



Reconciliation NSW

ANNUAL SUMMARY 2023



A 26 YEAR LEGACY - RECONCILIATION NSW ANNUAL SUMMARY

CO-CHAIRS REPORT - WELCOME TO OUR RECONCILIATION NSW ANNUAL REPORT

In its 26th year, Reconciliation NSW continues to be the primary point of call for advancing reconciliation across the State. 2023 was a pivotal period in our nation's story, providing a critical moment for us to think about our national identity and who we are as Australians.

While we lament the outcome that Australia was not ready to embrace an enshrined Voice in our Constitution, the Referendum confirmed that millions of Australians want change. We saw a spectacular rise in passionate allies showing up to try and share the importance of this work. Reconciliation NSW worked hard to meet increased demand from various stakeholders, campaigns and community groups to contribute to state-based awareness-raising and action.

Reconciliation NSW will continue to be led by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leadership on the best path forward for Voice, Treat(ies) and Truth. We seek to grow our capacity to meet the need for public education on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, perspectives and histories by amplifying First Nations voices and educating allies. We continue to operate with a small but slowly expanding team of staff and volunteers, all passionate and motivated.

Education

Reconciliation in education continues as a key component of our work. Our focus has been on supporting our core programs, notably the Schools Reconciliation Challenge and Narragunnawali Programs, as teachers play a vital role in shaping our future change-makers.

Through our ongoing partnership with Reconciliation Australia's Narragunnawali program, we've connected and supported educators across the State via workshops and webinars to increase knowledge and confidence to embed reconciliation in classrooms.

Through the 2023 theme, "What Stories Will You Dream?", our 14th Schools Reconciliation Challenge engaged 16,000 students to deepen their understanding of and reflect on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander stories that came before us. They considered the stories upon which this land was built and how we all can contribute to the unwritten stories of the future. Students reflected upon and shared the stories they dream for reconciliation and how they can contribute to making it a reality.

We received 550 art and writing competition entries from 127 schools across NSW and ACT. We again exhibited the Schools Reconciliation Challenge across the State in 8 locations, 3 regional and 5 urban.

Meeting the growing demand sustainably

As noted last year, our focus remains on our organisation's sustainability. We continued to diversify and expand other income sources steadily, with increased sponsorship opportunities from 2022 to 2023. These have allowed us to continue to support and grow our activities across education, government, corporate and regional NSW.

Approaching our 27th year, strengthening our internal infrastructure and processes, driving membership with diverse audiences across NSW, and expanding opportunities and partnerships will be key to our sustainable growth plan. We want to acknowledge our current major funding partners for their incredible contributions this year: Aboriginal Affairs NSW, Reconciliation Australia, and International Towers.

We're grateful for the confidence of the NSW Government in acknowledging our efforts by maintaining next year's financial support. Our requests for the Government to commit to recurrent operational funding and to support our efforts in education, enabling the expansion of our programs to regional NSW, are continuing and promising.

Voice Treaty Truth

Reconciliation NSW continues to support the tenets of the Uluru Statement from the Heart and substantive legislative and policy reform and commitment to building a fair and equitable Australian society. Going beyond performative reconciliation, we are committed to substantive reconciliation, which entails standing behind and amplifying First Nations leadership for their self-determination in the laws and policies that affect them.

We're proud of our efforts this year and humbled by the growing number of people who want to participate in this important work. Thank you to our Board, staff, volunteers, partners and members for your commitment to the reconciliation movement in NSW.

Josh Gilbert
Indigenous Co-Chair

Annie Tennant
Non-Indigenous Co-Chair

2022-23 FINANCES

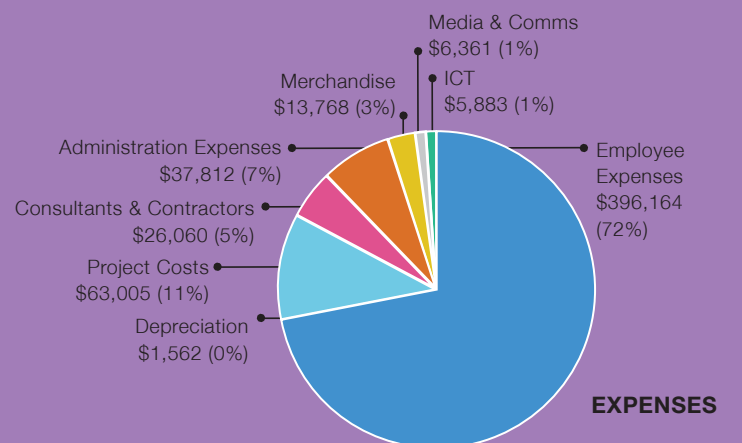
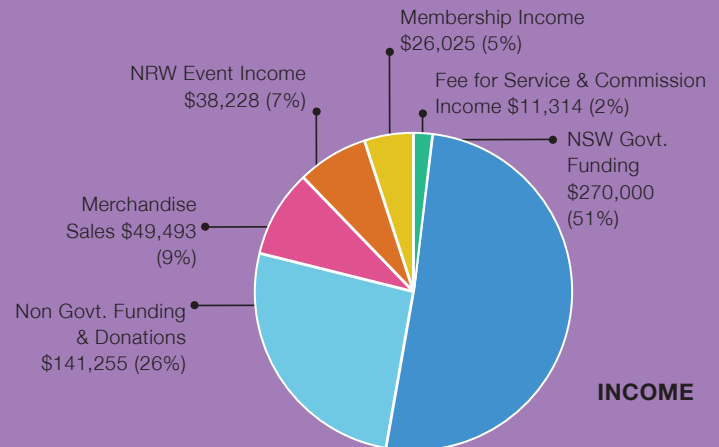
Income received for the 2022 - 2023 fiscal year totaled \$536,315. This increase, compared to the previous year's income of \$460,236 (not including \$40,536 of Covid-19 subsidies) is due to higher merchandise sales, fee for service income, membership fees and a successful new NRW event (\$38,228). Non-government grants and donations (\$141,255) decreased (-5%) to 26% of total funds, due to a decrease in council funding for Pathways, now evolving into a fee for service program to maintain income and expand its future reach.

We continued to operate with a small team of staff and volunteers. Our focus and expenditure was directed to supporting core programs: reconciliation in education via the Schools Reconciliation Challenge and Narragunnawali Program, National Reconciliation Week events, strengthening internal infrastructure and processes, and driving membership and public reconciliation education/exposure across NSW via social media, events and programs.

Total operational expenditure of \$550,615, showed an annual loss from activities of \$14,300. This was taken up by previous surplus, mainly due to an extra staff member to support fulfillment/expansion of our programs, insurance increases (for extra staff, increased LRG events post Covid) and costs to grow merchandise sales (noting decreased digital structure communications costs). We continue to maintain careful budget planning and management, measured operational expenditure, along with gaining additional non-monetary support for some projects. Differences in liabilities and cashflow movements between last and this year are attributable to the timing of funding payments.

At year-end our net asset position was still a healthy \$145,786. This surplus along with ongoing secured funding from non-government organisations and NSW government, our commitment to diversifying and expanding additional sponsorships and other steadily increasing income sources from 2022-2023 will allow us to continue to support and grow our work in 2023 - 2024 across education, government, corporate and regional NSW.

We acknowledge, appreciate and thank our funders, members and in-kind program partners for their continued support. Our accounts were audited by Byrons Audit Pty Ltd and are available to download from our website www.reconciliationnsw.org.au.



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DIGITAL & SOCIAL MEDIA

10,285
FOLLOWERS ↑ 22%
214,383
REACH ↓ 34%

4,549
FOLLOWERS ↑ 23%
90,920
REACH ↑ 807%

54,000
RECNSW WEBSITE ↑ 29%

1,960
FOLLOWERS ↑ 46%

MEMBERS AND SUBSCRIBERS

2,132
INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS ↑ 10%

180 MEMBER ORGANISATIONS
↑ 233%

49 E-NEWSLETTERS DISTRIBUTED

127,996 INBOXES REACHED

6,088 EDUCATORS REACHED ↑ 9%

23 LOCAL RECONCILIATION GROUPS



PUBLIC EVENTS

32
FACE TO FACE

16
ONLINE EVENTS

RECONCILIATION IN EDUCATION

Schools Reconciliation Challenge

- 14th year
- 172 registered schools/16,000+ students
- 550 art and writing entries received from 39 schools
- 3 regional exhibitions including 2 regional exhibition launches (Leura & Maitland)
- 5 urban exhibitions including 2 urban exhibition launches (NSW Parliament House & Australian Museum)

Inschool Trainings/Programs

- 5 Staff in-service trainings F2F/online
- 2 Student art and storytelling workshops in schools and youth programs

Narragunnawali program (with Reconciliation AU)

- 2 Free Reconciliation in Education online webinars for teachers
- 1 professional learning webinar delivered to 39 NSW schools
- 1 face to face workshop delivered to school of 40 teachers
- 1 Online NAIDOC Panel Discussion "Engaging with Elders and Educators in your local community" to be delivered in December 2023

GOVERNMENT CONFIDENCE IN US

- 11 LGAs supported
- 80 Parliamentarians engaged
- 2 Parliamentary events on Reconciliation held
- Art exhibition held in Parliament House

SUPPORTING COMMUNITY - AMPLIFYING ABORIGINAL VOICES

- 150+ responses to enquiries & requests for support from community
- 23 Local Reconciliation Groups supported
- Supported 153 member organisations
- Delivered 15+ community advocacy campaigns

NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK

- 1 Theme: "Be a voice for generations"
- 75 NRW event activation kits sent
- 14,691 virtual attendees of NRW breakfast
- 11 Local Reconciliation Groups funded
- Over 10,000 people reached on social media during NRW

REFERENDUM SUPPORT

40,000
DISTRIBUTED VOICE REOURCES

TRANSLATED IN
21
LANGUAGES

50 MAILCAMPAIGNS
77,000 INBOXES REACHED



100 EVENTS SUPPORTED

50 FACE TO FACE

50 ONLINE

90,000
PEOPLE ENGAGED ON SOCIAL MEDIA

120 POSTS

12 VIDEOS

5 CAMPAIGNS

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THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS

Our partners are important for helping us to create a more equitable and just NSW. Thank you to our current partners for their work to progress reconciliation in NSW.

- Aboriginal Affairs NSW
- ANTaR
- Australian Communities Foundation
- Australian Museum
- Australian Red Cross
- Catholic Education
- Centre for Cultural Competence Australia
- Clever Patch
- Cultural Perspectives Group
- Cumberland City Council
- Fred Hollows Foundation
- From the Heart
- Gilbert + Tobin
- Inner West Council
- International Towers at Barangaroo
- Just Reinvest NSW
- Hardie Grant Publishers
- King & Wood Mallesons
- Local Government NSW
- Magabala Books
- Narragunnawali
- National Gallery of Australia
- National Trust (NSW)
- Reconciliation Australia
- Sharing Stories Foundation
- Tresillian
- UNSW Indigenous Law Centre
- UTS Jumbunna Institute
- Wingaru Education

SUPPORT & RESOURCES



FOR YOUR CLASSROOM

Curriculum resources, Activities, Lesson plans and Guides



FOR YOU COMMUNITY

Toolkits and Factsheets, NSW Language & Nations Map, Community connections, Merchandise, Protocols, Policy developments



FOR YOUR WORKPLACE

Support for RAPs, Cultural competence training, Indigenous suppliers

Find these resources at www.reconciliationnsw.org.au

THANK YOU TO OUR PEOPLE

We're immensely proud of our efforts this year. Thank you to our Board, staff, volunteers, partners and members for your commitment.

Our Patron

Aunty Joan Tranter

Board

Joshua Gilbert (Worimi)
Annie Tennant
Josh Staines (Wiradjuri)
Nancy An
Steven Collins (Pitta Pitta)
Natt Smith (Wiradjuri)
Carly Bush

Dr. Catherine Keenan AM
Dr. Amy Maguire

Board (July 2021 - Dec 2022)

Dan Creasey
Rowena Falzon
Deborah Soler
Kayla White (Biripi)

Staff

Tristan Tipps-Webster

Madeline Gerber
Danielle Sampedro
Sharni Watson
Nikki Fasolo
Freda McGrady (Gomeroi)
Martina Dittmer-Flachskampf

Volunteers


Angela Finn
Claire Dickson
Jacqueline Jacovou

Tim Overland
Ursula Ronan
Jamie Webster
Blair French
Lisa Ogle
Clea Parker
Carla Ianni
Kevin Hao
Oliver Wen
Sushmita Deb

RECONCILIATION NSW


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