



2021/22

# Annual Report



Committee for  
**GIPPSLAND**



## **Acknowledgement of Country**

The Committee for Gippsland acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of Country and recognise their continuing and deep connection to the land, water, air and sky; culture and community. We pay our respects to their Elders past and present. We acknowledge the region for Committee for Gippsland's Annual Report is on traditional lands, including those lands of the Gunaikurnai, Bunurong, Wurundjeri, and Taungurung Nations as well as other Traditional Owner Groups in Victoria who are not formally recognised.

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# A Message from the Chair & CEO



We are pleased to present our 2021-2022 Annual Report for the Committee for Gippsland's 12th year in operation. We are immensely proud of the work we are delivering with the support of our members and by working with our regional stakeholders.

Gippsland is undergoing significant transition and change, as our region shifts to new and clean forms of energy generation. The Committee for Gippsland has been at the forefront of this transition releasing the Gippsland Clean Energy Future: Through investment and growth report outlining a sound roadmap to maximise investment opportunities for the region. We appreciate the opportunity to collaborate with the RDA Gippsland Committee through this work.

Our Clean Energy Future Report was complemented by the success of Gippsland's New Energy Conference, which we were proud partners of, drawing national and global investment interest to our region. The conference was an opportunity to showcase our region's abundant natural resources, skilled workforce, and existing infrastructure network so we can best position Gippsland to capitalise on the estimated \$40 billion investment potential for Gippsland over the next decade.

2022 also saw one of our long-term strategic priorities come to fruition with a bipartisan commitment to funding and building a new hospital for West Gippsland. This announcement was a huge win for the region and has come after years of tireless advocacy for this much needed investment. Congratulations to all involved over the years in securing this investment.

Late this year we have completed our comprehensive refresh of the Gippsland Freight Infrastructure Master Plan which will be launched early next year. This Master Plan importantly highlights the infrastructure needs to support industry in Gippsland and articulates a

compelling argument for all levels of government to invest in key infrastructure that makes freight more efficient and economic, whilst improving road safety.

As we look at further ways of supporting our key regional strengths, such as agriculture and food production, it was a privilege to be able to host ABC Landline host, Pip Courtney, in Warragul. Our region is full of passionate people, producing some of the best and freshest products for our supermarkets and restaurants, and it was terrific to have Pip in the region to showcase our strengths.

Our Gippsland Community Leadership Program continues to develop Gippsland leaders and strengthen our region's leadership capacity. As our region transitions, it has never been more important to be developing strong local leaders.

This year we celebrated 26 years of GCLP at Lardner Park, which was a fantastic night to reconnect with alumni from as far back as 1996 and reflect on the positive impact the program has had on individuals and the region.

On behalf of the Committee for Gippsland board and management team we would like to sincerely thank our members for their continued support and input to the work we undertake.

As we move into 2023, it is pleasing to look back on the year and see the positive impact that Committee for Gippsland and our industry members continue to have on the region.

Yours sincerely

**Rochelle Wrigglesworth and Tony Cantwell**

# Committee for Gippsland

## Board Members

### Rochelle Wrigglesworth

Chair



Rochelle is a member of the Institute of Company Directors, the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia and New Zealand, and a Registered Company Auditor with ASIC.

After working at PwC (PricewaterhouseCoopers) and being a Principal/partner at Crowe Horwath for many years, Rochelle co-founded ForeFront (previously known as DMG Audit and Advisory) and has been providing business plus strategic advice, virtual CFO, and audit services since 2013.

Rochelle lives in Gippsland with her family, is passionate about helping the community and contributing towards the future prosperity of our region. She has a deep understanding of the Gippsland region's specific issues and a detailed knowledge of local government, health, education

and water sectors, plus aged care, gaming, manufacturing, First Nations and not for profit entities having working with these sectors for over 20 years. Rochelle is also committed to the success of small to medium size businesses in the region and enjoys assisting entrepreneurial and start up entities.

Rochelle is the Chair of the Board of the Committee for Gippsland and the Chair of the Financial, Audit and Risk Committee. She is also an independent member of the Audit and Risk Committee of the Royal Botanical Gardens Victoria.

### Sean Dignum

Deputy Chair



Sean is principal of the advisory firm SDA Strategic and has extensive experience in public affairs and reputation risk management. He has specific expertise in advising government, boards and CEOs during issues containment, crisis management, policy implementation, service disruption, industrial disputation and organisational restructuring.

Sean's firm SDA Strategic has supported tenders and contract negotiations, project development and assessment, community outreach and construction for many major infrastructure projects.

In the area of policy formulation and implementation, Sean has overseen the introduction of diverse regulatory and service changes in employment and workplace relations,

health and energy. As a Member of the Risk Management Institute of Australia, he regularly addresses diverse business and professional forums.

Sean has a deep commitment to community service, with extensive experience as an appointed or volunteer member of diverse boards and committees in health, youth, business and environment. As a primary producer in West Gippsland, he is also a strong advocate for sustainable farming and sensible land management.

## Leigh Kennedy

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As an executive with 20 years of international leadership experience, spanning five continents, Leigh is acknowledged for her proficiency in strategy, research and planning, consulting, communications, research, and analytics.

Leigh has previously worked with consulting firms Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu, Accenture and British bank Standard Chartered. After serving approximately four years as Gippsland Regional Director for Regional Development Victoria, Leigh joined Federation University in March 2019. Leigh has recently started a new role as Associate Deputy Vice Chancellor, Engagement.

As Head of Campus, Gippsland, Leigh was responsible for facilitating the integration and engagement of the

campus into the wider university operations and into the local, regional context. She represents the university locally and engages collaboratively with local community, industry, and government leaders to advance the Gippsland campus, and to optimise the campus' development and contribution to the region.

Leigh is passionate about Gippsland, having grown up in Latrobe Valley. Leigh has a Bachelor of Commerce (Honours) from Monash University and an Executive MBA (Distinction) from Bayes Business School (previously CASS Business School), City University London.

## Loretta Willaton

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Loretta is the Regional Australia Executive for Telstra holding responsibility for rural, regional, and remote nationally.

Prior to her Executive role, Loretta held the position of Regional General Manager for Eastern for more than 10 years. She is responsible for Telstra's brand and reputation, stakeholder engagement, customer advocacy and commercial success in the Consumer and Small Business segments across the area.

Loretta joined Telstra in 1994 and has worked in diverse roles holding responsibility for infrastructure planning and investment, sales, program management, finance and

business development, community and stakeholder engagement and local market leadership. She brings a deep knowledge of Victoria/NSW regional markets, having led the Regional Australia business across Gippsland, North East Vic, Geelong & Southern NSW, during the last 10 years.

Loretta is a Graduate of the 2004 Gippsland Community Leadership Program, currently a board member of the Committee for Gippsland, previously deputy chair of Apprenticeship Group Australia (2014- 2019) and non-executive director at IntoWork.

## Lisa Gooding

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Lisa has extensive experience in energy and climate change policy. She brings to the Committee for Gippsland more than 15 years' expertise advising government and industry, delivering structural economic reforms, and creating growth opportunities for businesses.

Lisa is a fourth generation Gippslander who grew up in the Latrobe Valley and knows firsthand the challenges facing the region. She is passionate about collaborating with stakeholders to generate sustainable economic opportunities for Gippsland and improving their living standards. Lisa has previously worked for the Australian

Public Service before serving as an Energy Adviser to the Federal Minister for Resources and Energy.

She contributed to Australia's first national emissions trading scheme and has provided strategic advice on Australia's energy policy. She has a Bachelor of Commerce majoring in economics and worked as the Director of Energy Policy at the Business Council of Australia before joining Energy Australia in 2015, where she led the Policy and Government Relations Team and is now the Yallourn Transition Leader.

## Elena Kelareva

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Dr Kelareva is the founder of GippsTech, an award-winning digital innovation consultancy with the mission of growing regional startup and tech ecosystems.

Elena has a PhD in Computer Science from ANU and 15 years' experience in innovation, startups and technology, including at Google where she was the Product Manager for the Google Maps Web APIs.

Elena worked with the 6 local councils in Gippsland to create Startup Gippsland, one of the largest regional startup programs ever to be run in Australia. She has been

recognised for her work on building regional startup and tech communities by being selected as one of 3 finalists for the Regional Development Victoria Leadership & Innovation Award 2018, and a winner of the PauseFest SuperConnector award 2020.

Elena brings to the board her expertise as a futurist and digital innovation strategist, as well as her extensive experience supporting regional businesses to start, grow and adapt to change.

# Projects



## Gippsland's Clean Energy Future Through Investment and Growth

Gippsland has a proud history as Victoria's foremost energy producer. The region's fossil fuel endowments have underpinned a vibrant, modern economy. While these resources have delivered much prosperity to Gippsland, their role is changing.

As a strategic priority, Committee for Gippsland (C4G) is advocating for clean energy investment and projects to drive our energy transition. These projects include offshore and onshore wind farms, solar farms, battery storage facilities, hydrogen generation projects, carbon capture and storage initiatives as well as supporting renewable infrastructure networks in our region. This change brings opportunities for new industries to emerge on the back of the region's comparative advantages in energy production and transmission.

In August, C4G launched its Gippsland's Clean Energy Future: Through investment and growth, which showcases Gippsland as an ideal location for clean energy investment. The region's natural resources, coupled with our infrastructure and workforce capability, can make

a major contribution to Australia's transition to clean energy. Through collaboration with our workforce and communities, government and business can strengthen the region and secure Gippsland's economy.

### Six Key Focus Areas:

#### Growing Large Scale Renewables

The future clean energy grid will require major contributions from large scale renewable generation to replace the workhorses of Victoria's electricity supply – Yallourn coal-fired power (20% of the state's power production) which is slated for closure in 2028, and Loy Yang A and B power stations (50%), with Loy Yang A to close in 2035. Transport and heating, combined with population and economic growth, will further increase Victoria's demand for electricity in the future, even with major improvements in energy sector. Examples of current projects include Star of the South 2200MW offshore wind farm, The Great Southern offshore wind farm 1000 MW, Flotation Energy's Seadragon project 1,500MW offshore wind farm, Delburn's onshore wind farm 200MW, Gippsland Renewable Energy Park, Maryvale Energy from Waste facility to power the Maryvale Mill with 32500 tonnes of residential waste converted to energy and the Gippsland Regional Organics facility to process up to 160,000 tonnes of residential organic waste for compost and/or Energy from Waste facility.







## Stabilising the Energy Supply

Gippsland's existing transmission network makes it an appealing place to install utility-scale batteries that store electricity when energy supply exceeds demand and release it when demand exceeds supply and/or the grid needs to be stabilised with fast injections of power. Batteries have been installed in Gippsland, and more investment is likely in future.

Examples of current projects include: The Hydrogen Supply Project (HSP), Gippsland's Hydrogen Cluster, The Wooreen Energy Storage System, and The Loy Yang Battery project.

## Carbon Capture and Storage

Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) is a key enabler of many prospective clean energy sources such as blue hydrogen and low-emission power from coal or gas, and clean production such as low-emission cement making. Permanent storage in suitable geological formations is a major focus of research. Initial assessments have given the Gippsland Basin the highest technical ranking of 25 major basins across Australia, and the largest storage potential of any east coast basin. The Victorian Government is undertaking more in-depth studies of Gippsland's geological structures that can safely and permanently store carbon dioxide. The CarbonNet project is led by the Victorian Government with Australian Government co-funding to develop a large-scale multi-user CCS hub in Gippsland.

## Cultivating Distributed Energy Production and Use

Gippsland's clean energy opportunity includes small-scale or distributed energy production. Rooftop solar, for example, allows households and businesses to generate their own power when the sun shines. Storage batteries complement solar by storing energy for use at night. Victorian Government subsidies have made solar and storage attractive for many. Another example are microgrids which involve distributed solar at community scale, enabling local residents and businesses to produce, store and use their own energy.

To meet targets, reducing reliance on the main grid and increasing reliability in remote areas, plays an important role. Gippsland is well-suited to community

microgrids with 40 per cent of residents living in towns or settlements with less than 1000 people – an ideal size to establish a community microgrid. Current projects include: trialling a micro grid in Heyfield, Mount Baw Baw Alpine Resort microgrid project, Cape Paterson sustainable living housing development and the Gippsland Circular Economy Precinct (GCEP).

## Championing Value-add Technology

Gippsland's aim to be a national leader in clean energy extends to the broader goal of being at the forefront of the transition to a clean economy. Technologies for clean industries can be developed and deployed in the region. Translating technology for application in manufacturing, processing and other heavy industry may be critical for hard-to-abate sectors, especially in the context of a market that is increasingly seeking low-carbon products. Gippsland has obvious advantages in regenerative agriculture as a natural form of Carbon Capture Storage.

An example of a current project includes South Gippsland Landcare Network and West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority supporting the Soilkee Renovator project – a trial to test the effects of new tilling and cropping technology.

## Building Foundational Capability and Infrastructure for the Clean Energy Economy

Retraining and upskilling will build the workforce to meet the needs of the immediate future. Clean energy developments will create new jobs that require skilled workers in regional areas. Gippsland has a large existing workforce in and adjacent to the energy sector – construction and project management workers, engineers, electricians and mechanical tradespeople – that have skills in demand by the clean energy sector. As traditional fossil fuel usage declines, this local workforce will be increasingly available and seeking employment. Government support to provide skills to retain and upskill workers is critical in building the foundations for a clean energy economy and help smooth the economic impact of the energy transition.



# Gippsland Freight Infrastructure Master Plan

The Committee for Gippsland (C4G) in partnership with Regional Development Australia Gippsland has undertaken a review of the Gippsland Freight Infrastructure Masterplan (GFIMP).

This is an important piece of work which will articulate the current demands and opportunities for investment into the region. The refreshed GFIMP will be launched early 2023 and will provide an essential planning tool to ensure Gippsland produce and resources can move in and out of the region efficiently and effectively.

It is critical that freight infrastructure investment decisions be appropriately planned with an eye on the future. The economic importance of the freight industry in Gippsland should not be understated. Annually, Gippsland's Gross Regional Product (GRP) is worth more than \$18 billion. The maintenance continued expansion and improvement of our freight network is therefore imperative to leveraging this GRP and an emerging clean energy sector.

The main generators of freight movements in Gippsland have been the dairy, livestock, horticulture, quarrying and forestry industries. The continued growth in the well-established extractive and energy industries as well as the clean energy sector, diversification of our capabilities with waste recovery, renewable energy and niche manufacturing will all put increased pressure on our freight infrastructure.

Previously in June 2013, GFIMP was developed in collaboration with RDA (Gippsland), Gippsland Local Government Areas, State Government agencies and industry. The updated GFIMP will focus on town congestion, major

arterial road works, local roads investment and upgrades, freight workforce and labour as well as intermodal air, sea and rail opportunities. It also aims to work with, complement and enhance existing transport plans and broader economic strategies.

A robust and efficient arterial network is critical to support the economic activity of the region. While the region 'punches above its weight' in terms of economic output, it has been historically challenged by an over emphasis on two major road arterials that are perpetually playing catch up, and an inadequate Gippsland rail freight network. There must be renewed focus on ongoing performance of the existing networks, the lifeblood of supply chains as well as alternate enhanced freight options.



# Gippsland Global Series

In 2022 the Committee for Gippsland (C4G) announced a new export market development initiative, the 'Gippsland Global Series' in partnership with the Australian Trade and Investment Commission.

C4G will use this program to help local Gippsland businesses across industry to expand their market reach, grow local opportunities for investment and support their export market potential to take Gippsland products and services to the world.

The series will provide Gippsland businesses and industry with high quality workshops, forums and training activities to help increase their traction in overseas markets by way of developing export market skills and awareness as well as increasing connections with key stakeholders from across the region and within the export market supply chain.

These sessions will also be an opportunity for Gippsland business and industry to reflect globally on their strategic planning and how to take advantage of export markets, which may not previously have been considered.

To kick off the series C4G hosted ABC Landline's Pip Courtney at the West Gippsland Arts Centre. This was a popular event with Gippsland agricultural leaders and triggered a lively discussion on the opportunities and challenges facing the agricultural sector, here and abroad.



# Programs



## Gippsland Community Leadership Program

The Gippsland Community Leadership Program (GCLP) is a ten-month experiential program delivered through meeting, interacting and working with the region's finest leaders, designing and delivering community projects and gaining the skills and knowledge to build participant community leadership capacity.

This year the program was completed in 23 days, including four two and half day residentials. The cohort travelled all over Gippsland from the far southwest coast to the high country in East Gippsland. This adds a unique experiential facet to GCLP and is a key component to the success of the program. Our cohort was guided by the Global Leadership Foundation's Malcolm Lazenby as well as several local facilitators.

This year's community projects from each of the cohort syndicates, were impressive and tackled some critical issues facing Gippsland communities. These included projects looking into improving mental health, youth engagement, foster care support, indigenous mentoring and place-making.

New additions to this year's program included introducing GCLP's first disability scholarship, an overhaul of GCLP communications to ensure accessibility for diverse audiences and introducing the previous year's cohort at the beginning of the program to share key tips with the current cohort.

In June, GCLP enjoyed its 25th Anniversary Celebration with a gala event at Lardner Park, close to 150 people attended this event which included a brief history of the program as well as interviews with various alumni from different program years.

C4G have also had a record year for applications for next year's program with a total of 46 Gippslanders applying for 2023. To finish the year TAFE Gippsland partnered with C4G for an end of year GCLP Alumni event to hear Gippsland leader and former EY Oceania CEO Tony Johnson share his professional leadership journey.

GCLP was established in 1996 and is one of Australia's longest running regional leadership programs. More than 650 Gippslanders have graduated from the program and have gone on to represent their communities as diverse, talented and passionate community leaders. GCLP is one of 10 regional leadership programs and is supported by the State Government and local sponsors.

### Leading Australian Resilient Communities

In the second half of 2022, the Committee for Gippsland supported Leadership Victoria in delivering the Australian Rural Leadership Foundation's Leading Australian Resilient Communities (LARC) – a national leadership program focusing on building resilience for Central and East Gippsland communities. This program has been well received by the community and will continue into the first half of 2023.



# Gippsland Hydrogen Cluster

The Committee for Gippsland's Hydrogen Cluster is part of a national network to lead the development and advancement of the growing hydrogen energy sector.

As a network of industries with a pipeline of projects, the Gippsland Hydrogen Cluster, connects, facilitates and drives the development of a local hydrogen industry from generation through to application.

Nous Consulting have been appointed to prepare a Gippsland Hydrogen Strategy outlining the importance of the Gippsland region to the emerging hydrogen economy.

### The strategy will focus on:

- Comparative advantages of Gippsland in the developing hydrogen sector
- Resource potential for hydrogen production in Gippsland
- Ongoing utilisation of existing energy infrastructure
- Workforce capacity to support developments
- Domestic and international hydrogen markets
- Demand for hydrogen derivatives

The strategy will provide an essential tool to articulate investment opportunities for government as well as the private sector.

This year the Gippsland Hydrogen Cluster hosted a presentation from Esso Australia in Sale earlier to update members on Esso's Carbon Capture Usage and Storage (CCUS) projects. Esso's Select Stage Manager Simon Kemp offered key insights into regional CCUS projects. Simon, who is responsible for overseeing Phase 1 of the recently announced South Eastern Australia Carbon Capture Hub, said capturing carbon in an offshore depleted oil field could be operational as early as 2025. The hub will initially use existing infrastructure to store CO2 in the depleted Bream field off the Gippsland coast. Simon explained how the technology could help industries decarbonise and reduce their emissions by injecting CO2 into deep underground geologic formations for safe, secure and permanent storage.

Recently C4G hosted PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC)'s National Skills and Education Consulting Practice Senior Manager Sinead McKenna who presented to the Gippsland Hydrogen Cluster and Committee for Gippsland Members.

Sinead summarised the results of the National Hydrogen Skills and Training Analysis Project which the Federal Department Skills and Employment had engaged PwC to undertake in order to support the National Hydrogen Strategy.

These events are examples of the H2 Cluster partnering with world-leading technology driven companies and organisations. The Gippsland Hydrogen Cluster helps encourage government investment, drive technology innovation, attract business investment, develop local industry, leading to a brighter and stronger future for Gippsland.



# GROW Gippsland

The Committee for Gippsland (C4G) is partnering with the Latrobe Valley Authority to lead the delivery of GROW Gippsland in 2022.

C4G has found alignment for members in the principles and outcomes of GROW (Growing Regional Opportunities for Work). Previously C4G was responsible for delivering GROW Wellington and East Gippsland with great results in generating opportunities for these regions. C4G intends to continue the strengthening of regional social and economic outcomes and increase job opportunities through procurement and employment in Gippsland.

In 2020, East Gippsland and the Wellington Shire were devastated by bushfires. The \$68.6 million Local Economic Recovery (LER) program was jointly funded by the Commonwealth and Victorian Governments in direct response to that event. The LER program funds local projects vital for community recovery, supporting economic stimulus and boosting industry and jobs across bushfire-affected regions. These LER grants were established to support local community recovery by funding projects that were important to achieving the aspirations and priorities of local communities.

Objectives of LER included:

- Increase economic and social benefits through enabling infrastructure
- Increase employment opportunities and decrease skills shortages
- Increase the capacity of the business community by enhancing employment, business and economic opportunities with a focus on tourism and primary industries, including small businesses
- Increase and restore visitor confidence in the region
- Improve community wellbeing
- Restore or improve the natural environment
- Promote Aboriginal participation and ownership and protect and enhance Aboriginal culture

GROW Wellington and East Gippsland would like to acknowledge the outstanding contribution of our Compact Members, the Victorian Government, and

GROW Gippsland Leadership group, Victoria's four other GROW regional programs and the many individuals and organisations we have worked with over the past year. Now more than ever local economic development, local and inclusive employment and business growth is critical for the region. GROW Gippsland looks forward to continuing to support these objectives in the coming years.

Looking to 2023, GROW Gippsland is aiming to pilot some innovative programs to assist its partners. C4G will play a large role in piloting the Youth Portfolio pilot program. This innovative program is aimed at reengaging disconnected youth to the community and provide the tools for a step towards meaningful employment. It is hoped this program will be the first of many throughout the state.





# Advocacy

## Roundtables & Policy Submissions

### Future of Freight

Dedicated rail discussion to hear directly from local stakeholders and interest groups to consolidate input into the refresh of the Gippsland Freight Infrastructure Master Plan (GFIMP). The updated plan is a collaboration with Regional Development Australia Gippsland Committee.

### Regional Health Priorities

Regional health and ageing facilities, staff challenges as well as health innovation initiatives were discussed with Shadow Assistant Minister for Regional Health and Ambulance Services Danny O'Brien.



### New Job Opportunities

The then Victorian Minister for Small Business, Employment, Innovation, Medical Research and the Digital Economy Jaala Pulford MP met with our local stakeholders to discuss employment and creating new job opportunities in the region.

### Victorian Skills Authority Roundtable

The Victorian Skills Authority CEO Craig Robertson led a discussion into the key features of the Victorian Skills Plan and how Gippsland can fully realise the opportunities of our transition to a clean energy future.

### GCLP Alumni End of Year Function

C4G partnered with TAFE Gippsland to host an end of year networking event for GCLP Alumni and members to hear Gippsland leader and former EY Oceania CEO, Tony Johnson share his professional leadership journey. It was a great way to celebrate and learn from a local who has achieved great success over his career.





# C4G Key Events and Workshops

## Launch of Gippsland's Clean Energy Future

Gippsland's Clean Energy Future: Through investment and growth, was launched at the Morwell Innovation Centre in August. C4G CEO Tony Cantwell, NOUS Consulting principal director Richard Bolt who C4G engaged to prepare the document spoke at the launch as well as Victorian Government upper house member for Gippsland and Minister for Regional Development, Water and Equality, Hon Harriet Shing. Gippsland's Clean Energy Future showcases the strengths of Gippsland as an energy generating region with our natural resources, infrastructure and workforce capabilities.

## Gippsland Global Series

As part of C4G's Gippsland Global Series, agricultural leaders gathered at a forum with ABC Landline host Pip Courtney held at the West Gippsland Arts Centre in late November. This was a popular event and triggered a lively discussion on the opportunities and challenges facing the agricultural sector regionally and abroad.

## National H2 Strategy

PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC)'s National Skills and Education Consulting Practice Senior Manager Sinead McKenna presented to the Gippsland Hydrogen Cluster and Committee for Gippsland Members in October. Sinead summarised the results of the National Hydrogen Skills and Training Analysis Project which the Federal Department Skills and Employment had engaged PwC to undertake in order to support the National Hydrogen Strategy. The project identified sector areas where little upskilling was required and others showing significant gaps.

## Australian Institute of Company Directors

C4G partnered with AICD to offer this highly regarded course locally. The Company Directors Course™ is nationally recognised for producing world-class leaders with an unparalleled knowledge of best practice governance. Due to the success of the course, C4G are looking to run another in 2023.



## GROW Gippsland Projects Showcase and Tendering workshops

Throughout 2022, C4G facilitated several well attended social procurement and tender writing workshops in East and Central Gippsland. C4G supported the East Gippsland and Wellington Project Showcase, partnering with Industry Capability Network Victoria and East Gippsland and Wellington shire councils. This was a fantastic event to showcase the opportunities for local businesses and industry in supporting local jobs. More than 450 people participated in their respective region's overview on local procurement opportunities and how to stand out when tendering for local projects. Guest speakers included industry and government project representatives who discussed best strategies for tendering for work, as well as outlining key infrastructure and local project opportunities on the horizon.

## Cultural Awareness Workshop

C4G engaged the Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation (GLaWAC) to offer members an opportunity to gain knowledge and understanding about Gippsland's history and culture.





## Offshore Wind

Offshore wind will play a central role in Gippsland's clean energy future, with the region's blustery coastlines an advantage for this form of renewable energy.

Earlier this year the Commonwealth Government announced the Bass Strait off Gippsland as the first area to be formally assessed under its new Offshore Electricity Infrastructure Framework. The proposed area is in Australian Commonwealth waters for offshore renewable energy projects. In August, the Committee for Gippsland (C4G) made a submission into the Victorian Government's Offshore Wind Policy Directions Paper calling for further support in developing transmission networks and supply chains as well as reducing any legislative and regulatory barriers. In October, C4G also made a submission into the Federal Government's proposed area for offshore renewables: Bass Strait.

## Innovative Fibre and Circular Economy

C4G recently met with Melbourne University representatives and the Industrial Hemp Association of Victorian on a tour of the OPAL Maryvale plant that looked at paper processing and manufacturing and how fibres are used in the process. C4G coordinated the tour to discuss everything from paper production, energy generation and its future aquaculture project. The Maryvale site is a fantastic example of OPAL's leadership in the circular economy space, developing through a zero-waste approach.

In March, C4G hosted a presentation about the Latrobe Valley Aquaculture Development. OPAL Australian Paper's Project creator and lead Craig Bosch shared key learnings on how to embrace circular economic principles.



## Victorian Transmission Investment Framework

C4G welcomes plans for additional transmission infrastructure in Gippsland which will support new energy investment into the region while creating local employment opportunities. AusNet Services plan to develop 85 kilometres of Gippsland Renewable Energy Zone's (G-REZ) transmission extending from Giffard in the Wellington Shire to the Latrobe Valley which will enable multiple developers to connect into the National Electricity Market via a common grid connection.

Gippsland has approximately 11GW of renewable energy projects already in various stages of development and coordinating their connection back to the grid is important for industry, community and the environment.

Earlier in the year C4G made a submission into the Victorian Transmission Investment Framework (VTIF) which is aimed at planning and delivering Renewable Energy Zones (REZs). The final design of the VTIF will help deliver the best outcomes for our region. This framework will also provide more certainty to investors, industry, and local communities.



# Committee for Gippsland Members

Federation University	Star of the South	Esso
RGM Financial Group	GQS	LR Fenning
Latrobe Community Health Service	East Gippsland Marketing Inc (EGMI)	Mac&Ernie
Best Match Recruitment	ForeFront Co.	ANZ
Marinus Link	RubberTough Industries	Cranes Asphaltting & Bitumen Sealing
Octopus Investments	FGM Consultants	Crowther & Sadler
GHD Australia	DFP Recruitment Services	OSMI Australia
Safetech	Australia Carbon Innovation	Latrobe Valley Bus Lines
Radfords Warragul	Burra Foods	Dullard Motor Group
McFarlane Criminal Lawyers	Connectivity IT	Southern Rural Water
Pathfinder Law	Telstra Business Technology Centre Victoria East	Neerim District Health Service
Jana Group	Dyers	TAFE Gippsland
AGL	First National King & Heath	Community College Gippsland
SDA Strategic	Leah Methers	Energy Australia
Aerium	Elders Rural Services	HVP Plantations
Lardner Park	GippsTech	Warren Graham and Murphy
Hydro Australia	Mount Baw Baw Alpine Resort	Quantum Support Services
NBN Co.	Dahlsens	Committee for Wellington
Corrinne Armour	Marathon Electrical	Civil Contractors Federation (Victoria)
AML Advisory	Gippsland Water	SMEC
Spiire	Kalbar Operations	OPAL Packaging
Gippsland Ports Committee of Management	La Concierge	Telstra Country Wide Gippsland
Warragul Linen Service	Victorian Livestock Exchange	Ausnet Services
Gippsland LLEN (Baw Baw Latrobe LLEN)	National Australia Bank	Australian Sustainable Hardwoods
Latrobe Valley Enterprises	Advance Morwell	Snowy Advisory
Monash University-Fire to Flourish	Workways Australia	Metung Hot Springs
	ENGIE Australia	Brooker Builders
	Ritchies Stores	Monash University, Rural Health
		Patties Foods

# Corporate Partners



An ExxonMobil Brand



Gippsland  
Water



AusNet



**COMMITTEE FOR GIPPSLAND INC**  
**ABN: 68 225 605 779**

**FINANCIAL REPORT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED**  
**30 JUNE 2022**

Tyrrell Partners  
Suite 2, First Floor  
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Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation

**COMMITTEE FOR GIPPSLAND INC**  
**ABN: 68 225 605 779**

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## COMMITTEE FOR GIPPSLAND INC

ABN: 68 225 605 779

### BOARD'S REPORT

Your board members submit the financial report of the Committee for Gippsland Inc for the financial year ended 30 June 2022.

#### Board Members

The name of each member of the Board during the year and if different, at the date of the report;

Rochelle Wrigglesworth (Chair)	Sean Dignum (Deputy Chair)
Leigh Kennedy	Loretta Willaton
Lisa Gooding	Elena Kelareva
Wendy Bezzina (Retired November 2021)	Alex Aeschlimann (Retired December 2021)
Tim Weight (Vale December 2021)	Michelle Brooker

#### Principal Activities

The principal activities of the association during the financial year were:

To work collaboratively with existing government and community organisations across Gippsland to help maximise economic and social outcomes for the region.

#### Significant Changes

No significant change in the nature of these activities occurred during the year.

#### Operating Result

The surplus of the association for the period amounted to \$235,054.03. (2021 operating surplus \$111,306.42)

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Members of the Board.

Board Member:



\_\_\_\_\_  
Rochelle Wrigglesworth

Board Member:



\_\_\_\_\_  
Sean Dignum

Dated this 9<sup>th</sup> day of November 2022



**COMMITTEE FOR GIPPSLAND INC**  
**ABN: 68 225 605 779**

**INCOME STATEMENT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022**

	Note	2022 \$	2021 \$
<b>INCOME</b>			
Memberships, Sponsorship & Scholarship Income		470,052.35	408,151.24
Funds Received	2	1,011,788.36	541,150.08
Course Fees		87,699.99	74,304.54
Event Income		14,033.69	3,201.89
		<u>1,583,574.39</u>	<u>1,026,807.75</u>
<b>OTHER INCOME</b>			
Interest Received		1,834.96	2,418.52
Government Subsidies	3	-	101,492.00
		<u>1,834.96</u>	<u>103,910.52</u>
		<u>1,585,409.35</u>	<u>1,130,718.27</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

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**COMMITTEE FOR GIPPSLAND INC**  
**ABN: 68 225 605 779**

**INCOME STATEMENT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022**

	Note	2022 \$	2021 \$
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>			
Administration Costs		22,899.20	17,050.55
Auditor's Remuneration		4,900.00	4,500.00
Bank Charges		1,057.27	1,702.42
Bookkeeping		22,943.00	17,825.00
Depreciation		3,104.23	3,606.93
Functions		52,076.76	24,917.96
General Expenses		-	1,064.43
Guest Speakers & Program Activities		65,451.39	20,894.62
Insurance - Workcover		6,241.39	4,656.30
Insurance		3,133.53	2,917.65
IT and Communications		10,210.05	5,161.95
IT and Web Design		20,516.35	-
Legal Costs		19,563.50	1,261.04
Materials and Supplies		1,080.00	2,658.54
Marketing		16,635.16	1,896.93
Project and Contact Work		423,754.08	425,329.12
Staff Recruitment		-	1,500.00
Rent		18,153.71	-
Repairs & Maintenance		497.65	-
Staff Training & Welfare		870.22	7,312.72
Superannuation Contributions		54,200.09	40,818.56
Travelling, Accommodation and Meals		44,898.72	17,502.05
Wages		558,169.02	416,835.08
		<u>1,350,355.32</u>	<u>1,019,411.85</u>
<b>Operating surplus for the year</b>		<u>235,054.03</u>	<u>111,306.42</u>
<b>Other comprehensive income</b>		-	-
<b>Total other comprehensive income</b>		-	-
<b>Total comprehensive income</b>		<u>235,054.03</u>	<u>111,306.42</u>
<b>Total comprehensive income attributable to members of the association</b>		<u>235,054.03</u>	<u>111,306.42</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

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**COMMITTEE FOR GIPPSLAND INC**  
**ABN: 68 225 605 779**

**BALANCE SHEET**  
**AS AT 30 JUNE 2022**

	Note	2022 \$	2021 \$
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	4	1,054,278.81	1,354,644.59
Trade and other receivables	5	394,960.00	238,295.00
Prepayments		7,650.00	16,021.81
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>1,456,888.81</u>	<u>1,608,961.40</u>
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Plant and equipment	6	3,164.95	6,269.18
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>3,164.95</u>	<u>6,269.18</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<u>1,460,053.76</u>	<u>1,615,230.58</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Trade and other payables	7	48,316.10	88,701.62
Accrued Expenses		47,835.04	29,936.37
Prepaid Income		-	13,416.81
Income in Advance	8	281,600.10	263,273.45
Unspent Project Funding	9	351,627.36	733,784.28
Employee Entitlements		29,007.34	19,504.26
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<u>758,385.94</u>	<u>1,148,616.79</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<u>758,385.94</u>	<u>1,148,616.79</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u>701,667.82</u>	<u>466,613.79</u>
<b>MEMBERS' FUNDS</b>			
Retained earnings	10	701,667.82	466,613.79
<b>TOTAL MEMBERS' FUNDS</b>		<u>701,667.82</u>	<u>466,613.79</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

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COMMITTEE FOR GIPPSLAND INC  
ABN: 68 225 605 779

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

	Retained Earnings \$
<b>Balance at 1 July 2020</b>	<u>355,307.37</u>
Operating surplus attributed to members	111,306.42
Other comprehensive income attributed to members	-
	<u>111,306.42</u>
<b>Balance at 30 June 2021</b>	<u>466,613.79</u>
Operating surplus attributed to members	235,054.03
Other comprehensive income attributed to members	-
	<u>235,054.03</u>
<b>Balance at 30 June 2022</b>	<u>701,667.82</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

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**COMMITTEE FOR GIPPSLAND INC**  
**ABN: 68 225 605 779**

**CASH FLOW STATEMENT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022**

	2022 \$	2021 \$
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Receipts from members and funding	1,033,932.32	1,547,317.33
Payments to suppliers and employees	(1,336,133.06)	(1,051,784.73)
Interest received	1,834.96	2,418.52
Government Subsidies	-	106,492.00
<b>Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities</b>	<b>11</b> (300,365.78)	<b>604,443.12</b>
Net increase (decrease) in cash held	(300,365.78)	604,443.12
Cash at beginning of financial year	1,354,644.59	750,201.47
Cash at end of financial year	<b>4</b> 1,054,278.81	<b>1,354,644.59</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

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**COMMITTEE FOR GIPPSLAND INC**  
**ABN: 68 225 605 779**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022**

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**Note 1: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

**Financial Reporting Framework**

The financial statements are special purpose financial statements prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012*. The committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity as the users of the financial statements are able to obtain additional information to meet their needs.

**Statement of Compliance**

The financial report has been prepared in accordance with the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012*, the basis of accounting specified by Australian Accounting Standards, and the disclosure requirements of Accounting Standards AASB 101: *Presentation of Financial Statements*, AASB 107: *Statement of Cash Flows*, AASB 108: *Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors*, AASB 1031: *Materiality* and AASB 1054: *Australian Additional Disclosures*.

**Basis of Preparation**

The financial statements, except the cash flow information, have been prepared on an accrual basis and are based on historical costs. They do not take into account changing money values or, except where stated specifically, current valuations of non-current assets.

The following significant accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period unless stated otherwise, have been adopted in the preparation of these financial statements.

**a. Income Tax**

The association has self-assessed themselves as a not-for-profit organisation that is exempt from the assessment of income tax, therefore no provision for income tax has been made and tax effect accounting has not been adopted

**b. Plant and Equipment**

Plant and equipment are carried at cost less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation

The depreciable amount of all plant and equipment is depreciated over the useful lives of the assets to the association commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use

**c. Impairment of Assets**

At the end of each reporting period, the Board reviews the carrying amounts of its assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have been impaired. If such an indication exist, an impairment test is carried out on the asset by comparing the recoverable amount the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair values less costs of disposal and value in use, to the asset's carrying amount. Any excess of the asset's carrying amount over its recoverable amount is recognised in the income statement.

**d. Employee Provisions**

Provision is made for the association's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to the end of the reporting period. Employee provisions have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

**e. Provisions**

Provisions are recognised when the association has a legal or constructive obligation, as a result of past events, for which it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will result and that outflow can be reliably measured. Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation at the end of the reporting period.

**f. Cash and Cash Equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, cash at bank, deposits held at call with banks, and other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.

**g. Accounts Receivable and Other Debtors**

Accounts receivable and other debtors include amounts due from members as well as amounts receivable from donors. Receivables expected to be collected within 12 months of the end of the reporting period are classified as current assets. All other receivables are classified as non-current assets.

**h. Revenue**

Revenue is recognised when the amount of revenue can be measured reliably, it is probable that economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the association and specific criteria related to the type of revenue as noted below, has been satisfied.

Membership revenues are recognised on a straight-line basis over the period of the membership.

Interest received shall be recognised using the effective interest rate method.

Funding received is recognised in the period in which it applies too, funding received for future periods are recognised in advance are disclosed in the balance sheet as a liability.

Grant income shall be recognised when there is reasonable assurance that the condition of the grant will be complied with, and it will be received.

If conditions are attached to the grant that must be satisfied before the association is eligible to receive the contributions, recognition of the grant as revenue will be deferred until those conditions are satisfied.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST).

**i. Goods and Services Tax (GST)**

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST receivable from, or payable to, the ATO is included with other receivables or payables in the balance sheet.

**j. Accounts Payable and Other Payables**

Accounts payable and other payables represents the liability outstanding at the end of the reporting period for goods and services received by the Association during the reporting period that remain unpaid. The balance is recognised is a current liability with the amount normally paid within 30 days of recognition of the liability.

**COMMITTEE FOR GIPPSLAND INC**  
**ABN: 68 225 605 779**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022**

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**k. Critical Accounting Estimates and Judgements**

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts in the financial statements. Management basis its judgements, estimates and assumptions on historical experience and on other various factors, including expectations of future events, management believes to be reasonable under the circumstances



**COMMITTEE FOR GIPPSLAND INC**  
**ABN: 68 225 605 779**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022**

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>Note 2: Project Fundings</b>		
GCLP and related community projects	422,047.23	443,577.23
GROW East Gippsland & Wellington	468,291.70	22,316.49
C4G Strategic Project Initiatives	121,449.43	75,256.36
<b>Total Project Funding</b>	<u>1,011,788.36</u>	<u>541,150.08</u>

**Note 3: Government Subsidies**

Cash Flow Boost	-	48,992.00
Jobkeeper Payment	-	52,500.00
	<u>-</u>	<u>101,492.00</u>

Government subsidies were received to help the association maintain their employees and meet their financial obligations with the downturn of income due to the lockdown restrictions enforced as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. These payments ceased in 2021.

**Note 4: Cash and Cash Equivalents**

Security Deposit	4,034.17	-
Petty Cash	38.20	38.20
Bank Australia - C4G Community Access Account	711,807.66	930,584.85
Bank Australia - C4G Expense Account	2,084.68	5,621.67
Bank Australia - GCLP Account	10,622.19	140,150.61
Bank Australia - GCLP Expense Account	5,835.94	5,485.07
CBA Settlement Account	134,837.89	94,368.00
Term Deposit	179,288.17	178,396.19
PayPal Account	5,729.91	-
	<u>1,054,278.81</u>	<u>1,354,644.59</u>

**Reconciliation of cash**

Cash and Cash equivalents reported in the cash flow statement are reconciled to the equivalent items in the balance sheet as follows:

Cash and cash equivalents	<u>1,054,278.81</u>	<u>1,354,644.59</u>
	<u>1,054,278.81</u>	<u>1,354,644.59</u>

**COMMITTEE FOR GIPPSLAND INC**  
**ABN: 68 225 605 779**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022**

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>Note 5: Trade and Other Receivables</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
Trade Debtors	412,560.00	263,595.00
Less: Provision for Doubtful Debts	<u>(17,600.00)</u>	<u>(25,300.00)</u>
	<u>394,960.00</u>	<u>238,295.00</u>
Trade debtors at year end included project funding which was received after year end.		
<b>Note 6: Property, plant and equipment</b>		
Plant & Equipment	35,367.23	35,367.23
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(32,202.28)</u>	<u>(29,098.05)</u>
<b>Total Plant and Equipment</b>	<u>3,164.95</u>	<u>6,269.18</u>
<b>Note 7: Accounts Payable and Other Payables</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
Sundry Creditors	11,392.00	11,062.00
Trade Creditors	21,576.33	23,725.14
Other Creditors - Superannuation	70.85	-
Other Accounts Payable - ATO	<u>15,276.92</u>	<u>53,914.48</u>
	<u>48,316.10</u>	<u>88,701.62</u>
<b>Note 8: Income in Advance</b>		
Participant and Corporate	44,700.00	38,599.99
Prepaid Membership	172,400.01	170,750.01
Scholarships	22,750.00	24,468.90
Sponsorships	<u>41,750.09</u>	<u>29,454.55</u>
	<u>281,600.10</u>	<u>263,273.45</u>
<b>Note 9: Unspent Project Funding</b>		
GCLP and related community projects	64,717.02	227,540.64
GROW East Gippsland and Wellington	31,708.30	100,000.00
C4G Strategic Projects Initiatives	<u>255,202.04</u>	<u>406,243.64</u>
<b>Total Unspent Project Funding</b>	<u>351,627.36</u>	<u>733,784.28</u>

**COMMITTEE FOR GIPPSLAND INC**  
**ABN: 68 225 605 779**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022**

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>Note 10: Retained Earnings</b>		
Retained earnings at the beginning of the financial year	466,613.79	355,307.37
Net surplus attributable to the association	<u>235,054.03</u>	<u>111,306.42</u>
Retained earnings at the end of the financial year	<u>701,667.82</u>	<u>466,613.79</u>
<b>Note 11: Cash Flow Information</b>		
<b>Reconciliation of cash flows from operating activities</b>		
Operating Surplus	235,054.03	111,306.42
<i>Adjustments for:</i>		
Depreciation	3,104.23	3,606.93
Provision for Employee Entitlements	9,503.08	(4,402.32)
<i>Movement in working capital:</i>		
- (increase)/decrease receivables	(156,665.00)	(180,953.12)
- (increase)/decrease prepayments	8,371.81	(16,021.81)
- increase/(decrease) in trade and other payables	(40,385.52)	42,494.23
- increase/(decrease) accrued expenses	17,898.67	(5,235.91)
- increase/(decrease) prepaid income	(13,416.81)	13,416.81
- increase/(decrease) income received in advance	18,326.65	(64,097.84)
- increase/(decrease) in unspent project funding	<u>(382,156.92)</u>	<u>704,329.73</u>
	<u>(300,365.78)</u>	<u>604,443.12</u>

**Note 12: Economic Dependence**

The Association is assisted in its activities by operating grants provided by the state government. At the date of this report, members of the board had no reason to believe that the state government would not continue to provide financial support to the Committee for Gippsland Inc.

**COMMITTEE FOR GIPPSLAND INC**  
**ABN: 68 225 605 779**

**TRUE AND FAIR CERTIFICATION BY MEMBERS OF THE BOARD**

**ANNUAL STATEMENTS GIVE TRUE AND FAIR VIEW OF FINANCIAL POSITION AND PERFORMANCE OF INCORPORATED ASSOCIATION**

The statements attached to this certificate give a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of the Committee for Gippsland Inc. during and at the end of the financial year of the association ending on 30 June 2022.

Board Member:  \_\_\_\_\_

Board Member:  \_\_\_\_\_

Dated this 9<sup>th</sup> day of November 2022

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT  
TO THE MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE FOR GIPPSLAND INC  
ABN: 68 225 605 779**

**Opinion**

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of Committee for Gippsland Inc (the association), which comprises the balance sheet as at 30 June 2022, and the income statement, statement of changes in equity and cash flow statement for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements including a summary of significant accounting policies and the certification by members of the board.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report gives a true and fair view of the financial position of the association as at 30 June 2022 and of its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements and the requirements of the *Association Incorporation Reform Act 2012*.

**Basis for Opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of the report. We are independent of the association in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110: *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

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

**Emphasis of Matter- Basis of Accounting**

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the bases of accounting. The financial report has been prepared to assist the association to meet the requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012*. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

**Responsibilities of the Board for the Financial Report**

The Board is responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with the financial reporting requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012* and for such internal control as the board determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view that is free from material misstatement whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the board is responsible for assessing the association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the association or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

**Auditors' Responsibility for the Audit of the Financial Report**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT  
TO THE MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE FOR GIPPSLAND INC  
ABN: 68 225 605 779**

- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the association's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the committee.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the committee's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the association's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the association to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the committee regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

**Name of Firm:** Tyrrell Partners Pty Ltd  
Certified Practising Accountants

**Name of Director:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Neil Tyrrell

**Address:** Suite 2 Level 1, Cnr George & Moore Streets Moe 3825

**Dated this 19<sup>th</sup> day of December 2022**

**COMMITTEE FOR GIPPSLAND INC**  
**ABN: 68 225 605 779**

**CERTIFICATE BY MEMBERS OF THE BOARD**

I, Rochelle Wrigglesworth, being a member of the Board of the Committee for Gippsland Inc certify that:

- a. I attended the annual general meeting of the Association held on 23 December 2022; and
- b. the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2022 were submitted to the members of the association at the annual general meeting.

**Dated this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of December 2022**

**Board Member:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rochelle Wrigglesworth



Committee for  
**GIPPSLAND**

**Committee for Gippsland Inc.**

Morwell Innovation Centre  
1 Monash Way  
Morwell 3840 Victoria

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info@gipps.com.au

Committee for Gippsland, proudly delivering:

