

Annual Report 2014 - 2015









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Statement of Purpose

Recognising the diverse nature and the autonomy of each member of the Association, the purpose for which the Association is established is:

- To act as a mutual support network and information sharing group for all Neighbourhood Houses & Community Centres which are members of the Association
- To provide an advocacy role in representing the interests of member Houses in development of community development practice and in sustaining viability and growth
- To support individual Houses in developing effective operation of their organisation
- To encourage and work towards developing partnerships to enhance the work of member Houses
- To provide training, access to training and resources, and professional development opportunities for Houses
- To develop and implement policies and strategies for the Management Committee
- To promote the philosophies of the Neighbourhood House Sector within the wider community
- To work with other networks and organisations to strengthen and enrich the Neighbourhood House Sector at regional, state and national levels

Our Region

Melton City Council

527 kms²

Population 112,981

Djerriwarrh Community & **Education Services**

Hillside Community Centre

Melton South Community

Centre

Stevensons House

Taylors Hill Neighbourhood



Wyndham City Council

542 kms²

Population 168,552

Arndell Park Community Centre

Feather Brook Community Centre

Iramoo Community Centre

Jamieson Way Community Centre

Point Cook Community

Learning Centre

Quantin Binnah Community Centre

Tarneit Community Centre

Wyndham Community &

Education Centre

Wyndham Park Community Centre

Wyndhamvale Community Centre

Yerambooee Community

Centre

Penrose Promenade Community Centre

Brimbank City Council

123 kms²

Population 191,619

Cairnlea Community Hub

Community West

Delahev Community Centre

Derrimut Community Centre

(YMCA)

Duke St Community House

Good Shepherd Youth and

Family Service

Sydenham Community Centre

The Tin Shed - St Albans Community Youth Club

West Sunshine Community

Centre

Westvale Community

Centre

Hobsons Bay City

65kms

Population 81,459

Altona Meadows Community Centre

Laverton Community Integrated Services Inc.

Louis Joel Arts &

Community Centre

Outlets Co-operative Neighbourhood House

Seabrook Community

Centre

South Kingsville Community

Centre

Spotswood Community House

Walker Close and Brooklyn

Hall Association

Williamstown Community &

Education Centre

Moonee Valley City Council

44 kms²

Population 113,657

Bowes Avenue Community Centre

Chinese Social Centre

Farnham Street

Neighbourhood Learning

Wingate Avenue Community

Centre

Flemington Community

Centre

Melbourne City Council

36 kms²

Population 98,859

Kensington Neighbourhood

House

North Melbourne Language

& Learning

The Centre

Maribyrnong City Council

31 kms²

Population 74,005

Angliss Neighbourhood

House

Braybrook Community

Centre

Braybrook & Maidstone

Neighbourhood House

Maidstone Community

Centre

Maribyrnong Community

Centre

West Footscray

Neighbourhood House

Yarraville Community Centre

Network West Governance & Staff

The 2014 - 2015 Network West Inc. comprises of seven members of the Committee of Governance and two employees - a Networker and an Administrator.

Committee of Governance

Chairperson Helen Rodd West Footscray Neighbourhood House



Secretary Cathy Connop Farnham Street Neighbourhood Learning Centre



Treasurer Daniela Kohut Hillside Community Centre





Ellen Kessler Delahey



Rachna Muddagouni

Community West

Wendy Vine Braybrook **Community Centre**



Carolyn Webster Kensington Neighbourhood House



Network West Staff

Networker Michelle Chrimes Commenced July 2010



Administrator Natalie Wloch Commenced January 2014



I'm writing this report whilst sitting in a forest at Blackwood. This vantage point, further west from the Network West region, allows for some distance and peace to reflect on the Network's accomplishments for this year.

Coming on to the Committee of Governance (COG) this year has been a fantastic experience. The team are very experienced practitioners and come from various locations across the West (Maribyrnong; Moonee Valley; Melbourne; Melton; Brimbank). We have people from Incorporated Associations (3 reps), from Councils (3 reps) and one from a Company Limited by Guarantee. We have House staff (Coordinators) and one House Committee member.

As you are aware Network West is a very diverse Network, so having some representation on the Committee from the diversity of our membership is a positive thing. We've had some fabulous discussions that have allowed us to see our Network from various perspectives. I'd like to up-front say a very sincere thank you to all the COG members for their contribution and hard work in what has been a busy year.

The strategic responsibilities of the Committee of Governance saw us focus on the following key areas:

- Innovations project
- Strategic plan
- Policy development
- Networker supervision
- Financial performance

Innovations Project

The Innovations project, a joint project between Network West and Kensington Neighbourhood House, has been an excellent example of ways in which organisations can partner to bring extra resources into the sector but to also work on meaningful, relevant projects that build capacity across the sector. There are three parts to the Innovations project:

- Innovations Tours
- Innovations & Good Practice Expo
- Trialing the Governance tool

Further details of these initiatives will be covered in the Networker's Report, but my summary comments are that they have been hugely successful with the membership. In particular, I'd like to make a special mention of the Innovations & Good Practice Expo, that was well attended, had excellent feedback and an extraordinary 100% agreement from survey respondents of support for a future Expo. What a resounding vote of support and a very convincing argument to consider an Expo-type event in our strategic planning.

A special thank you to Carolyn Webster, the Manager of Kensington Neighbourhood House, for her leadership, strong organisational skills and team work that really made the entire project, and in particular the Expo, the wonderful initiatives we all experienced.

Strategic Planning

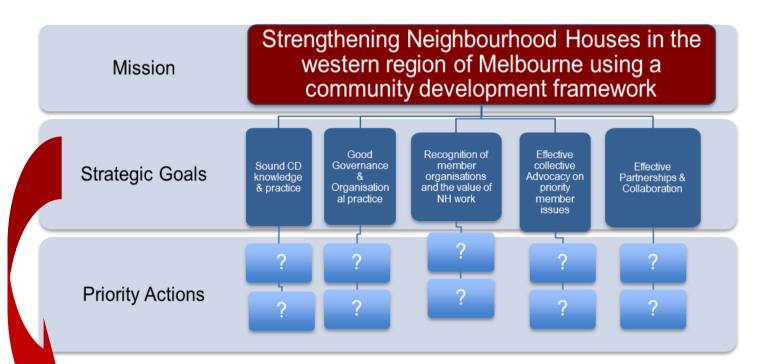
The COG has been engaged in a strategic planning process to develop the priorities for the next three

years for the Network. We have reviewed the current Business Plan and carried over ongoing items, as well as reviewed our mission. We have conducted a survey with our membership which will form a large part of our analysis and priority-setting workshops. We have thus far developed a set of Strategic Priorities and our next planning session is a hard-core analysis session nutting out a set of Priority Actions that will guide our work over the 2016-2020 period.

This analysis will use a SMART analysis framework – Specific, Measurable, Achievable; Realistic and Time-bound. We'd love to do *everything*, but really, there is a context for our decision making informed by these parameters:

- in the light of responses from members
- in the light of what we have been contracted to do (contract to members; contract with funding bodies)
- in the light of the 25 hours of worker time we have

The chart below identifies where we are up to at this point:



Strategic Goals:

- 1. Strengthen community development knowledge and practice of member organisations.
- 2. Enhance quality governance and organisational practice within Network West and member organisations.
- 3. Raise the profile of the members and Network West and articulate the value of the work undertaken.
- 4. Advocate for the priority issues of the members and lobby for change through local, sector and state wide campaigns.
- 5. Improve linkages, collaborations and partnerships to strengthen learning, ideas and innovative work with Network West and members.

The Strategic Plan will be released early in 2016. Watch this space.

Policy Development

Network West is developing a suite of its own policies that supports good organisational practice. One policy of interest relates to the Quality Enhancement and Risk Management Matrix, which has broader implications for Networks across the State. Here we have developed a policy that balances the roles and responsibilities of the Networker to support Houses experiencing issues, and any conflict of interest that may arise when a Committee of Governance member is associated with the House in question. Its an ethical dilemma, one that involves conflict of interest and boundary questions. We think we have come up with a good policy that allows the worker to continue to do the work required unhindered and uncompromised by COG relationships. Essentially it means the COG member will stand aside until the issue is resolved. New members considering nominating for the COG will need to keep this policy in mind.

Networker Supervision

All Committees of Governance have the responsibility to supervise the executive staff role, for us this is the Networker position. We have conducted a performance review and would like to congratulate Michelle Chrimes for her work over the past year and for her entire 5 years with Network West. There have been significant changes over this time that have strengthened the work and position of Network West, in large part due to Michelle's quality efforts and passion for community development.

I will leave the financial performance reporting to our Treasurer, Daniela Kohut.

I'd like to finish on an issue that's a bit of a "bee in my bonnet" that I think will give some context to the work of Network West and the region we represent.

Below is a map from the recently released 'Dropping off the Edge Report 2015' that maps the geographic experience of disadvantage across postcodes.



I'd like to invite you to compare our western region to the eastern region.

What colours do you see?

Our region has large clusters of the most disadvantaged suburbs in Victoria (the red) and this red area sits in yellow areas - disadvantaged areas.

Have a look at the east - I see mainly green and blue - largely advantaged areas. The contrast is astonishing and illustrates the disparity, inequality and inequity between these regions.

Many Houses in the west are not in receipt of full time NHCP funding or have too little in relation to the complex needs of the communities and the demands of running multi-faceted organisations. Arguably, the western region faces more complex challenges due to the deep and pervasive entrenchment of disadvantage, the diverse nature and needs of communities and the growing population across the west. Inadequate and inequitable funding further risks entrenching the disadvantage identified in the DOTE report.

Various strategies across the west have evolved in response to this inequity and to the complexities of the communities we serve. The diverse range of governance models across the west exemplify this. Sixty percent of Houses in the western region are community-run compared to over 90% being community-run in the east. Councils have made a positive contribution of financial resources and developing alternative governance frameworks to facilitate community ownership and participation, however this is inconsistent across municipalities. Various partnership models have arisen, especially amongst those Houses that are RTO's and Learn Locals, or those within local catchments, in order to provide a coordinated approach to local need. Innovation and commitment to communities is certainly a characteristic of our region but the question of equitable resourcing still remains:

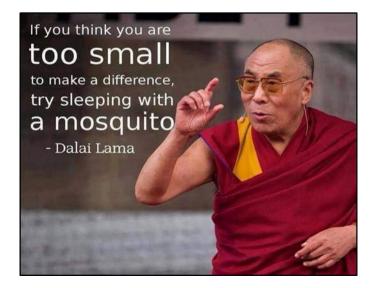
How can we possibly meet these complex challenges without consistent and equitable resourcing and support?

If you would like to see how your suburb fared check out the website: http://www.dote.org.au/ Keep in mind that there are limitations with this postcode approach to neighbourhoods. For me it focuses too much on deficit at the exclusion of the strengths within neighbourhoods. This research is no surprise to all of us in Neighbourhood Houses - we know our neighbourhoods intimately - that's what we do, but we also recognise the amazing capacity and resilience of these neighbourhoods and its in that positive, hopeful space that we undertake our work.

Keep up your amazing work everyone. Fight the good fight.

A final departing thought from the Dalai Lama...

Helen Rodd Chairperson



Treasurer's Report

2014/15 saw Network West consolidate its position as a leader in the Neighbourhood House sector being involved in key projects, establishing collaborative partnerships and innovative practice.

The Committee has been active in reviewing and establishing new practices and policies to ensure sustainability of the Network. The Committee is also working to identify the Network's strategic direction moving forward 2016-2018.

The Department of Health and Human Services - Neighbourhood House Coordination Program (NHCP) is the main source of income for the Network. Combined with the collection of membership fees, the Network has had increased capacity to manage the needs of the member houses and centres of the Network. The Network has also been able to continue to provide information, support and advocacy to a significant number of houses and centres that do not receive NHCP funding.

Network West recorded an operating profit of \$15,330.00 with an overall combined net asset of \$65,484.00. This surplus was due largely to the income generated from the membership fee of just over \$11,000.

Network West is in a strong financial position moving into the 2015-2016 year.

Daniela Kohut

Treasurer

July 2014 to July 2015 has been another eventful year for Network West. First and foremost I would like to extend my thanks to our finance contractor Jan Thorpe and our administrator Natalie Wloch. The work they do is amazing and the back bone of our operations. Ladies thanks again for your hard work and commitment to Network West. I would also like to extend my thanks to our extraordinary Committee of Governance who have been a great support to me throughout the year.

2015 heralds the end of Network West's three year strategic plan (2012-2015). This year has been a chance to reflect and appreciate the work done, take stock, review the old plan and begin development of the next three year plan.

This financial year we continued to provide core support services, such as relationship management, responding to queries, website, social media and newsletter development and dissemination. In addition, due to ever increasing ownership, support and strong involvement of our engaged membership we have been able to extend our work into the space of innovation. This year we added innovations tours, an innovations expo and new newsletter sections that showcase and share innovative good practice in programming partnership and governance across the western region.

1. Strategic Plan Review 2013-2015

The Network West Strategic Plan was endorsed at the Annual General Meeting in October 2012. Over the past 3 years, the Neighbourhood House and Learning Centre (NH&LC) Sector has experienced significant shifts in the political, social, economic and technological landscapes that directly affect our communities. Through network partnerships and projects a more comprehensive understanding of the complexity, diversity, strengths and challenges of the region has developed and allowed the network to deliver on expectations within the goal areas as follows:

- Enhance quality governance, organisational practices and community development across the network.
- Enhance sense of regional identity, through sharing, connectedness, collaboration and communication.
- Raise awareness and profile of Network West and its members.
- Advocate on priority issues and contribute to crucial local and sector wide campaigns & projects.

Some achievements we are proud of:

- Improved communications and information flow across the network via the development of the Network West Newsletter, website and social media.
- An increase in engagement, ownership and the value of Network West as evidenced by member involvement in projects, member attendance at events and training, network Committee of Governance and the memberships' decision to introduce a membership fee, of which over eighty percent of members and our council associate members currently support.
- Development of an online sector web Library of resources developed across networks from the great body of work across the sector.
- Introduction of successful orientation/induction tours that provide motivating and stimulating opportunities for training, skills and idea sharing, networking, collaboration and partnership. And additionally, marketing and showcasing for host organisations.
- Introduction of improved outcomes data via annual reporting to DHHS now being undertaken by ANHLC. Reducing two lots of reporting to one and ensuring network members can access data for

use in marketing and grants to improve sustainability across the whole sector.

- Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 transition for members and Network West.
- Community Governance Research Project and the development of the community governance self
 -assessment tool via a DHHS research grant and presentation of this research at the ANHLC
 conference in 2014.
- Deductible Gift Recipiency (DGR) campaign, individual Network member's success and sector wide success via the National Peak body for Neighbourhood Houses (ANHCA).
- ANHLC election campaign support and the resulting additional increase in Neighbourhood House funding for members in receipt of less than 20 hours.
- Development of the Quality Enhancement and Risk Management Matrix that defines roles and responsibilities of networks and Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) staff when providing support to NH&LC's. The document was developed and endorsed across the state and added to DHHS guidelines.
- A successful grant application to target and share innovative practice across the western region, via tours and an expo, along with a chance to pilot and further develop the community governance self-assessment tool.

For more details on strategies for each goal, please see the 'Three Year Business Plan Handout'.

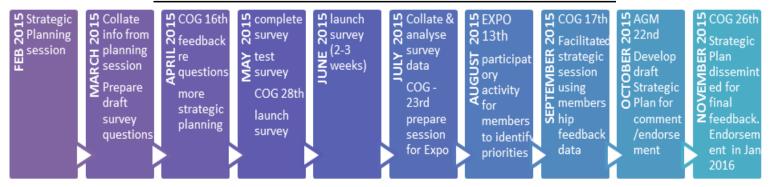
2. Development of a New Strategic Plan 2016-2018

December 2015 marks the end of the current three year strategic plan. In January 2015, a review of the previous strategic plan and business plan was undertaken. A strategic planning process and timeline that embeds the Neighbourhood House and learning sector's underpinning community development principles was developed.

In May 2015, Network West conducted a member survey to ascertain member support priorities under the categories of governance support; management support; programs, services and community development; and capacity building and strategic partnerships. Members were also given the opportunity to highlight major challenges and preferred strategic direction for Network West.

The network members online survey data collected in May and further member feedback gathered at the Innovations Expo was collated and the basis of the facilitated strategic planning session held in October 2015. Membership feedback along with a focus on future sustainability will be significant factors underpinning development of the new plan. With the next three year plan scheduled to be disseminated to members for final feedback in December 2015.

NETWORK WEST STRATEGIC PLANNING TIMELINE AND PROCESS 2015



3. Operations: Core Services and New Innovative Direction

Queries

In response to the emerging political and economic landscape and a shift towards results based accountability, a queries database was developed in 2011 and has been further developed this financial year in response to changing DHHS reporting requirements. Increasing number, types and variety of queries to Network West demonstrates that the need for information and support is critical.

High levels of request topics include: Jobs Australia and human resources queries, pay table information, DHHS updates, (restructuring, regional contacts, My agency/e-business access and reporting), community development, partnership linkages, support letters, policy and procedure examples and job vacancy circulation.

Areas requiring the greatest commitment of time resources in this financial year included governance queries, information and support for members operating on less that 20 hours per week eligible to apply for additional NHCP and support to members experiencing difficulty.

Innovations Project

Network West in partnership with Kensington Neighbourhood House was successful in receiving funding by the ACFE Capacity and Innovation Fund grant to deliver the Innovations Project to member organisations across Network West during 2014 and 2015. This joint project included three modes of delivery: to identify and showcase areas of innovative programming, best practice and successful partnerships in the western region of Melbourne.

To date the project has delivered two of the three <u>Orientation and Innovation Tours</u> this financial year, November 2014 and May 2015, for new staff and committee members. The centres selected as host sites for the tours showcased examples of innovative community development, partnerships, fundraising, social enterprise, outstanding adult education initiatives, community event and lobbying.

The tours provide participants with a sector induction kit, an introduction to the diverse size, programming and organisation types that make up the NH&LC sector in the West. They have also been a motivating and stimulating professional development option for those who have been in the sector for a while and are looking for inspiration and ideas. The tours also provide an excellent networking opportunity and a contact point for mentoring for new staff and committee members and future partnerships and collaboration between participant and host organisations. The final tour is scheduled for the 12th November 2015.

To complement the aims of the project and allow information about innovative practice to be shared more widely across the network, an innovations section was added to our bi monthly newsletter. This has been a wonderful addition and we are finding that we are receiving stories from a more diverse range of members, coming forward to share and be recognised for the great work they do.

The Innovations Project also involved piloting and further development, of the <u>Community Governance Self-Assessment Tool.</u> This tool was originally developed in 2013 as a component of the Network West Community Governance Research Project, undertaken in response to the variety of governance arrangements and associated challenges identified within Network West membership. The tool embeds

the NH&LC's underpinning community development principles and is designed to be used by Boards/ Advisory Committees and staff in NH&LCs together, to assess how effectively they are governing their operations. It has been designed to be used by both community managed and council managed NH&LCs.

We would like to thank and congratulate the four organisations selected to trial the tool, for their unwavering commitment to community development and willingness to take a risk, and forge forward into the unknown, to ensure the underpinning values of our sector remain embedded in our practice, programming and governance. Thank you to Yarraville Community Centre, Sydenham Neighbourhood House and Delahey Community Centre, Louis Joel Community Centre and the Melton City Council Community Centres.

The feedback provided has made the tool more user friendly to complete, highlighted potential risks and balance in implementation, has practical application that can tie into continuous improvement process (i.e. strategic planning, community engagement plan or community needs analysis) and is more transferrable to varying member organisation types. The potential to conduct further funded assisted trials will be considered in line with strategic planning priorities in the future.

The last deliverable of the project was the <u>Best Practice/Innovations Expo</u> for members of Network West in August 2015. This event brought centre staff, coordinators and committees of management together to share: innovative practice, build partnerships and receive targeted training. It was a resounding success and more details will be provided in next year's annual report and our newsletters for those who can't wait that long.

For my last words I would like to once again thank the team at Network West Inc. for all the hard work this year. I would also like to thank our wonderful member organisations, staff and committees for making Network West what it is. A Network is as strong as its individual parts and commitment to its vision and principles. Our network is diverse, open, passionate, and innovative, responds creatively, cares deeply, understands community development principles, is strong, supportive and makes a huge difference within our communities across the west. Thanks for making my job the best in the world.

Michelle Chrimes

Networker

Derrimut Community Centre:

A place where friendships grow, too

It may be just a patch of ground to some people, but the Bonita Community Garden is much more than that to five of the people responsible for looking after it.

For the five, who live in community housing next door, gardening gives an opportunity to engage in the community and take ownership of something. The garden is the brainchild of the next-door Derrimut Community Centre.

"Many of the residents speak little English and are quite isolated. Some have health issues," Centre Manager Inderdeep Thapar said.

"We had some community consultation with the residents and the idea came up about a community garden. We got talking to the Council and Bunnings in Sunshine and they were happy to support this."

Work started on the project in April 2014.

"We've had planting workshops and theoretical knowledge classes so they know how to look after the garden," Ms Thapar said.

"Six boxes were constructed by Bunnings for the five residents from the community housing and the other one for a youth group."

Ms Thapar said the five residents had formed new friendships. "They're building networks between themselves. They have a laugh and share a mutual interest with what they're growing. Some have started a walking group and they're becoming more engaged with the community."

The five participants are growing vegetables which they get to keep. Plans are already under way to expand the garden due to its success.

Written by Tara Murray & featured in Brimbank and North West Star Weekly, Monday 4th August 2014



Bonita Community Garden next door to Derrimut Community Centre



Help to build your local Neighbourhood House

Hillside Community Centre and Stevenson House: **Help to build your local Neighbourhood House**

On Wednesday 9th August 2014, staff from Hillside Community Centre and Stevenson House went down to the local library to meet people from the community. People were asked what would they like to see happening in their local Neighbourhood Houses.

Under the banner, "Help to build your local Neighbourhood House", community members were given a 'brick' to write their ideas on and then build a house based on their ideas. Great new ideas were received, and a fun time was had by everyone.

Delahey Community Centre:

'Urban Art' project creates new centre sign

In the beginning of 2014 the Delahey Community Centre sign, (a mosaic created by community members over five years ago) was falling apart prompting the need for a new sign. The new sign, it was decided, would bring the centre into a new phase of development, celebrating the 'hub' of services and wide variety of the community members who use the centre and encouraging more young people to be a part of their Community Centre.

The 'Urban Art' project was a collaborative project between Copperfield College and Delahey Community Centre. A series of workshops were led by mentor/artist Sebastian Fransz who worked with the seven participants to teach them design techniques and how to use a spray can to paint.

The participants were asked to present a panel with three designs in September so that one could be chosen. When the due date came, the Centre Coordinator was presented with only one design - a design that the panel of judges did not fully embrace and required a number of changes.

The Community Centre Coordinator once again tried to convey the message or 'feeling' the sign was to convey. After this discussion, the Centre Coordinator was presented with 12 designs. These designs were displayed on the Centre's website and Facebook page for community members to vote on. The three designs with the most votes were taken to a panel of judges (Brimbank City Council and Delahey Community Centre Advisory Committee members) and the new sign was chosen.

On Saturday 29th November 2014, the design was painted on to the front brick wall of the Community Centre. Asked in the end if they were happy with what they had accomplished, all of the students said a firm 'yes'.

This project highlights many factors of the NH&LC community development approach.

Community development projects are rarely cut and dry. The community development process, by nature of community diversity, must be flexible and responsive. Don't give up if it doesn't go to plan, get creative. Things often look different in the end and that's okay. You are the facilitator of this process.

Projects are a means to engage a variety of groups within the community for a multitude of benefits. In this case, relationships were strengthened between local schools, council, youth and the centre; increased youth participation in the centre; an educational component provided; opportunities for creative expression; and an opportunity for disengaged young people in the community to experience pride, connection, inclusion and a sense of ownership.

The decision making, voting on the successful design, expanded the sense of ownership to all community members involved in the centre, service users, volunteers, staff and the centres advisory committee.

Small project, limited funding, but an excellent community development initiative that worked on many levels. Great work Delahey Community Centre!



'Urban Art' project creates new centre sign

Djerriwarrh Community and Education Services: Melton Women's Friendship Café

Often Neighbourhood House programs are generalist services, however on occasion specific needs in the community must be addressed. The Melton Women's Friendship Cafe is a good example of this.

Every Wednesday from 1pm - 3pm women from different cultures and backgrounds including new migrants and refugees come together and have a cup of tea or coffee and share a friendly conversation with other women.

Other benefits of this group include making arts and craft, participating in dance and music workshops and self-development activities and making new friends.

This open and flexible program allows space to evolve depending on the skills and interests of the people who choose to participate.

Community development workers who participate in groups such as this will facilitate connections, explore need, focus on building confidence and identify new leaders.



Melton Women's Friendship Cafe

This program may also compliment the English classes offered by the centre by engaging community members not yet confident enough to enrol in the classes, providing a bridge between the community and educational opportunities.

Louis Joel Arts & Community Centre: Art in Public Places "Leaves of Change"

On the 15th of April 2015, the Louis Joel Arts and Community Centre launched the project, Art in Public Places "Leaves of Change". The event was run by Louis Joel Centre staff and volunteers and was sponsored by Mobil (who had representatives attend) and the Hobsons Bay City Council. The event involved students from six local primary schools.

The display featured leaves showing messages handwritten by the students, highlighting ways to protect the environment and to develop better approaches to sustainability in everyday life. Many visitors found that it was inspiring to read some of the messages written with a maturity and insight of the issues that they assume would come at an older age.

The project enabled students to be a part of something created by and seen by many people. It provided an opportunity for their ideas and thoughts on making the world a better place to be heard and to hopefully inspire others too.



Leaves showing messages handwritten by the students

What a wonderful community development project that focused on linking the community with young primary school children and a corporate organisation to educate the community by addressing local as well as global environmental needs. Well done - fabulous work!

Farnham Street Neighbourhood Learning Centre: Plotting the future gardening project

Farnham Street Neighbourhood Learning Centre, in conjunction with Norfolk Terrace Community Care Unit, received funding from the North West Primary Care Partnership to design and implement a project based on the Community Garden model at Farnham Street.

Norfolk Terrace is a community based residential rehabilitation program for people experiencing serious,



Staff, residents and volunteers working on the gardening project

long-term mental illnesses. It is based in Flemington, a short walk from Farnham Street, and many residents participate in the programs offered there. The Project was funded to support and encourage Norfolk Terrace clients to grow their own vegetables and herbs as part of their transition back into independent living.

A Permablitz was organised with staff from both centres, residents and other community volunteers to prepare the grounds for a fresh, new garden. Participants were shown how to prepare wicking beds and garden beds for long-term crops. After grass removal, path construction and composting, the area was gradually transformed into a real permaculture garden. A fruit forest is currently being planned for future implementation.

Farnham Street is running workshops every Friday in the garden with the residents and some volunteers. The garden workshops will give residents an opportunity to participate in growing their own produce and learn how this can impact positively on their physical and mental health.

This project is a fantastic example of local community centres partnering with other community based organisations to provide support to their residents who are in the process of recovery, and to assist them with their reintegration into society and their local community. Well done to the organisations involved in this wonderful project and the people and volunteers who contribute to it.

Taylors Hill Neighbourhood House: **New** community garden and cooking program partnership

Encouraging kids to cook delicious meals using homegrown, fresh veggies just got easier with the introduction of a great new partnership program in Taylors Hill. The Taylors Hill Community Garden and Cooking Program teaches young ones not only how to cook healthy food, but how to grow it, too.

The program brings together the E- HOW (Edible Harvest Out West) Community Garden, the Taylors Hill Neighbourhood House Cooking 4 Kids Program and an accredited dietician to show children aged between 8 – 12 years how to harvest fresh vegetables and use them to create quick, easy family meals. In turn, the participants will support the community garden by placing food scraps into worm bins, while also learning about waste minimisation

and how to recycle food and vegetable scraps through composting and mulching.



A young lady enjoying healthy food from the cooking program

At the end of the cooking program, participants can take home their own seeds, plants and worms so they can continue gardening and develop a worm farm to help improve existing gardens at ho+e.

Getting kids involved in the Community Garden and Cooking Program is a great way to educate parents, families and the wider community on the benefits of healthy eating, as daily food choices for children are generally made by adults.

This partnership program gives young ones the chance to try new varieties of fresh foods and encourages them to try foods they might not normally have at home. Through the program, children are taught to touch, smell and taste new fruits and vegetables and share their food experiences within their homes.

The Taylors Hill Community Garden and Cooking Program operates from the Taylors Hill Neighbourhood House (121 Calder Park Drive, Taylors Hill) and integrates learning in a fun, hands-on, practical environment, teaching children to make healthier food choices and raise awareness of the positive outcomes of healthy eating.

This story also made the front page of the Melton & Moorabool STAR Weekly in early April 2015.

This is another innovative example of creating a mutually beneficial partnership in order to bring a very special, interesting and educational program to children and their families in the local community. It's great to bring like organisations and people together to address community need with a program that's not only a lot of fun but also teaches children healthy habits they can take home with them and share with their families.

Quantin Binnah Community Centre: Art Tells the Story

Quantin Binnah Community Centre held a small and intimate Art Exhibition entitled 'Art Tells the Story'. The exhibition was funded with grant monies from the Victorian Multicultural Commission and showcased a number of art mediums, subject matter and local artists.

The theme of the exhibition was to let art tell the story of an individual or family's journey to Australia from foreign lands or capture a precious moment since newly arriving in Australia.

The artwork was a combination of colour and black and white photography, oil and acrylic paintings and even a lithograph which revealed the compassionate and sensitive rendering of the new arrivals journey to our lands.

Some of the artwork was deliberately controversial. A black and white photograph of a mother and daughter who suffered traumatic acid burns at the hands of an overseas family member (they now reside in Victoria) caused a number of passionate conversations about their circumstances and to what degree their life has changed living in Australia.

The exhibition, which was only supposed to run for a day, still resides in the function room of Café QB where the showing was originally housed. The exhibition enticed some of the artists, whose work was actually exhibited to

talk about their work and members of the general public streamed in to view the works.

Visitors to the community café still wander in to view the artwork and make comment of how they are moved by the imagery. The success of the exhibition echoes the kaleidoscope of enthusiasm and talent that resides in this local community.

Written by Debbie Kerr, Community Development Services Coordinator, Quantin Binnah Community Centre Inc.



Visitors admiring the artwork at the exhibition

Melton City Council: Rockbank rocks to different cultural beats

Rockbank experienced its first glimpse of cultural diversity celebrations on 18th March 2015 when the Rockbank Community Hall came alive to pulsating, unheard-before beats, rhythmic dances and soaring choir notes. The packed hall (nearly 150 people) reverberated to the musical showers as the audience clapped and tapped their feet to the riveting music and dance.

The Indian, Macedonian, Filipino and Tongan communities shared their traditional dances and cultural information with the audience. While the Indian dancers performed, 'Lavani', traditional folk dance, the Filipino community performed the 'Salakut' Dance. The traditional dances of

Traditional dancing and singing at the Rockbank celebration

men and women of the Kingdom of Tonga with their fantastic energy in the backdrop of a powerful choir were show stoppers. Equally fascinating was the dance performed by Macedonians to the song Teskoto. The kids from Rockbank Primary School sang their favourite number, 'We are the children', sung originally by Michael Jackson. The event ended on a happy note when the audience and the participants joined in the Line Dance Workshop.

'We respect diversity by accepting and helping other people,' answered the kids when they were asked the question as to how would they show respect to other cultures. The City of Melton was thrilled to spread its message of inclusion and harmony to the new upcoming areas such as Rockbank through these celebrations.

Special thanks to Filipino Community Council of Victoria Inc, Macedonian Community Welfare Association, Youth of The Tongan Church, Rockbank Primary School and the Indian community for their immense contribution.

Written by Inderdeep Thapar, Neighbourhood Program Officer, City of Melton

It's fabulous to see our members taking a lead in uniting residents from a wide variety of cultural backgrounds and holding an event to celebrate the diversity of their local community. This was a wonderful opportunity for people to get to know one another and learn about other cultures and traditions. It also helps to promote awareness and understanding of the unique characteristics of different cultures as well as bring people together to share in a fun and rewarding experience.

Wyndham Community & Education Centre: **New pathways into higher education**

Wyndham Community & Education Centre Inc (WCEC) and Federation University are working in partnership to deliver two exciting new programs in the Wyndham municipality in 2015.

The first, the BA@Wyndham commenced in March 2015 after two weeks of orientation for students in February. This innovative program extends education options available to young people living in Wyndham and surrounding areas, to connect with higher education through a Bachelor of Arts delivered in a community setting.



Students learning in the classroom

This program is the first of its kind for Wyndham and has provided a pathway for students from VCAL or an unscored VCE to higher education. Federation University has worked closely with WCEC and its partner schools, Manor Lakes and the Grange to provide the first ever community based Bachelor of Arts delivered from a community organisation to young people in their own community.

The inaugural group consists of 20 young people from the above schools and WCEC. All students are enrolled full-time with Federation University in a Bachelor of Arts. Classes are 'face-to-face' and delivered from Wayaperri House. Students will be supported to engage with the BA program and make a successful transition from school to university study.

The other program being offered is the Bachelor of Education (Birth – Year 6). This Bachelor aims to prepare

teachers to work with children in early childhood and primary school settings. The program involves blended delivery with a combination of online and weekend workshops delivered from Wyndham Community & Education Centre's Wayaperri House (commences 14th March). This option is an excellent pathway for students completing a Diploma of Early Childhood Education & Care with WCEC.

This is yet another terrific example of a community learning centre that has identified the needs of the local community and creatively responded to those needs in developing educational programs. It is exciting to see the great work that is being done to open up doors to young people, some whose education has been impacted by challenges at a critical point. This program gives young people who disengaged from formal education a chance to enter higher level education. Awesome.

Wyndham Vale Community Learning Centre Cultural Cooking Program brings people together

Wyndham Vale Community Learning Centre started the 'Cultural Cooking Program' in April 2015. The idea of the program initiated over conversations with people in the community and their interest in learning to cook food from different cultures, social isolation and the need to interact with others. It was promoted at the centre and within the community through the local shopping centre and community Facebook pages.

The program started with 4 participants and reached 9 participants in a matter of a few weeks. The group prepare guidelines together to follow and each week they decide who is going to cook the following week. To date, the program has run very smoothly with great involvement and participation.

At the end of the term, the plan is to have a coffee together and discuss feedback on the program – what's going well, what needs to be worked on, what direction needs to be taken as well as plan menus in advance and shop for groceries.

The other outlooks discussed for the program have been going out to grocery shops selling food for each culture, learning what to buy and also visiting local markets.



Participants in the Cultural Cooking Program

It's been a great way for people from different walks of life to come together, have a talk and laugh, socialise, share stories, learn cooking from each other's culture and eat together!

What a great approach to developing community links in growth corridors, or anywhere in fact! Great work Wyndham Vale Community Learning Centre.

West Footscray Neighbourhood House The Soul House project

The Soul House project focuses on engaging tenants of local rooming houses into the life of the Neighbourhood House. This is achieved through developing a localised fresh food program and hosting a shared meals event called "A Place at our Table". Another one of these lovely community dinners took place on a weekend in mid October 2015. So far, the project has engaged with over 100 participants — 57% rooming housing residents and 43% from other marginalised households.

The project has had a significant impact on the lives of local rooming house residents and other isolated and marginalised community members. Furthermore, it has made the House more accessible and relevant to these community members and transformed the weekly calendar. The project clearly fulfils the House's mission and in its nine months has but scratched the surface on the potential impact the project could have on such entrenched and challenging social issues such as homelessness, poverty and social isolation.

The initial funding investment made by City of Maribyrnong has borne fruit and indicated that the approach offered by Neighbourhood Houses delivers significant positive

impacts for local marginalised groups. The next logical step is to seek ongoing funding (as the current funding runs out in November 2015) so that the Neighbourhood House can continue to deliver the project but also expand the range of activities in order to transform the lives of local participants and eliminate their experience of marginalisation and isolation, as well as make inroads into the 'big picture' issue of poverty and homelessness.



Participants in the Soul House project

Kensington Neighbourhood House Helping Asylum Seekers Learn English

Like many Neighbourhood Houses, the Kensington Neighbourhood House was inundated last year with requests from asylum seekers in community detention to learn English. As government funding was not an option they decided that the only way to meet this increasing need in their community was to raise the funds for these classes themselves.

Firstly they set up a donations portal through 'Our Community's' Give Now site. Then they spread the word out using as many different forms of free media, including community newspapers, internet, Facebook, flyers, enewsletter, email signatures and more. Their goal was to raise sufficient funds to allow for provision of twice weekly, two-hour classes for asylum seekers in 2014.

Kensington successfully attracted some donations and financial assistance from Christ Church Kensington and Hotham Mission. Christ Church Kensington donated the proceeds from a fundraising concert to Kensington's

asylum seeker appeal. And Hotham Mission set up their own 'Give Now' site that had the additional appeal of being tax deduction due to their charitable status. Hotham also provides information on the appeal to their three congregations via notices in pew sheets each Sunday. A great example of Kensington Neighbourhood House using strong local partnerships to spread the word.



Asylum seekers learning English in the classroom

Good News Stories

Wingate Avenue Community Centre: **New Union Road Community Hub**

Wingate Avenue Community Centre has expanded its operations by opening up the new Union Road Community Hub in Ascot Vale. The new centre opened up to meet growing demand for its services in the region, despite using other spaces and facilities to keep up with high student demand. "We were fully programmed here (at Wingate Avenue), but there was still a need in the community to deliver further training classes, social groups and



The opening of the new Union Road Community Hub

activities", said Mark Orrill, Operations Manager, at Wingate Avenue.

The opening took place on Thursday 19th March 2015 and was attended by over 50 community stakeholders, partners and participants and was officially opened by the mayor of Moonee Valley City Council, Narelle Sharpe. The event was attended by the Local Member for Essendon, Danny Pearson, who cut the ribbon to finish off the nights ceremonies.

The guests on the night were fortunate to try some delicious food that was prepared on site by their Certificate 2 in Kitchen Operations, under the supervision of Head Chef, Martin Probst, and all guests took home a commemorative pot plant to signify the new centre and step forward for the organisation.

Jan Thorpe, Manager of Wingate Community Centre, said "the new Union Rd Hub is an exciting step forward for the local community in Ascot Vale, that will attract new programs and new participants to Wingate".

This was a very ambitious project borne from the need to cater for all Ascot Vale residents. The opening successfully engaged support from politicians, funders, community members as well as dedication and commitment from staff and volunteers. We know that a great deal of hard work has gone into making this community hub happen and we wish it the greatest success in the years to come.

Williamstown Community and Education Centre: Winner of People's Choice Award

Congratulations to Williamstown Community and Education Centre that won the People's Choice Award in the Video Category of ANHLC's photo and video competition which was announced at the May 2015 ANHLC conference.

ANHLC encouraged community members to capture and share the essence of their local Neighbourhood House (or Community Centre) and its community with an image or short video with their visual competition titled 'A Picture Paints a Thousand Words'.

The purpose of the competition was to encourage Neighbourhood Houses to:

- create visual and digital content of their Neighbourhood House, and
- share photos and videos of their Neighbourhood House

with participants and attendees of their Neighbourhood House and their local community



Community members in the winning video

Good News Stories

Iramoo Community Centre: Community Gathers for Warm Buffet Breakfast

On Monday 11th May 2015, Iramoo Community Centre hosted a free Community Breakfast to celebrate Neighbourhood House Week and to bring the community together. The breakfast was supported by Iramoo staff and up to ten community volunteers who provided a warm buffet breakfast for approximately 80 people over a two and a half hour period.

It was great to see many of the regulars coming in and enjoying themselves, as well as having some people who had never been to the centre before.

It was a successful event and a great opportunity for people to get together in a social atmosphere. It is now on the calendar for next year's Neighbourhood House Week celebrations at Iramoo.



Local community members enjoying a warm buffet breakfast

Melton South Community Centre: **Newly Refurbished Centre is Officially Opened**

Congratulations to Pam Madej, Centre Manager, her team and Melton City Council for supporting the Melton South Community Centre (MSCC) to stay in Melton South.



The opening of the newly refurbished Melton South Community Centre

After years of advocacy and lobbying, MSCC officially opened their newly refurbished centre at the DJ Cunningham Centre on Tuesday 12th May 2015.

Melton City Council's CEO, Kelvin Tori, opened the event by welcoming guests, identifying dignitaries and inviting the Networker of Network West, Michelle Chrimes, to speak about Neighbourhood House Week.

Michelle Chrimes also launched the new promotional materials, a project developed by the Melton cluster of houses (Melton South, Djerriwarrh, Hillside, Stevenson House and Taylors Hill), aimed to increase the awareness of Neighbourhood Houses to new residents and people not already accessing Neighbourhood Houses. The Cluster was supported by Melton City Council and received a Community Grant.

This event concluded with the Mayor, Councillor Sophie Ramsey, making a speech and unveiling the plaque. Participants at the event were then encouraged to view the display of new materials.

Good News Stories

Brimbank Neighbourhood House Partnership Group: Sunshine Marketplace Community Expo

The Brimbank Neighbourhood House Partnership Group organised a Neighbourhood House Week Community Expo on Thursday 14th May 2015 from 10am-2pm at Sunshine Marketplace.

The "Community Expo" provided a wealth of information about the role of Neighbourhood Houses and programs run from Neighbourhood Houses as well as a variety of activities for visitors to get involved in including:

- a wishing/community tree display
- pop-up ESL 7 computer classes
- book giveaways
- napkin art
- Chinese brush painting
- edible blooms
- flower arranging

Participants on the Network West Innovations and Orientation Tour were also fortunate to be a part of this fun, educational and lively showcase.



The Brimbank stand at the Community Expo

NETWORK WEST ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

The committee have determined that the association is not a reporting entity.

The committee have determined that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the accounts.

In the opinion of the committee the financial statements are set out on pages 3 to 8

- 1. Present fairly the financial transactions of Network West Association Incorporated as at 30 June 2015 and the results of the association for the period ended 30 June 2015 and the financial position of its operations for the year ended on that date;
- 2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that Network West Association Incorporated will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the committee and is signed for and on behalf of the Committee by:

President:

Treasurer:

Dated this 15th day of October 2015

NETWORK WEST ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

INCOME STATEMENT

For the period ending 30th June 2015

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
REVENUE		
State Government grants	86,780	94,953
Memberships	11,066	9,091
Donations	2,340	7,300
Interest	1,912	1,887
Miscellaneous income	302	211
Total revenue	102,400	113,442
EXPENDITURE		
Salary and wages	63,488	65,964
Consultants and contractors	5,500	20,181
WorkCover	1,025	1,732
Annual leave	(3,681)	789
	3,811	-
Superannuation	5,903	6,042
Travel	188	266
Professional development	574	197
Minor equipment	-	63
Resources/consumables	172	268
Stationery	865	436
Postage	23	11
Printing	-	406
Advertising	-	-
Computer supplies	-	-
Events and meeting expenses	599	848
Subscriptions	1,341	1,040
Telephone	1,119	1,065
Internet	-	709
Rent	4,891	5,350
Bank charges	15	28
Audit fees	150	150
Sundry expenses	1,087	-
Total expenditure	87,070	105,545
SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) FOR PERIOD	15,330	7,897

NETWORK WEST ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

BALANCE SHEET As at 30th June 2015

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
MEMBERS' FUNDS		
Accumulated funds	65,484	50,154
Total members' funds	65,484	50,154
Represented by		
CURRENT ASSETS		
Petty cash	200	200
Cash at bank	74,338	61,882
Cash at bank		108
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	74,538	62,190
NON CURRENT ASSETS		
Furniture and fixtures	2,738	2,738
TOTAL NON CURRENT ASSETS	2,738	2,738
TOTAL ASSETS	77,276	64,928
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
GST payable	1,987	1,947
PAYG withholding payable	1,868	2,680
Union fees	-	-
Grants in advance	-	2,340
Superannuation liability	358	677
Long service leave liability	3,811	0
Leave liability	3,768	7,130
TOTAL LIABILITIES	11,792	14,774
NET ASSETS	65,484	50,154

NETWORK WEST ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITYFor the year ended 30th June 2015

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
Total members funds at the beginning of the financial year		
Member contribution	20	20
Accumulated funds at 1 July	50,134	42,237
Operating result for the year	15,330	7,897
Accumulated funds at 30 June	65,464	50,134
Total members funds at the end of the financial year	65,484	50,154

NETWORK WEST ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

CASH FLOWS STATEMENT For the year ended 30th June 2015

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:		
State Government grants	84,440	81,543
Interest	1,912	1,887
Other income	13,708	16,602
Payments to employees	(63,488)	(65,964)
Payments to supplies	(24,224)	(37,342)
Net cash provided by operating activities	12,348	(3,274)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Payments for plant and equipment	0	(1,448)
Net cash provided (used) by investing activities	0	(1,448)
Net increase in cash held	12,348	(4,722)
Cash at beginning of the financial period	62,190	66,912
Cash at end of the financial period	74,538	62,190

NETWORK WEST ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

Notes to and forming part of the financial statements year ended 30th June 2015

1 Statement of Significant Accounting Policies

The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial report are set out below.

Basis of Preparation of the Financial Report

This financial report is a special purpose financial report prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act (Victoria), in accordance with Australian equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards (AIFRSs), other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards board and Urgent Issues Group Consensus Views.

The committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity.

Historical cost convention

The financial report has been prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historic costs and does not take into account changing money values, or except where specifically stated, current valuations of non-current assets.

The following material accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period unless otherwise stated, have been adopted in the preparation of this financial report.

(a) Revenue recognition

Grants

Revenue is recognised in the accounts upon advise from the various granting authorities. Unconditional grants are brought to account at time of receipt, conditional grants are brought to account in the period to which they relate.

(b) Cash

For the purpose of the Statement of Cash Flows, cash includes cash on hand, at bank and on deposit.

(c) Goods and Services Tax System Changes

Network West records revenue, expenses and assets net of any applicable goods and services tax (GST) except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of the expense item.

Receivables and payables balances include GST where Network West has either included GST in the price charged to customers or a supplier has included GST in their price charged to Network West. The net amount of GST due, but not paid, to the ATO is included under payables.

Network West does not include any estimate for GST in either accrued revenue or accrued expense balances. Accruals refer to a combination of items some of which will be supported by the issue or receipt of a tax invoice at a later time depending on the nature of the item. In general, no tax invoice has been received or issued at the time the accruals recorded.

To accord with Urgent Issues Group Abstract 31—Accounting for Goods and Services Tax (GST), which requires cash flows on a gross basis, Network West has completed its cash flow statement in the following manner:

- * from its accounting records Network West has derived the amounts which have been shown in the statement of financial performance and statement of financial position, which are on a net GST basis where the GST is recoverable from the ATO; and
- * it has determined the amount of GST that is required to be added to various line items in the cash flow statement by reference to its business activity statements prepared for the ATO.

NETWORK WEST ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

Notes to and forming part of the financial statements year ended 30th June 2015

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
2. Cash Flow Information		
(a) Reconciliation of Cash		
Petty cash advance	200	200
Cash at bank	74,338	61,990
	74,538	62,190
(b) Reconciliation of net cash provided by operating activities to operating surplus (Deficit)		
Operating Profit/(Loss) for the year	15,330	7,897
Add back non-cash flows in operating statement		
Changes in asset and liabilities		
Increase (decrease) in creditors and accruals	(642)	2,239
Increase (decrease) in Grants in Advance	(2,340)	(13,410)
Net cash provided by operating activities	12,348	(3,274)

- (c) The association has no credit stand-by or financing facilities in place
- (d) There were no non-cash financing or investing activities during the period

3. Contingent liabilities and contingent assets

Contingent liabilities

Network West has no contingent liabilities at 30 June 2015

S. E. OBLIUBEK Chartered Accountant

93 New Road, Oak Park Oak Park 3046

INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF

NETWORK WEST ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

Scope

I have audited the attached financial statements being the Income Statement for the period ended 30 June 2015, the Balance Sheet at 30 June 2015, Statement of Changes in Equity and Cashflows Statement for the year ended 30 June 2015 of Network West Association Incorporated.

The Association's Committee is responsible for the preparation and presentation of the financial report and has determined that the accounting policies used and described in Note 1 to the financial statements which form part of the financial report are appropriate to meet the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act Victoria and are appropriate to meet the needs of the members.

I have conducted an independent audit of these financial statements in order to express an opinion on it to the members of Network West Association Incorporated. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used are appropriate to the needs of the members.

The financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act Victoria. I disclaim any assumptions 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.

My audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. My procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial report and the evaluation of significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion whether, in all material respects, the financial report is presented fairly in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 so as to present a view which is consistent with my understanding of the Associations' financial position, and performance as represented by the results of its operations and cash flows. These policies do not require the application of all Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

Audit opinion

In my opinion, the financial report of Network West Association Incorporated presents fairly its financial position as at 30 June 2015 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies.

S. E. OBLIUBEK Chartered Accountant Auditor

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BRIMBANK CITY COUNCIL

House/Centre	Address	Phone	Email	Website
Cairnlea Community Hub	80 Carmody Drive, Cairnlea Vic 3023	9249 4800	cairnleacommunityhub @brimbank.vic.gov.au	www.cairnleacommun ityhub.org.gov.au
Community West	Level 1, 358 Main Road West, St Albans Vic 3021	8312 2000	info@communitywest.o rg.au	www.communitywest. org.au
Delahey Community Centre	80 Copperfield Drive, Delahey Vic 3037	9249 4900	delaheycc@brimbank.vi c.gov.au	www.delahey.org.au
Duke Street Community House	27 Duke Street, Sunshine Vic 3020	9311 9973	dukest@dsch.org.au	www.dsch.org.au
Good Shepherd Youth and Family Service	168 Main Road East, St Albans Vic 3021 (POSTAL: 354 Main Road West, St Albans Vic 3021)	8312 8800	stalbans@goodshepvic. org.au	www.goodshepvic.org. au
The Tin Shed - St Albans Community Youth Club	309A Main Road East, St Albans Vic 3021 (PO Box 763)	9366 4302	tinshed@tsis.com.au	
Sydenham Neighbourhood House	Level 1, 1 Station St, Watergardens Town Centre, Taylors Lakes Vic 3038 (PO Box 1993)	9249 4224	sydnh@brimbank.vic.go v.au	www.sydenhamneighb ourhoodhouse.org.au
West Sunshine Community Centre	25 Kermeen Street, West Sunshine Vic 3020	9249 4555	wscc@brimbank.vic.gov. au	www.westsunshinecc. org.au
Westvale Community Centre	45 Kings Road, St Albans Vic 3021	9249 4665	westvale@brimbank.vic. gov.au	www.brimbank.vic.gov .au
Derrimut Community Centre (YMCA)	50 Palmer Parade, Derrimut Vic 3030	9307 4700	communitydevelopment @ymca.org.au	www.childrensservices .ymca.org.au

HOBSONS BAY CITY COUNCIL

House/Centre	Address	Phone	Email	Website
Altona Meadows Community Centre	28 Trafalgar Avenue, Altona Meadows Vic 3028	9315 8244	amcc@pacific.net.au	www.altonameadowscc.c om.au
Laverton Community Integrated Services Inc.	12 Crown Street, Laverton Vic 3028	8368 0177	community @lcis.org.au	www.lcis.org.au
Louis Joel Arts & Community Centre	5 Sargood Street, Altona Vic 3018 (PO Box 583)	9398 2511	louisjl@bigpond.net. au	www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov. au
Outlets Co-op Neighbourhood House Ltd.	43 Mason Street, Newport Vic 3015	9391 8504	outlets@outletscoop. com.au	www.outletsco- op.com.au
Seabrook Community Centre	15 Truganina Ave, Seabrook Vic 3028	9932 3010	seabrook@hobsonsb ay.vic.gov.au	www.seabrookcc.com.au
South Kingsville Community Centre	43 Paxton Street, South Kingsville Vic 3015	9399 3000	admin@skcc.net.au	www.skcc.net.au
Walker Close and Brooklyn Hall Association	180 Millers Road, Altona North Vic 3025	9318 0521	admin @Walkerbrooklyn.co m.au	www.walkerbrooklyn.co m.au
Spotswood Community House	598 Melbourne Road, Spotswood Vic 3015	9391 2613	admin @spotswood.com.au	www.williamstown- spotswood cc.org.au
Williamstown Community and Education Centre	Joan Kirner House, 14 Thompson Street, Williamstown Vic 3016	9397 6168	manager@wcec.com. au	www.williamstown- spotswood cc.org.au

MARIBYRNONG CITY COUNCIL

House/Centre	Address	Phone	Email	Website
Angliss Neighbourhood House	2/11 Vipont Street, Footscray Vic 3011	9687 9908	angnh@anglissnh.net .au	www.anglissnh.net.au
Braybrook Community Centre	107-139 Churchill Ave, Braybrook Vic 3019	9188 5800	braycomm@maribyrn ong.vic.gov.au	www.maribyrnong.vic.g ov.au/braycomm
Braybrook and Maidstone Neighbourhood House	113 Melon Street, Braybrook Vic 3019 (PO Box 30)	9317 5610	office@bmnh.org.au	www.bmnh.org.au
Maidstone Community Centre	21 Yardley Street, Maidstone Vic 3012	9688 0543	maidcomm@maribyr nong.vic.gov.au	www.maribyrnong.vic.g ov.au/maidcomm
Maribyrnong Community Centre	9 Randall Street, Maribyrnong Vic 3032	9032 4305	maricomm@maribyrn ong.vic.gov.au	www.maribyrnong.vic.g ov.au/maricomm
West Footscray Neighbourhood House	Level 1, 539 Barkley Street, West Footscray Vic 3012	9687 3345	admin@wfnh.com.au	www.wfnh.com.au
Yarraville Community Centre	59 Francis Street, Yarraville Vic 3013 (PO Box 215)	9687 1560	yarracc@ycc.net.au	www.ycc.net.au
Footscray Community Arts Centre	45 Moreland Street, Footscray Vic 3011	9362 8888	reception@ foot- scrayarts.com	www.footscrayarts.com

MELBOURNE CITY COUNCIL

House/Centre	Address	Phone	Email	Website
Kensington Neighbourhood House	89 McCracken Street, Kensington Vic 3031	9376 6366	info@kenhouse.org.au	www.kensingtonneighb ourhoodhouse.com
North Melbourne Language & Learning	Ground Floor, 33 Alfred Street, North Melbourne Vic 3051	9326 7447	enquiries@nmll.org.au	www.nmll.org.au
The Centre	58 Errol Street, North Melbourne Vic 3051	9328 1126	admin@centre.org.au	www.centre.org.au

MELTON CITY COUNCIL

House/Centre	Address	Phone	Email	Website
Djerriwarrh Community & Education Services	239 Station Road, Melton Vic 3337	8746 1000	info@djerriwarrh.org	www.djerriwarrh.org
Stevenson House	8-10 Stevenson Cres, Caroline Springs Vic 3032	9363 5137	stevensonhouse @melton.vic.gov.au	www.melton.vic.gov.au
Melton South Community Centre	26 Exford Rd, Melton South Vic 3338 (PO Box 2010)	9747 8576	msccen- tre@bigpond.net.au	www.meltonsouth.org.au
Hillside Community Centre	Recreation Reserve Royal Cres, Hillside Vic 3037 (PO Box 21, Melton Vic 3337)	9449 8027	hillside communitycentre @melton.vic.gov.au	www.melton.vic.gov.au
Taylors Hill Neighbourhood House	121 Calder Park Drive, Taylors Hill Vic 3037 (PO Box 21, Melton Vic 3337)	9747 5424	taylorshillhouse@melt on.vic.gov.au	www.melton.vic.gov.au

MOONEE VALLEY CITY COUNCIL

House/Centre	Address	Phone	Email	Website
Chinese Social Centre	Room 1, Ground Floor, 76 Canning St, North Melbourne Vic 3051	9329 5608	cvnc@vicnet.net.au	www.fsnlc.net
Farnham Street Neighbourhood Learning Centre	28 Farnham Street, Flemington Vic 3031	9376 9088	info@fsnlc.net	www.fsnlc.net
Wingate Avenue Community Centre	13a Wingate Avenue, Ascot Vale Vic 3032	9376 5244	wingateave @wingateave. com.au	www.wingateave.com. au
Bowes Avenue Community Centre	27-31 Bowes Avenue, Airport West Vic 3042	8325 1890	bowesavcc@mvcc.vi c.gov.au	www.mvcc.vic.gov.au/
Flemington Community Centre	25 Mount Alexander Road, Flemington Vic 3031	8325 1800	fcc@mvcc.vic.gov.au	www.mvcc.vic.gov.au/

WYNDHAM CITY COUNCIL

House/Centre	Address	Phone	Email	Website	
Arndell Park Community Centre	29-49 Federation Blvd, Truganina Vic 3029	8734 8911	arndellparkcc@wyndha m.vic.gov.au	www.wyndham.vic. gov.au	
Wyndham Park Community Centre	55-57 Kookaburra Ave, Werribee Vic 3030	8742 3975	admin@wyndhampark cc.com.au	www. wynd- hamparkcc.com.au	
Iramoo Community Centre	84 Honour Avenue, Wyndham Vale Vic 3024	8742 3688	admin@iramoocc.com. au	www.iramoocc.org, au	
Jamieson Way Community Centre	59 Jamieson Way, Point Cook Vic 3030	9395 3777	admin@jamiesonwaycc .org.au	www.jamiesonwayc c.org.au	
Quantin Binnah Community Centre	61 Thames Blvd, Werribee Vic 3030	9742 5040	qb@qbcc.org.au	www.qbcc.org.au	
Tarneit Community Centre	150 Sunset Views Blvd, Tarneit Vic 3029	8734 4500	tarneitclc @wyndham.vic.gov.au	www.wyndham.vic. gov.au	
Wyndham Community & Education Centre	3 Princess Hwy, Werribee Vic 3030	9742 4013	enquiries@wyndhamce c.org.au	www.wyndhamcec. org.au	
Wyndham Vale Community Learning Centre	86 Manor Lakes Blvd, Wyndham Vale Vic 3024	8734 8934	wyndhamvaleclc@wyn dham. vic.gov.au	www.wyndham.vic. gov.au	
Featherbrook Community Centre	33-35 Windorah Drive, Point Cook Vic 3030	8353 4000	featherbrookcc@wynd ham. vic.gov.au	www.wyndham.vic. gov.au	
Point Cook Community Learning Centre	1-21 Cheetham Street, Point Cook Vic 3030	9395 6399	pointcookclc@wyndha m.vic.gov.au	www.wyndham.vic. gov.au	
Penrose Promenade Community Centre	83 Penrose Promenade, Tarneit Vic 3029	8734 4500	Penroseprome- nadecc@wyndham.vic. gov.au	www.wyndham.vic. gov.au	

Opportunities to Network

Ways that you can interact with Network West:

- Subscribe to Network West News, our regular e-newsletter, and keep up to date with all the latest developments
- Be featured in the "Innovations Across the Network" section of our Newsletter by emailing us your good news stories, articles and high quality photos
- Attend the Network West Annual General Meeting
- Renew your membership and fill in your membership form with your updated details
- Nominate a suitable candidate for Network West's Management Committee
- Visit our website regularly for all the latest network information
- Invite the Networker to your Annual General Meeting as a guest or a speaker
- Attend Local Government Area (LGA) cluster meetings
- Email us your Job Opportunities and we will add these to our website
- Be the Network West representative on ANHLC working groups or board
- Participate in one of our bi-annual Innovation and Orientation Bus Tours and find out more about your network
- Copy us into your emails when you are reporting we love to know how you are travelling
- Copy us into your emails to funding bodies and/or request assistance on funding submissions
- Send us your Annual Report and brochures
- Invite the Networker to speak to one of your networks
- Participate in the Strategic Planning Process
- Participate in campaign surveys, consultations and forums
- Call us anytime during business hours and let us know how we can assist you

APPENDIX 1

Goal: 1 Network West will strive to enhance quality governance, organisational practices and community development across the network

Objective	Actions	Performance outcome	Y2013/14	Y2014/15	Y2015/16	Outcome
1.1 - Tighten and strengthen governance structures as stipulated in the Associations Incorporations Act (AIA).	 Ensure Network West's constitution complies with AIA Reform Act 2012. Support members with AIA changes transition. 	* Changes required for NW constitution identified and drafted * Network West constitution endorsed by members at AGM. * Templates and information regarding AIA changes provided to members * Training options and support provided	Yes	Yes	Yes	Achieved Achieved
1.2 – Develop an online bank of model policies, procedures and governance resources.	 Participate in the combined networks online web repository project Develop a suite of model policies and procedural documents. Make available to all members online 	 Working group meetings attended New Suite of policy quality controlled documents developed. Made available to all members online 	Yes Yes Yes	Yes	yes	Achieved Achieved
1.2.1 – Develop a comprehensive list of policies and procedures for Network West Inc.	 Develop a list of required policies. Obtain model policies from other networks Ongoing agenda item for CoG general meetings Policy subcommittee Policy development regarding implementation of the Quality Enhancement and Risk Management Matrix. 	* policies documents developed and endorsed	Yes	Yes Yes Yes Yes	Yes Yes Yes	Achieved Achieved Ongoing
1.2.2 - Resource member's governance, organisational and community development needs as detailed in NH&LC Framework and Networks Good Practice Guide.	 Disseminate information on a range of relevant professional development and training opportunities Provide operational information on topics such as standards, reporting, regulations, policy change, strategic planning, grants and funding resources, IT, governance and HR. 	* In house training and induction * bimonthly newsletter * resources online/email * annual members survey and queries database * Orientation tours annual * 2 events per year * No of toolkits provided * Resources on website as appropriate	Yes	Yes	Yes	Achieved Ongoing Achieved Ongoing Achieved
	 Provide sector orientation/induction and networking opportunities Develop tool kit of sector principles, community development strategies and network services 	арргоргіаtе	Yes	Yes	Tes	Ongoing Achieved Ongoing

Objective	Actions	Performance outcome	Y2013/14	Y2014/15	Y2015/16	Outcome
1.3 – Develop an effective evidence based measuring tool of member need and network effectiveness.	Work with the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and State wide Networks to develop a new reporting tool that accurately describes and demonstrates support and services provided to members Upgrade current queries database to correlate with and reflect categories of the Network Good practice guide and reporting functions identified by DHHS Conduct Network West members survey	* Reporting tool developed and in use * Member's queries data base upgraded to populate required reporting categories. * Survey completed by at least 80% of members	Yes	Yes Yes	Yes	Achieved Achieved Ongoing Achieved Ongoing
1.4 – Identify and obtain additional funding sources to enable Network West to meet the needs of its' continually expanding network	 Explore introduction of an annual membership fee to fund specific Network activities (i.e. training, one -off projects etc.) Lobby DHS for an increase in hours of funding for Network West Submit funding applications as opportunities arise. 	* Feedback gained from members re introduction of membership fee * Membership category and fee added to constitution * Memberships paid * Additional funded hours obtained * Additional income obtained	Yes Yes Yes	yes Yes Yes Yes	Yes	Achieved Ongoing Achieved Ongoing
1.5 – Research and review governance arrangements for NH&LC in the West and provide recommendations for sustainable community participation and ownership of houses.	 Research and map the current governance models in the region and provide recommendations that will strengthen organisations Advocate for the specific and unique needs of NH&LC's in the West, regarding governance and emerging models of governance. Work with stakeholders to assist members in implementing recommendations. 	* Governance project managed and report provided. * Participation by diverse range of members in working groups. * Governance report presented to membership. * Implementation plan developed	Yes	Yes Yes	Yes	Achieved

Goal: 2 Network West will enhance sense of regional identity, through sharing, connectedness, collaboration and communication

Objective	Actions	Performance outcome	Y2013/14	Y2014/15	Y2015/16	Outcome
2.1- Enhance a feeling of ownership within the network	 Facilitate effective two way information flow from house to networker on sector wide issues and strategic objectives. Develop improved modes of communication to keep members updated with challenges, successes, campaigns and working groups 	New engaging, user friendly website developed and updated regularly Monthly E-Newsletter developed that includes member achievements Facebook developed and member access increased High member attendance at AGM, events, training	Yes	Yes	Yes	Achieved Achieved
	 Consult members about issues of representation. 	Member participation in surveys and projects Annual survey of Network	Yes	Yes	Yes	Achieved
	 Support and encourage member representation on Network West Committee of Governance from each LGA in network 	West members priorities * Cluster meeting minutes * Committee of Governance represents * Shadow Executive Positions	Yes	Yes	Yes	Achieved
2. 2 - Facilitate relationship building, peer support and collaborative partnerships within the Western Region NH/CC & LC network.	 Encourage, support and facilitate via Informal peer connections Local area cluster meetings COMs LGA Reps NWCPG Formal partnerships/MOU's Events/tours Gather expanded contact/info details for Houses CoG and staff within the network Meet committees, staff and volunteers during house/cluster visits when possible 	* High levels of interaction with * network * AGM * Xmas party * Training sessions/tours * Conference * Cluster meetings * NWCPG * Project Partnerships, cross houses/LGA/sectors * Stories published in newsletters	Yes Yes	Yes Yes	Yes Yes	Achieved Achieved
2.3 – Enhanced relationships between the Network and its members.	 Attending meeting, pop ins, phone calls, emails, partnership groups. Provision of accurate information and advice to member queries Build relationships with member, including committees' of governance. Provide opportunities to 	* Participation at meetings and events. ◆ AGM ◆ Xmas party ◆ Training sessions ◆ Cluster/coordinators meetings ◆ NWCPG * Queries database * Orientation/induction of NH&LC's staff and	Yes Yes Yes	Yes Yes Yes	Yes Yes Yes	Achieved Achieved Achieved
	enhance member wellness. • Make contact with each member organisation and individually as required.	committees in the west. * Receipt of newsletter by coordinators/CoG & * Organisation of Network events. * Newsletter	Yes	Yes	Yes	Achieved

Goal: 3 Raise awareness and profile of Network West and its members

Objective	Actions	Performance outcome	Y2013/14	Y2014/15	Y2015/16	Outcome
3.1 - Promote Western Region Neighbourhood House Network and members to the sector, community and other stakeholders.	 Develop a user friendly easy to update and navigate website using the sector wide template. Add all houses web links to their profile on NW website. Encourage and support members to access template. Develop and maintain Facebook, newsletter and twitter. Work with peak on sector wide marketing projects. Where possible support local events that market NH to general public. Build relationships with external agencies and providers and possible partners. Use ANHLC membership data and presentation to highlight sector strengths Investigate engagement of a volunteer photographer for member organisation marketing and promotion Encourage and support members to adopt new IT initiatives Present findings of Governance Project at ANHLC conference 	Website developed and launched. * No. of members using the website template or have an alternative professional website. * Web content increase * Web traffic increased as measured by requests, participation and Google analytics. * Positive feedback from membership and external stakeholders. * Newsletter developed and disseminated. * Social media activity. * Photographs of members events, people, building and projects. * Information provided to members on IT topics.	Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes	Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes	Yes Yes Yes	Achieved/Ongoing Achieved Achieved Achieved/Achieved
3.2 - Increase Western region representation and strategic input within sector.	Facilitate effective two way information flow from house to peak and vice versa, on sector wide issues and strategic objectives. Encourage and facilitate all forms of feedback to the Network and ANHLC	Whole of Network West and networker LGA Cluster/ networks/ ANHLC/NW CoG meetings attended and minuted Meetings set to cascade information across the sector.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Achieved/ Ongoing Achieved/ Ongoing
	Information shared from houses to networks and sector/state wide.	Presentation of ANHLC/DHS annual survey results to members in clusters. Participation in network west events and surveys	Yes	Yes	Yes	Achieved/ Ongoing

Objective	Actions	Performance outcome	Y2013/14	Y2014/15	Y2015/16	Outcome
3.3 – Build productive relationships with all 3 levels of government.	 Resource members with information on local/ state/federal contacts 	* Members resourced to enact effective lobbying and social change.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Achieved/ Ongoing
	 Support members to further develop these relationships, via training, newsletter article, 	* Newsletter article on tactics and strategies	Yes	Yes	Yes	Achieved/ Ongoing
	 Facebook and website etc. Consolidate relationships with councils (NWCPG) and council communication staff. 	* NWCPG attended	Yes	Yes	Yes	Achieved/ Ongoing
	 Keep abreast of political changes Support ANHLC with 	* Meetings attended		Yes	Yes	Achieved/ Ongoing
	development of lobbying tool kit				Yes	Achieved
	 Attend DHHS regional team meetings and Neighbourhood House Common Interest Group (NHCIG) 		Yes	Yes	Yes	Achieved/ Ongoing

Goal: 4 Network West will advocate on priority issues and contribute to crucial local and sector wide campaigns & projects

Objective	Actions	Performance outcome	Y2013/14	Y2014/15	Y2015/16	Outcome
4.1 Facilitate connections and information flow across the sector to address key local issues	 Work with the peak and networks to increase knowledge and collective voice of the sector. Identify and raise individual or common 	Networker and Network West members Networker and CoG Attend working groups and combined networks	Yes Yes	Yes Yes	Yes Yes	Achieved/ Ongoing Achieved/
impacting members and sector sustainability.	issues in the region and guide the advocacy process. • Lobby ANHLC to raise	* Present members needs to				Ongoing
	issue that are a strategic priority of our members	* Respond to issues prioritised	Yes	Yes	Yes	Achieved/ Ongoing
	Alert and motivate members to participate in	by members	Yes	Yes	Yes	Achieved/ Ongoing
	ANHLC membership survey and campaigns	* % of Members attending meetings/completing surveys				3 3
4.2 Support sector wide campaigns	Lobby and demonstrate need for retaining Networks	* Network funded beyond 2015	Yes	Yes	Yes	Achieved/ Ongoing
	 Lobby for members to access DGR on a state and regional level. 	* Increase in members with DGR status	Yes			Achieved
	Assist ANHLC's campaign to increase NHCP funding to a minimum of 20 hours per week.	* NHCP funding increased	Yes	Yes	Yes	Achieved



neighbourhood houses and community centres

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