nature of these activities during the year.

Members' liabilities

The association is incorporated under the Associations Incorporation Act 2009 (New South Wales) and is a charity registered with the Australian Charities and Not-forprofits Commission (ACNC). If the association is wound up, the constitution states that the liability of a member of the association to contribute towards the payment of the debts and liabilities of the association or the costs, charges and expenses of the winding up of the association is limited to the amount, if any, unpaid by the members in respect of membership. At 30 June 2016, there was no outstanding membership.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Responsible Entities.

Manleen

Cecilia Colony

Lindon Coombs Responsible Entity 15 September 2016

Cecilia Anthony **Responsible Entity** 15 September 2016



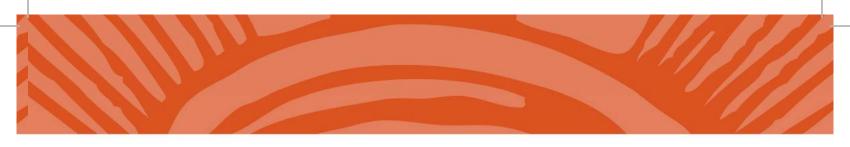
STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

	Note	2016	2015
		\$	\$
Revenues from ordinary activities	2	372,450	277,952
Expenses from ordinary activities	3	(414,877)	(261,924)
Surplus/(deficit) from ordinary activities before income tax		(42,427)	16,028
Other comprehensive income		-	
Provision for income tax expense/(benefit)			
attributable to surplus/(deficit)	_	-	4,808
Surplus/(deficit) after income tax		(42,427)	11,220

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 2016

	Note	2016	2015
		\$	\$
Assets			
Current Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	4	73,855	170,538
Receivables	5	134,750	150,355
Inventory	6	554	8,360
Prepayments	7	3,067	5,418
Total Current Assets	-	212,226	334,671
Non-Current Assets	_		
Equipment	8	2,016	1,576
Total Non-Current Assets	-	2,016	1,576
Total Assets	-	214,242	336,247
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Payables	9	13,428	11,298
Current tax liabilities	10	15,829	30,356
Provisions	11	7,585	7,441
Payment received in advance	12	135,237	202,562
Total Current Liabilities	_	172,079	251,657
Total Liabilities	_	172,079	251,657
Net Assets	_	42,163	84,590
Accumulated Funds			
Accumulated surplus		42,163	84,590
Accumulated Funds at the end of the year		42,163	84,590





STATEMENT OF CHANGE IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

	Accumulated Funds
Balance at 01 st July 2014	73,370
Surplus/(deficit) after income tax for the year	11,220
Balance at 30 th June 2015	84,590
Surplus/(deficit) after income tax for the year	(42,427)
Balance at 30 th June 2016	42,163

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

	Note	2016 \$	2015 \$
Cash Flow From Operating Activities		3	
Cash received from Grants, Donations and other			
activities		382,281	246,707
Payments to suppliers and employees		(477,974)	(182,871)
Interest received		159	852
Interest charges		(5)	(952)
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	13	(95,539)	63,736
Cash Flow From Investing Activities			
Payments for office equipment		(1,144)	(1,879)
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	_	(1,144)	<mark>(1,879</mark>)
Net increase (decrease) in cash held		(96,683)	61,857
Cash at the beginning of the year		170,538	108,681
Cash at the end of the year		73,855	170,538



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

1. Statement of significant accounting Policies

New South Wales Reconciliation Council is an association incorporated under the Associations Incorporation Act 2009 (New South Wales) and is a charity registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) under the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012.

The financial statements have been prepared on the basis that the association is not a reporting entity because there are no users dependent on a general purpose financial report. The financial statements are therefore special purpose financial statements that have been prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and the Associations Incorporation Act 2009 (New South Wales).

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the recognition and measurement requirements specified by the Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations and the disclosure requirements of AASB 101 Presentation of Financial Statements, AASB 107 Statement of Cash Flows, AASB 108 Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors, and AASB 1054 Australian Additional Disclosures.

New South Wales Reconciliation Council is a not-forprofit entity for financial reporting purposes under Australian Accounting Standards.

The financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2016 were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Responsible Entities on 15 September 2016.

1.1 Basis of preparation

The financial statements, except for cash flow infor-

mation, have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs modified by the revaluation of selected non-current assets, and financial assets and liabilities for which the fair value basis of accounting has been applied.

1.2 New and amended standards adopted by the association

The association has adopted all the amendments to Australian Accounting Standards issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board that are relevant to its operations and effective as of 01 July 2015. None of the amendments have had a significant impact on the association.

1.3 Issued standards and interpretations not early adopted

Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations that have recently been issued or amended but are not yet effective have not been adopted by the association for the annual reporting period ended 30 June 2016, unless otherwise stated.

1.4 Accounting estimates and judgements

The preparation of the financial report requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of policies and reported amounts of assets, liabilities, income and expenses. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis of making judgements about carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may be substantially different. In preparing the financial report, the significant judgements made by management in applying the association's accounting policies and the key sources of estimation uncertainty were the same as those that applied to the financial report for the previous financial year.

1.5 Significant accounting policies

The following is a summary of the material accounting policies adopted by the association in the preparation of the financial report. The accounting policies have been consistently applied, unless otherwise stated.

(a) Revenue

Revenue comprises revenue from grants, donations, fundraising activities, membership fees, commissions, interest and the sale of goods.

Revenue is measured by reference to the fair value of consideration received or receivable by the goods supplied and services provided, excluding Goods and Services Tax, rebates, and discounts.

Revenue is recognised when the amount of revenue can be measured reliably, collection is probable, the costs incurred or to be incurred can be measured reliably, and when the criteria for each of the association's different activities have been met. Details of the activity-specific recognition criteria are described below.

Grants

A number of the association's programs are supported by grants received from the state and local governments, and other grantors.

If conditions are attached to a grant which must be satisfied before the association is eligible to receive the contribution, recognition of the grant as revenue is deferred until those conditions are satisfied. Where a grant is received on the condition that specified services are delivered, to the grantor, this is considered a reciprocal transaction. Revenue is recognised as services are performed and at year-end until the service is delivered.

Revenue from a non-reciprocal grant that is not subject to conditions is recognised when the association obtains control of the funds, economic benefits are probable and the amount can be measured reliably. Where a grant may be required to be repaid if certain conditions are not satisfied, a liability is recognised at year end to the extent that conditions remain unsatisfied.

Where the association receives a non-reciprocal contribution of an asset from a government or other party for no or nominal consideration, the asset is recognised at fair value and a corresponding amount of revenue is recognised.

Donations and income from fundraising activities

Monies received from fundraising activities and donations collected, including cash and goods for resale, are recognised as revenue when the association gains control, economic benefits are probable and the amounts can be measured reliably.

Sale of goods

Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised when the control of goods passes to the customer.

Interest and other income

Interest and other income are recognised when received or receivable.

(b) Operating expenses

Operating expenses are recognised in profit or loss



upon utilisation of the service or at the date of their origin.

(c) Equipment

Equipment (comprising furniture and office equipment) is initially recognised at acquisition cost or manufacturing cost, including any costs directly attributable to bringing the assets to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by the association's management.

Equipment is subsequently measured using the cost model, cost less subsequent depreciation and impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised on a straight-line basis to write down the cost less estimated residual value of equipment. The following useful lives are applied:

- Furniture: 2 3 years
- Computers and other office equipment: 2 3 years

(d) Inventory

Goods for resale are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value. No value is ascribed to goods for resale that have been donated to the association where fair value cannot be reliably determined. Net realisable value is the estimated selling price in the ordinary course of business, less any discount.

(e) Income tax

No provision for income tax has been raised for the year as the association is exempt from income tax under Division 50 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.

(f) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand

and demand deposits, together with other shortterm, highly liquid investments that are readily convertible into known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value.

(g) Employee benefits

Provision is made for the liability for employee entitlements arising from services rendered by employees to balance date. Employee entitlements expected to be settled within one year have been measured at the amount expected to be paid when the liability is settled, plus related on-costs. Employee entitlements payable later than one year have been measured at the present value of the estimated future cash out flows to be made for those entitlements.

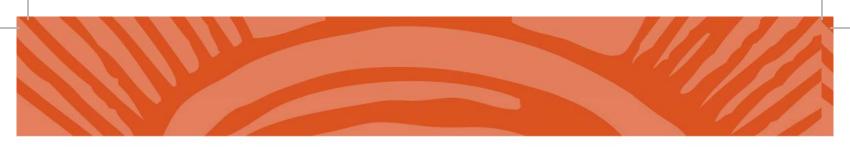
(h) Provisions, contingent liabilities and contingent assets

Provisions are recognized when New South Wales Reconciliation Council has a legal or constructive obligation, as a result of past events, for which it is probable that the outflow of economic benefit will result and that the outflow can be measured reliably.

No liability is recognised if an outflow of economic resources as a result of present obligation is not probable. Such situations are disclosed as contingent liabilities, unless the outflow of resources is remote in which case no liability is recognised.

(i) Payment received in advance (deferred income)

The liability for deferred income is the unutilised amounts of grants received on the condition that specified services are delivered or conditions are fulfilled. The services are usually provided or the conditions usually fulfilled within twelve (12) months of receipt of the grant. Where the amount received is in



respect of services to be provided over a period that exceeds twelve (12) months after the reporting date or the conditions will only be satisfied more than twelve (12) months after the reporting date, the liability is discounted and presented as non-current.

(j) Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office. In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense. Receivables and payables in the statement of financial position are shown inclusive of GST.

Cash flows are presented in the statement of cash flows on a gross basis, except for the GST components of investing and financing activities, which are disclosed as operating cash flows.

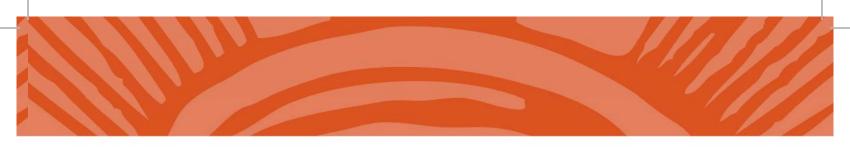
(k) Economic dependence

The association is dependent upon the ongoing receipt of State Government grants and community and corporate donations to ensure the ongoing continuance of its programs. At the date of this report management has no reason to believe that this financial support will not continue in the 2017 financial year.

(I) Comparative figures

Where required by Accounting Standards comparative figures have been adjusted with changes in presentation for the current financial year.





NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016 (CONTINUED)

2. Revenue

	2016 \$	2015 \$
Revenue:		
NSW State Government Grant	286,349	202,651
Other Grants and Donations	81,867	68,655
Merchandise sales	527	193
Tickets	2,143	4,898
Other income	1,405	703
Interest received	159	852
	372,450	277,952
3. Expenses		
	2016	2015
	\$	\$
Employee Expenses	259,129	136,590
Other Operational Costs	155,748	125,334
Total Expenses	414,877	261,924

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016 (CONTINUED)

4. Cash and cash equivalents	2016 \$	2015 \$
Cash at bank	73,855	170,538
5. Receivables		
	2016	2015 \$
Grant Receivable	134,750	150,355
6. Inventory		
	2016 \$	2015
T-shirts and Tea-towels	554	\$,360
7. Prepayments		
	2016	2015
	\$	\$
Worker compensation insurance		3,302
Public Liability insurance	2,143	2,116
Office Operations insurance	807	-

117 3,067

5,418



Other paid expenses

Total Prepayments

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016 (CONTINUED)

8. Equipment

	2016	2015
	\$	\$
Office furniture		
- At cost	849	605
- Less: Accumulated depreciation	(525)	(126)
	324	479
Computers and Laptops		
- At cost	2,174	1,274
- Less: Accumulated depreciation	(481)	(177)
	1,693	1,097
	2,017	1,576

9. Payables

	2016 \$	2015 \$
Payable to suppliers	5,834	6,210
Payable to employees	-	78
Superannuation payable	7,594	5,009
Total Payables	13,428	11,298

10.	Tax	Lial	biliti	es

10. Tax Liabilities	2016	2015
	\$	\$
GST liability	11,289	19,900
Amounts withheld from salary and wages	4,540	10,456
	15,829	30,356

11. Provisions

	2016	2015
	\$	\$
Aggregate employee entitlements liability	7,585	7,441

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016 (CONTINUED)

12. Payment received in advance

	2016	2015
	\$	\$
NSW State Government Grant	122,500	164,349
Other Grants	12,737	38,213
	135,237	202,562

13. Reconciliation of Profit or Loss for the year to net cash from operating activities

	2016 \$	2015 \$
Surplus/(deficit) after income tax	(42,427)	11,220
Adjustments to reconcile to cash provided by operations		
Changes and credits		
Depreciation	703	303
Changes in working capital items:		
Trade debtors	15,605	(82,980)
Inventory	7,807	(8,360)
Prepayments	2,350	(3,084)
Trade creditors	(377)	6,210
Other payables	2,507	5,084
Employee entitlements	144	(1,063)
Payment received in advance	(67,325)	141,312
Income tax and other tax liabilities	(14,526)	(4,906)
Net cash from operating activities	95,539	63,736

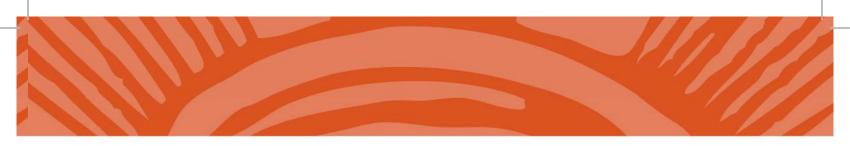
14. Events Subsequent to Reporting Date

There were no material post balance events which would affect the financial position of New South Wales Reconciliation Council.

15. Related Parties

There were no transactions conducted with related parties during the financial year.





RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES' DECLARATION

In the opinion of the Responsible Entities of New South Wales Reconciliation Council:

1. The financial statements and notes to the financial statements of New South Wales Reconciliation Council are in accordance with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and the Associations Incorporation Act 2009, including:

(a) Giving a true and fair view of its financial position as at 30 June 2016 and of its performance for the financial year ended on that date; and

(b) Complying with the Australian Accounting Standards outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012, and the Associations Incorporation Act 2009; and

2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that New South Wales Reconciliation Council will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Responsible Entities

acoules,

Lindon Coombs Responsible Entity 15 September 2016

realizatory

Cecilia Anthony Responsible Entity 15 September 2016

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the members of New South Wales Reconciliation Council

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of New South Wales Reconciliation Council (the association), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30th June 2016, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, a summary of significant accounting policies, other explanatory notes to the accounts.

Board's Responsibility for the Financial Report

The Board of the association is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report and have determined that the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, which form part of the financial report, are consistent with the financial reporting requirements of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012, the Associations Incorporation Act 2009 (New South Wales) and are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The Board's responsibilities also include establishing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used, as described in Note 1, are appropriate to meet the needs of the members.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These Auditing Standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluation the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates by the Board, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

The financial report has been prepared for distribution to members for the purpose of fulfilling the Board's financial reporting under the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and the Associations Incorporation Act 2009 (New South Wales). We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial report to which it relates to any person other than the members, or for any purpose other than that for



which it was prepared.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Independence

In conducting our audit, we have complied with the independence requirements of Australian professional ethical pronouncements.

Qualification

As is common for organisations of this type, it is not practical for the association to maintain an effective system of internal control to measure the completeness and accuracy of receipts of subscriptions, cash donations (if any) and other fund raising activities until their initial entry in the accounting records. Accordingly, our audit in relation to income and expenses was limited to amounts recorded.

Auditor's Opinion

In our opinion, except for the effects on the financial report of any such adjustments, if any, as might have been required had the limitation on our audit procedures referred to in the qualification paragraph not existed; the financial report of New South Wales Reconciliation Council is in accordance with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and the Associations Incorporation Act 2009 (New South Wales) including:

1. Giving a true and fair view of the association's financial position as at 30th June 2016 and of its performance for the year ended on that date; and

2. Complying with Australian Accounting Standards, the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and the Associations Incorporation Act 2009 (New South Wales) as disclosed in Note 1.

Sim Cloten

Horwood Partners Simon Chhoeu, FCPA, CA 15 September 2016

As an independent, not-for-profit organisation, the NSW Reconciliation Council relies on support from all parts of the community. We would like to thank the following organisations for their support this year, and to acknowledge the important work they carry out in furthering reconciliation across NSW.

- Aboriginal Affairs NSW
- Reconciliation Australia
- Recognise
- UGL
- Lend Lease
- Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences
- Sydney Story Factory
- The National Trust NSW
- DiverseWerks
- Centre for Cultural Competence Australia
- Louise B Creative
- ANTaR NSW
- Sydney Ideas University of Sydney
- Sydney University Law Society
- Amnesty NSW
- Archer and Arrow Communications
- Wise-up Marketing
- Golden Age Cinema and Bar
- The Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards NSW
- NSW Teachers Federation
- Association of Independent Schools
- NSW Department of Education
- Catholic Education Commission NSW
- National Congress of Australia's First Peoples
- Mountains Outreach Community Service (MOCS)
- Australian Human Rights Commission
- Multicultural NSW
- Local Government NSW
- Just Reinvest NSW
- The residents and custodians of Kempsey, Yass, Armidale and the Blue Mountains.

Thank you also to all the individuals who donated time, money and/or resources to the NSW Reconciliation Council this year. Your assistance with events, projects and in the office has been invaluable

CONTACT US

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