



CLIMATE
ACTION
NETWORK
AUSTRALIA



CLIMATE ACTION NETWORK AUSTRALIA
ANNUAL REPORT 2019-20



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Report from CANA's Board President and Executive Director

The last year has been a period of unprecedented challenge to every level of our society. The devastating reality of climate change in the form of drought, floods and bushfires has been followed swiftly by the COVID-19 pandemic. All of which exposed the fragility of our society and way of life. Climate Action Network Australia (CANA) has been a linchpin of climate movement collaboration, seeking new ground to advocate and support the protection of our climate and planet.

In addition, the *Black Lives Matter* movement has challenged us to work better to support people of colour in our movement, to see the systemic challenges of racism, colonialism, sexism, and capitalism as intertwined threats to our communities and our planet. CANA's role in supporting First Nations Justice has been challenged, and the Network is working to step up.

While this past 12 months has been a testing year for Julie-Anne to rejoin CANA as Executive Director, it's been rewarding to see our Network strengthen and come together to step up to the challenges we face.

Despite these formidable challenges, we have achieved a lot together in this time. The benefits of being part of and contributing to a collaborative and strategic Network have been clearly demonstrated, where solutions to adversity can be found together.

Our Network has grown to over 100 members. Many of our new member organisations are tackling climate change from a new perspective – for example FrontRunners is working to engage sports people and the industry on climate. This year we welcomed new faith organisations, members focused on the arts, a number of local grassroots organisations, and some impressive think tanks. This diversity of organisations bring their own perspectives and approaches. Through CANA these diverse voices work together strategically for change, strengthen the climate movement and make us better placed to win.

Better Futures Australia is an example of this collaborative approach in action. This initiative is bringing broad and diverse sectors of society together to work on climate action in their spheres and to create overwhelming momentum towards climate action across all of society, including an unstoppable change in our political environment.

We have also been working towards a diversity of perspectives on our Board, welcoming new leaders and strategic thinkers into our governance, broadening our view to the future.



Victoria McKenzie-McHarg
Board President



Julie-Anne Richards
Executive Director



Report from CANA's Board President and Executive Director

The CANA Network Support Team (NST) has seen significant growth in the last year, both in number and in experience. We are fortunate to have a team able to provide a real leadership role within the movement and work creatively with new partners and allies. This was evident in the leadership through the bushfires, and the COVID-19 crisis, helping the Network emerge stronger from this extended period of crisis. And our team is even further strengthened now.

However, it is important to recognise the drain and exhaustion many of us in the broader movement are facing – those impacted by bushfires who have yet to have a chance to recover, those in Victoria in extended lock-down, and those struggling with job losses and facing uncertainty. The need for care, compassion, empathy, for each other in this moment, and as a key approach to the changes we're seeking and creating across our communities.

The challenge of the moment is how can we do things differently? How do we structure our economy to respect people and the planet over profit? Also as a movement: how do we rise to the challenge? What do we need to make the most of this opportunity?

We look forward to working with you creatively and courageously as we take up that challenge.

Victoria McKenzie-McHarg
Board President

Julie-Anne Richards
Executive Director

Acknowledgement

Climate Action Network Australia acknowledges the Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples of this nation. We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the lands on which our organisation is located and where we conduct our business. We pay our respects to ancestors and Elders, past and present. We are committed to honouring Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples' unique cultural and spiritual relationships to the land, waters and seas and their rich contribution to society and to the climate movement.



About

OUR VISION

A fair and sustainable Australia free of climate pollution, where people and nature are protected from dangerous climate change.

OUR MISSION

We are a Network that supports our members and their allies to take actions to protect people at home and abroad from climate change, to safeguard our natural environment and to build a fair, clean, healthy Australia for everyone.

To do this we will create a diverse network with distributed leadership that links people and organisations working toward our vision. The network will support the setting and achievement of shared goals and be the underlying infrastructure that supports us to work together.

Together we work to:

- Reduce Australia's climate pollution to zero, and beyond.
- Transition to a society and economy powered by clean energy and clean exports.
- Protect people, water, air, land, and nature from the impacts of fossil fuel extraction.
- Build climate leadership and resilience in communities most affected by climate change.
- Ensure Australia does its fair share in international efforts to confront the crisis.

We work by:

- Building and aligning strategies in common areas of our work.
- Co-designing and collaborating to deliver climate campaigns and projects.
- Co-operating on community-led transition projects.
- Engaging more people and diverse sectors to take action on campaigns connected to climate.
- Developing policies and proposals that will help deliver on our vision.
- Linking to international efforts, networks, and campaigns.
- Providing infrastructure for ongoing communication between members, as well as convening meetings and working groups for particular regions, sectors, and issue areas.

Climate Action Network Australia Ltd is registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC).



Our vision is for a fair and sustainable Australia free of climate pollution, where people and nature are protected from dangerous climate change.



Our People

BOARD MEMBERS AS AT 30 JUNE 2020



**Victoria
McKenzie-McHarg**
President

Board member since
Oct 2015



**Moira
Williams**
Secretary

Board member since
Oct 2015



**Damian
Sullivan**
Treasurer

Board member since
Nov 2017



**Louise
Tarrant**
Ordinary Member

Board member since
Oct 2015



**Simon
Bradshaw**
Ordinary Member

Board member since
Oct 2015



**Katherine
Smolski**
Ordinary Member

Board member since
Nov 2017



**Mong Linh
Do**
Ordinary Member

Board member since
Oct 2018



**Robert
Glasser**
Ordinary Member

Board member since
Oct 2019

Resignations during the 2019-20 financial year

Duncan Jinks, ordinary member (and former Treasurer) – Board member since Oct 2011, resigned Oct 2019.

Directors Moira Williams and Katherine Smolski will be stepping down from their positions at the AGM in October 2020. We thank Moira and Katherine for their contribution to our network and to climate justice. Their time, energy, strategic focus and passion for our work has been of enormous benefit to CANA and our members. In particular, we thank Moira for her additional work as CANA Secretary and Chair of the Governance committee.



Our People

NETWORK SUPPORT TEAM AS AT JUNE 30, 2020

Julie-Anne Richards | Executive Director: Julie-Anne manages the CANA Network Support Team (NST) to grow a strong, effective and diverse climate movement in Australia. She leads on strategy and planning across the Network.



“This year the NST has really hit its stride, providing invaluable services to our members. They are also great team mates. A highlight for me this year was connecting with our regional partners, Pacific Islands CAN and CAN Aotearoa at the climate conference in Madrid, where I worked to highlight the Australian Government’s stunning recalcitrance whilst back home bushfires rampaged across the country.”

Melinda Millen | Network Organiser: Melinda oversees our member engagement, including steering members towards collaboration opportunities, supporting and convening grassroots leaders, and welcoming and connecting new members into the Network.



“Through managing the Small Grants Program, I love supporting the creative organising campaigns that small groups are designing to build the diversity and influence of the climate movement and catalyse climate action all around the country.”

Alison Platt | Finance & Governance Officer: Alison manages CANA’s financial administration and legal compliance. She handles the organisation’s accounts including membership fee processing, and is also responsible for CANA’s statutory reporting and the administration of our Service Agreement program.



“I love seeing the results that Service Agreement partners can achieve through grant and donation funding that they would otherwise not be able to benefit from.”

Katie Sheehan | Administration Assistant: Katie coordinates support for CANA members – including logistics, communications and administration – and also assists with the delivery of the Better Futures Australia initiative.



“I’m motivated by the energy and commitment of our members and my team in driving action on climate change – in particular the momentum gathering around the Better Futures Australia initiative. It’s been exciting working on the development of the website and I look forward to it being used as an effective engagement tool for people to take action.”

Glen Klatovsky | Energy Strategist: Glen is our lead on climate and energy policy and politics, including COVID-19 recovery work.



“My highlight this year has been the incredible coordination and collaboration driven by our members throughout the COVID-19 crisis. Many organisations escalated their efforts to put climate change issues at the forefront of recovery and ensure governments could not simply help their fossil fuel industry mates out as massive government funds were being spent to deal with the health crisis.”

Our People

Lisa Cliff | Program Manager – Better Futures Australia: Lisa is engaging a broad range of organisations to collectively plan and deliver an impactful national *Better Futures Forum* in July 2021.



“The support and guidance across the Network and allies for Better Futures Australia has blown me away. I am so thankful to the dozens of inspiring individuals, particularly the Better Futures Australia Steering Committee, who dedicate time and creative ideas to outline how we can collectively step up ambition on climate across Australia this year.”

James Whelan | Climate Strategist (commenced Aug 2020): James recently joined CANA and will focus on climate impacts, including Angry Summer work with members and allies.



“I’ve worked in and with CANA member groups ever since the Network was created, and have enjoyed participating in network conferences and collaborative campaigns. I have no doubt a strong national network of civil society groups is vital to Australian climate action, so it’s a great honour to join the Network Support Team.”

Maddy Madhavan | Operations Manager (commenced Sept 2020): Maddy leads the Human Resources, Finance and Governance functions for CANA. She liaises with the Executive Director and the Board to drive strategic operational priorities for the NST.



“Having worked in management consulting for most of my career, I’m excited to bring some best practices to the not-for-profit world! I look forward to enabling the CANA NST to drive the climate change agenda in the most strategic and efficient way possible.”

We want to acknowledge the work of these employees who have since left CANA, but played a crucial part in the Network Support Team work during the 2019-20 year:



Oliver Toohey | Climate Campaign Analyst: Oliver undertook insights and analysis and fed these into major strategic decisions for the Network, which included developing movement-wide strategy and working on responses to ongoing climate impacts. Oliver was also the focal point for CANA’s engagement with its international counterpart.



Nicky Ison | Strategy Advisor: Nicky worked with CANA members to develop and implement strategic interventions to drive a faster and fairer transition away from fossil fuels to 100% clean energy.



Our Members, Affiliates & Partners

CANA provides a space for members, affiliates and partners to create relationships for collaboration, to build their organisational capacity, and to strategically align and enhance their advocacy campaigning. It also provides multiple spaces for organisational leaders to share information and discuss and collaborate on their climate campaigning and to decrease duplication of work.

Our core, Network-wide email list, increased by 76% from the start to the end of this period and by 30 June 2020. Our topic specific email lists grew at a similar rate. Likewise, Members are finding the CANA Slack workspace increasingly useful, with 260 active users – double the number of one year previously.

We have two types of membership – ‘Committed to Leadership’ or Regular – and contributions are progressive based on the size of the organisation (from voluntary or small, to extra large or core), the capacity to contribute and the level of involvement with the Network. Affiliation is for organisations or groups that are unincorporated.

Over the year, twenty new organisations joined CANA, increasing our membership to 100 members. Two member organisations, Doctors for the Environment and Environment Centre Northern Territory, upgraded from ‘Regular’ to ‘Committed to Leadership’ membership.

In early 2020, as a form of Pay the Rent, we waived membership fees for indigenous-led organisations focusing on climate justice and climate change from an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander perspective. These organisations included Original Power and Common Grace and we welcome member applications from other organisations which will be treated on the same basis.



“CANA really shines when it undertakes strategy and planning work with and for the Network. For instance, the CANA project to plan political strategy together, allows us to pool our knowledge, expertise and resources, and maximise our capacity to change the political landscape in Australia for climate change.”

Katherine Smolski, Program Director – Greenpeace Australia Pacific

Photo: In August 2019, 35 leaders from our committed membership convened at the CANA Leaders Strategy Planning Retreat in Melbourne to develop joint strategy, share perspectives and campaign ideas.





Our Members, Affiliates & Partners

OUR MEMBERS, AFFILIATES AND PARTNERS AS AT JUNE 30, 2020

MEMBERS & AFFILIATES	CONSTITUENCY	TYPE
Core		
Australian Conservation Foundation	Protecting Nature	committed
GetUp!	Economic Justice	committed
Greenpeace Australia Pacific	Global Justice	committed
The Wilderness Society	Protecting Nature	committed
World Wildlife Fund	Protecting Nature	committed
Extra Large		
ClimateWorks	Research and Ideas	regular
Oxfam Australia	Global Justice	committed
The Sunrise Project	Energy Transformation	committed
United Workers Union (formerly NUW)	Economic Justice	regular
Large		
ActionAid	Global Justice	regular
Australian Marine Conservation Society	Protecting Nature	committed
Nature Conservation Council	Protecting Nature	committed
The Australia Institute	Research and Ideas	committed
Big		
Arid Lands Environment Centre	Protecting Nature	regular
Australian Youth Climate Coalition	Energy Transformation	committed
Climate Council of Australia	Research and Ideas	committed
Conservation Council of South Australia	Protecting Nature	regular
Conservation Council of WA	Protecting Nature	committed
Environment Victoria	Protecting Nature	committed
Environmental Justice Australia	Energy Transformation	committed
Farmers for Climate Action	Local Action	regular
Friends of the Earth	Economic Justice	committed
Renew (formerly Alternative Technology Association)	Research and Ideas	regular
Medium		
350.org Australia	Energy Transformation	committed
Beyond Zero Emissions	Energy Transformation	committed
Environment Centre of the Northern Territory	Protecting Nature	committed
Environmental Leadership Australia	Energy Transformation	committed
Queensland Conservation Council	Protecting Nature	committed
Solar Citizens	Energy Transformation	committed
Uniting NSW/ACT (Uniting Earth)	Faith	regular



Our Members, Affiliates & Partners

Small		
Australia ReMADE	Research and Ideas	committed
Australian Rainforest Conservation Society	Protecting Nature	regular
Australian Wind Alliance	Energy Transformation	regular
Climate and Health Alliance	Health and Wellbeing	committed
Climate for Change	Cultural Change	committed
Climate Justice Programme	Economic Justice	regular
Common Grace	Faith	committed
Community Power Agency	Energy Transformation	committed
Conservation Council ACT	Protecting Nature	regular
Doctors For The Environment Australia	Energy Transformation	committed
Edmund Rice Centre	Global Justice	committed
Frontrunners	Health and Wellbeing	committed
Global Voices	Global Justice	regular
Original Power	Protecting Nature	committed
The Climate Reality Project Australia	Local Action	committed
The Next Economy	Economic Justice	committed
Tipping Point	Energy Transformation	committed
Uniting Church in Australia, Synod of TAS & VIC	Faith	regular
Veterinarians for Climate Action	Energy Transformation	regular
Volunteer		
Australian Forests and Climate Alliance	Protecting Nature	regular
Australian Parents for Climate Action	Local Action	regular
Australian Religious Response to Climate Change	Faith	regular
Bathurst Community Climate Action Network	Local Action	regular
Be The Change Australia	Local Action	regular
Better Renting	Local Action	regular
Bushfire Survivors for Climate Action	Local Action	regular
Central Victoria Climate Action	Local Action	regular
Citizens Own Renewable Energy Network Australia	Energy Transformation	regular
Citizens' Climate Lobby Australia	Local Action	regular
Climate Action Burwood / Canada Bay	Local Action	regular
Climate Action Darwin	Local Action	regular
Climate Action Hobart	Local Action	regular
Climate Action Monaro	Local Action	regular
Climate Action Moreland	Local Action	regular



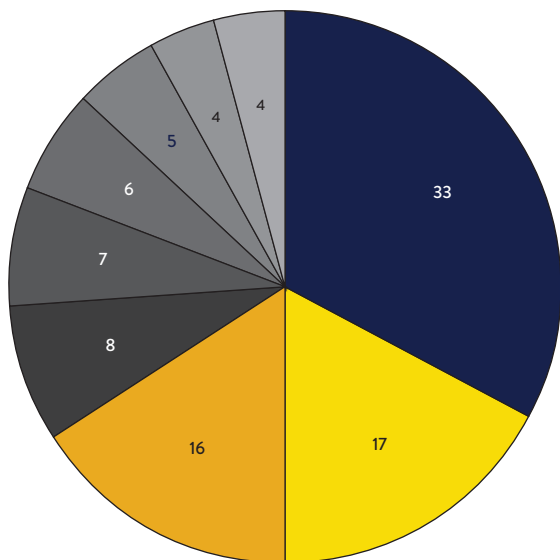
Our Members, Affiliates & Partners










Climate Action Newcastle	Local Action	regular
Climate Action Sydney Eastern Suburbs	Local Action	regular
Climate Change Australia	Local Action	regular
Climate Change Balmain-Rozelle	Local Action	regular
Climate Justice Union	Energy Transformation	committed
Climates	Global Justice	regular
Community Climate Network Australia	Local Action	regular
Community Owned Renewable Energy Mullumbimby	Local Action	regular
Darebin Climate Action Now	Health and Wellbeing	regular
Energetic Communities Association	Energy Transformation	regular
Euroa Environment Group	Local Action	regular
Extinction Rebellion Australia	Local Action	regular
Gladstone Conservation Council	Protecting Nature	regular
Gold Coast Climate Action Network	Local Action	regular
Green Music Australia	Cultural Change	regular
Healthy Futures	Health and Wellbeing	regular
Jewish Climate Network - Australia	Local Action	regular
Less Meat Less Heat	Cultural Change	regular
Lighter Footprints	Local Action	regular
Margaret River Regional Environment Centre	Local Action	regular
Melbourne Playback Theatre	Cultural Change	regular
Parramatta Climate Action Network	Local Action	regular
Psychology for a Safe Climate	Health and Wellbeing	regular
Research & Strategy for Transition Initiation	Research and Ideas	regular
Sustainable Living Armidale	Local Action	regular
Sustaining the Williams Valley	Local Action	regular
Sutherland Shire Environment Centre	Local Action	regular
The Change Agency	Research and Ideas	committed
Totally Renewable Yackandandah	Local Action	regular
WA Climate Network	Energy Transformation	regular
Wodonga & Albury Towards Climate Health	Local Action	regular
Women's Climate Justice Collective	Local Action	regular
Partners		
Australian Progress	Economic Justice	
Sydney Alliance	Economic Justice	
The Pew Charitable Trusts	Protecting Nature	
Global Strategic Communications Council	Research and Ideas	

Our Members, Affiliates & Partners

MEMBER CONSTITUENCIES

Of CANA's 100 members, a significant number of organisations focus on local action.



CONSTITUENCY	NUMBER	
Local Action	33	
Protecting Nature	17	
Energy Transformation	16	
Research and Ideas	8	
Economic Justice	7	
Global Justice	6	
Health and Wellbeing	5	
Cultural Change	4	
Faith	4	
Total	100	

“CAHA is a member of CANA because we see it as very important for actors, organisations and campaigners working on climate action, to have shared strategies and aligned actions so we can be as effective as possible.”

Fiona Armstrong, Executive Director – Climate and Health Alliance (CAHA)



“CANA has been an invaluable network for Australian Parents for Climate Action – it’s one of our key ways of connecting with other climate, environment and social justice organisations. Through CANA’s active emails, Slack and the excellent Brown Bag Lunch sessions they’ve convened since COVID-19 hit Australia. We’ve been grateful for CANA’s support through grants, introductions and productive discussions with their Network Support Team. It would be much harder for us to collaborate and stay informed across the climate movement without CANA.”

Marie Carvolth, Co-founder & Director – Australian Parents for Climate Action



Our work

The past year has been incredibly challenging for the climate movement, and our country. The unprecedented climate crisis of the 2019-20 summer, combined the worst bushfires Australia or the world had ever seen alongside extreme drought, flooding and heatwaves. More than 12.6 million hectares burned, with over 434 million tonnes of CO₂ emitted, 11.3 million Australians affected by smoke, over 3 billion animals killed, and 34 people killed directly in the fires.

With barely time to draw breath, we were plunged into the COVID-19 pandemic crisis. This crisis combined a health emergency, social dislocation, a global media focused on the COVID-19 crisis to the detriment of all other issues, huge job losses and a sharp economic contraction. These all led to new challenges for the climate movement including a temporary end to methods of demonstrating power that are not possible in the current context, such as large and small scale protest actions and media coverage.

The impact of the fires on our economy, estimated to be in the billions, laid bare the fragility of Australia in the face of climate change. The communities impacted by the fires are still struggling to recover and with the impacts of COVID-19 overlaid onto this devastation, people are feeling the fragility of Australian society and its way of life. How our country and its people respond to this must be central to the work of the Australian climate movement in order to be relevant to people's experience and to achieve our goals in the years to come.

BUSHFIRES AND BROADER CLIMATE IMPACTS

The summer bushfire crisis shook Australia to its core. Prime Minister Morrison came under fire for a series of blunders and missteps, and a lack of leadership in a time of unprecedented national crisis. Due to pre-work by CANA and our members – including Climate Council, Environment Victoria and Bushfire Survivors for Climate Action, the Emergency Leaders for Climate Action and bushfire survivors and others – we were able to drive home the link between climate change and these catastrophic fires. The Climate movement and its allies came together to communicate in a compelling way that without decisive climate action, this is what our future looks like. Now, more than ever, there is an urgent need for climate leadership.

This preparation work began well before last summer, with CANA connecting members and allies and almost 100 climate action groups, to share information and plan actions together. We formed co-ordination and Rapid Response working groups and set goals to shift the narrative, bringing new people into our movement and delivering political outcomes. CANA provided the infrastructure for this coordination including dedicated email groups and Slack channels.

Photo: Wildlife in Iluka NSW during bushfires of Nov 2019.





Our work

With a focus on building coordination, unity and developing policy, the following activities and outcomes were actioned.

- Coordinated an emergency response call for 23 leaders from our Committed membership, agreeing a process for coordinating the movement, including: a structure for rapid decision making; a significant alteration in movement priorities and resource allocation to this work; and a set of policy principles on which organisations can base further work.
- Developed network hubs – with support from members – which built working groups and communications nodes for ongoing engagement amongst key responding organisations.
- Coordinated and hosted working groups to develop plans of action and messaging guidelines for groups engaged internationally and across the intersection of nature, conservation and climate policy making.
- Supported members to self-organise around key campaign priorities and connected them with organisations with similar priorities.
- Engaged with non-member organisations dealing with bushfire response in social, development and international sectors, building processes for further connection with the climate movement.
- Ensured studies from external think tanks were incorporated into the climate movement’s discussions.
- Engaged with policy experts across the movement and our member organisations to coordinate unified policy responses and a set of asks around the bushfire/climate crisis.

Building on the work of the movement over decades, we were able to succeed in linking the climate impact of bushfires with a lack of Government action on climate change – particularly on the damage to ecosystems and the environment.

The movement saw significant gains at the State level, with all State and Territory Governments now committed to Net-Zero by 2050, following years of good campaigning from the climate movement.

Demonstrating that even a crisis of this magnitude won’t win the argument for climate action on its own, there was also a simultaneous increase in the rhetoric of climate-denying commentators, MPs and fringe organisations blaming arson, ‘reckless greenies’ and state governments’ mismanagement of National Parks, with calls for increased land clearing and hazard reduction burns as a panacea.

We witnessed immense support not only from Australians but also internationally, with small towns, city suburbs, celebrities and big businesses donating time, money, food, spare rooms, hand-made kangaroo pouches and more to help with emergency support.

As more and more community members connect the dots between climate change and fires, heat, drought and flooding, we’ll build pressure on our elected representatives for climate action at the necessary scale and speed.

Photos (left to right): School Strike outside Kirribilli House, Dec 2019. Sydney choking on smoke from the bushfires, Dec 2019.





Our work

RESPONDING TO COVID-19

COVID-19 is a global catastrophe that has sent deep shockwaves through society, leaving the climate movement, like many sectors, off balance.

Most CANA members have needed to reassess their priorities, methodologies and strategies in this new environment. Traditional methods of campaigning, such as large and small scale protest and media coverage, were not available. The movement had to quickly come to terms with a changed political and economic landscape within which to design policy responses, advocacy and campaigns.

In these changed conditions CANA has been a critical resource. By utilising a whole-of-network approach, the Australian climate movement has been able to share resources, knowledge and support to effectively pivot. We've come together, exploring new approaches including an initial focus on communities with mutual support. Simultaneously, the Network has been able to share knowledge and resources to build advocacy around economic stimulus plans, pushing for economic recovery that is green rather than a gas-led recovery and one that respects environmental integrity and human rights.

During this period of crisis, the CANA NST has coordinated a movement response, built unity and supported the development of policy positions and coalitions to take action into the post-crisis period. The following are examples of this ongoing work – that builds and strengthens the movement in this difficult time. The CANA NST:

- Coordinated a series of teams based around crisis response for the COVID-19 era. These focused on developing new ways to campaign, communications priorities and organisational management.
- Initiated a sharing of information, with resources on how to undertake organisational responses to the COVID-19 situation developed and disseminated amongst CANA's Committed members.
- Initiated an ongoing series of virtual presentations and discussions called 'Brown Bag Lunches' (BBLs) to connect members and combat isolation brought on by COVID-19 physical distancing policies:
 - The CANA NST coordinated 37 BBLs from March through till the end of June 2020.
 - Hugely popular with participation ranging from 10 to over 100 people per session, topics have included responses to COVID-19, modern monetary theory, international climate strategies, nature and health, organising online, building understanding of different movement priorities including renewable energy advocacy, the meaning of net-zero targets and climate justice, what First Nations People want from the climate movement, the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act review and union collaboration.
- Created spaces to build better policy movement wide, and to share best practice and proposals for a direction forward. The CANA NST coordinated a number of working groups to build policy responses to the COVID-19 crisis, particularly focusing on the economic stimulus and advocating for it to include elements of a 'People's Recovery Plan' including green stimulus spending.



CANA's Brown Bag Lunches have been a great initiative – I feel really connected to the climate movement and am learning a lot along the way. They have led to useful follow up discussions and encourage more sharing of information across the movement and beyond."

Claire O'Rourke, Energy Transition Program Director – The Sunrise Project.

Our work

Next Steps

The rapidly changing political environment offers opportunities to embed climate policy in the COVID-19 recovery, and to reconsider the kind of society we want to rebuild – one that is resilient, values workers and community and puts us on a pathway to a clean, green, healthy, just, safe and more resilient future.

It will take a concerted effort from the climate movement and allies, sharing our collective understanding, experience and pooling resources to maximise our impact and effect policy change to build sustainability and resilience into our economy and society post-COVID-19.

The CANA NST will continue high levels of engagement with our members around the COVID-19 response, increasing ways to bring bushfire recovery and climate more broadly back onto the agenda.

“The rapidly changing political environment offers opportunities to embed climate policy in the COVID-19 recovery, and to reconsider the kind of society we want to rebuild – one that is resilient, values workers and community and puts us on a pathway to a clean, green, healthy, just, safe and more resilient future.”



Photo: Participants at one of CANAs Brown Bag Lunches.



Our work

BETTER FUTURES AUSTRALIA – DRIVING CLIMATE ACTION TOGETHER

Better Futures Australia (BFA) invites collaboration from non-traditional climate champions across all sectors and communities of our society. BFA is creating the biggest alliance Australia has seen to demonstrate readiness for an ambitious national response to climate change.

The groundwork for BFA began in earnest in March, and already engagement plans, with buy-in from key stakeholders, are in train across seven sectors including: Corporates, Finance and Insurance; Local Councils & Cities; Healthcare; Social Service; Agriculture and Land; State and Territory Government. With sector engagement planned in Transport, Electricity and Industrial Operations.

This year, BFA will continue to engage and connect climate champions across a broad range of sectors to mobilise mainstream Australia in driving more ambitious climate action. Together, the alliance is driving towards a focal event – a one day national Better Futures Forum in July 2021. The Forum will provide a platform for Australian companies, consumers, governments, communities and organisations to publicly express their commitment to more ambitious climate action. The Forum is supported by media partners, ambassadors, and will be attended by up to 500 individuals. This collective demonstration is perfectly timed to influence Australia’s position in the few months leading to COP26, 1-12 November 2021.

We are happy to have the support of several core partners including the Climate and Health Alliance, WWF, ClimateWorks Australia, the Investor Group on Climate Change, Australian Conservation Foundation, Beyond Zero Emissions, and the Australian Council of Social Service. Initial seed funding was provided by Australian Conservation Foundation, the Sunrise Project, WWF and Australian Marine Conservation Society. Substantive funding for the first year’s operation was provided by European Climate Foundation.

Visit the website for more information: www.betterfutures.org.au

“Thanks to CANA for supporting this really important initiative and bringing not just our sector together, but other sectors as well. I’m really looking forward to seeing what we can achieve together.”



Kellie Caught, Senior Advisor (Climate and Energy) – Australian Council of Social Service (ACOSS)



“IGCC is hopeful BFA can draw together people from right across our community and the business world towards a common message on climate change that is directed not just at the government, but also broader society. Ideally this will seek to complement, not replicate or compete with, the extensive existing efforts to mobilise climate action across a range of industries, sectors and communities and converge on a model similar to the Japan Climate Initiative and We Are Still In campaigns.”

Tom Arup, Director Strategic Communications – Investor Group on Climate Change (IGCC)



Our work

CLIMATE AND ENERGY

This year the CANA NST established the Climate and Energy Policy and Politics Working Group (CEPP) to facilitate the work of members on federal and National Cabinet (formerly COAG) policy and political opportunities for the network on climate and energy. The National Cabinet is likely to be central to any decisions about public investment in energy and energy infrastructure for the foreseeable future, including acting on recommendations from the National COVID-19 Coordination Commission. Our focus is on how we have the greatest influence in post-COVID Australia including longer-term stimulus policy at state and federal levels.

The CEPP positively influenced the Australian Electricity Market Operators Integrated System Plan, which will inform the next few years campaigning in this area and now includes a progressive renewables-led option. We have also convened meetings between groups actively engaged in Zali Steggall's 'Climate Change Bill', which puts on the table a substantial step forward on how the federal government should manage the issue of climate change for this nation.

In response to the launch of the National Electricity Market Electricity Statement of Opportunities and ongoing lies about coal power from the Federal Government, the NST convened a number of rapid response meetings around federal politics. This ensured excellent coordination and collaboration and resulted in media representation better reflecting our perspective. One thing has become clear over the last twelve months. Coal has dropped down the agenda for this government. Three years after carrying a lump of coal into the Parliament, the Prime Minister and his government has shifted away from being the coal industry cheerleader and is now pushing gas more strongly. Our fight is far from over, but we have made real progress.

CANA organised a series of national gas meetings with a range of CANA members – and other campaign organisations working on gas – to help identify strategic interventions that can increase the collective impact of CANA members' gas campaigning.

The Australia Beyond Coal Campaign

Launching this year with CANA as a member, the focus of this campaign is shifting Australia's domestic energy from coal to renewables – including an emphasis on the health impacts of coal, why moving on from coal is required for action on climate change, how it will provide clean energy jobs and is an opportunity to remake our energy system. There is a strong commitment to affected communities as these changes are implemented.



“CANA’s Climate and Energy Politics and Policy space has been crucial in sharing political insights, looming threats and opportunities and policy analysis. It has been instrumental in ensuring that our movement has been able to ward off risks to a zero-emissions future and take advantage of a rapidly shifting world to ensure that our movement does not waste the crisis. This has allowed large and small groups to work together cohesively and identify gaps that need to be filled to ensure we maximise our impact in the real world.”

Jonathan Moylan, Campaigner – Greenpeace Australia Pacific, Sydney



Our work

ORGANISING TO BUILD PEOPLE POWER

Over 40 grassroots organisations and local groups from around Australia benefit from participating in CANA facilitated quarterly meetings – providing space for them to learn from each other and identify opportunities for collaboration. They receive a strategic overview of the movement and are able to feedback ideas on CANA activities and campaigning.

Organisers discussed strategic ways that local groups could build power in the movement around key moments such as the COVID-19 recovery, the Tech Roadmap, the dumping of COAG, the King Review of the Emissions Reduction Fund, Zali Steggall’s Bill, COP25, the bushfire crisis, Adani’s project and National School Strikes. Some organising campaigns included those targeting local councils through the Cities Power Partnership and Climate Emergency declarations, and those targeting moderate and conservative constituencies. Grassroots members benefit from being able to discuss and utilise resources such as messaging guides, invitations, and capacity building. The movement benefits from independent organiser’s lived experiences embedded in important communities.

We also invited CANA’s regular members who often organise locally, to the CANA ‘Grassroots’ Slack workspace and a new local action email group to discuss political opportunities, organising campaigns, and collaboration opportunities.

We continued building and expanding the organising capacity of the movement at the NSW Organising Hub, engaging organisations relatively new to the climate movement, particularly from the faith and international development sector.

Photo: The NSW Orghub met in mid 2019 to reflect on the federal election and share learnings from organising for the NSW election.



“As a small organisation focused on the issue of climate justice as it affects small Pacific nations, being part of the CANA network has enabled us to keep up to date with various aspects of the climate movement in Australia, and raise awareness of what is happening in the Pacific. In particular, the NSW Org Hub has been a great opportunity to connect with others and reflect on important aspects of our work. CANA plays an essential connecting role between social justice and environmental NGOs working in the climate movement.”

Corinne Fagueret, Coordinator Pacific Calling Partnership – Edmund Rice Centre for Justice and Community Education



Our work

SMALL GRANTS PROGRAM

In the 2019/20 financial year, the CANA Small Grants Program distributed \$108,650 to support 20 separate projects which sought to educate and organise new and diverse voices to advocate for a rapid transition to clean energy. Our small grants (up to \$10,000 each) support organisations and groups to deliver successful projects with demonstrable local impact.

Our Small Grants Program supports local, grassroots and constituency based campaigning so that new and diverse voices can advocate for action on climate. It links these campaigns with the strategy of the larger, resourced national and state based CANA NGOs to increase the climate movement’s power and scale. The Program is a unique philanthropy model for donors to connect with small grassroots local groups – often not eligible for philanthropy as they do not have registered organisation status. Additionally, the Program has helped CANA strengthen its role as a climate movement institution.

We are grateful to the Robert Hicks Foundation, managed by Equity Trustees, for continued substantive funding for the Small Grants Program.



“The CANA Small Grants Program is a true participatory grant program – run by the people and organisations closest to the issues. The small grants reach grassroots groups driving high impact work at the local level.

Equity Trustees are pleased to work with CANA on this program that promotes inclusivity and equity in decision-making. When tackling complex social problems such as climate change, we believe everyone has a role to play and a voice to be heard.”

Briar Stevens, Grant Program Manager – Equity Trustees

Photo: With funding from the CANA Small Grants Program, Save Our Coast organised community outreach and hosted many film screenings and information sessions to campaign against devastating seismic testing and drilling for gas.



Our work

SERVICE AGREEMENT PARTNERS

CANA has a range of service agreement partners who provide new voices and innovative approaches to solving climate change.



“Farmers for Climate Action is thrilled to be a member of CANA. We are so grateful for CANA’s support of our work to ensure that farmers and rural Australians are a part of the solution to climate change.

We appreciate that CANA understands the nuances of the various participants within Australia’s climate movement, which assists FCA and other members find the common ground to tackle the causes and impacts of a changing climate.”

Wendy Cohen, Chief Executive Officer – Farmers for Climate Action



“The support offered by CANA – from regular information sessions on a range of climate issues to the one-on-one connections made throughout the network – has allowed FrontRunners to hit the ground running.

CANA connects a diverse range of groups, with invaluable knowledge and experience and with their support, FrontRunners is working on connecting athletes with the tools, knowledge and resources to act on climate change and be part of the solution.”

Emma Pocock, Chief Executive Officer – Frontrunners



“ARRCC has benefited immensely from the leadership and support of CANA. Margaret Mead famously said that a ‘small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world’. I no longer think that’s true. Change more often comes about by groups collaborating as whole movements. CANA works exceedingly well in systematically bringing together the many groups within the Australian climate movement and creating opportunities for sharing information, strategic thinking and collaboration which would otherwise be much more ad hoc. It helps us to collectively be more powerful and effective.

I’m pleased to commend the CANA team for their professionalism and for being very friendly and approachable.”

Thea Ormerod, President – Australian Religious Response to Climate Change (ARRCC)



Our work

LINKING TO INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS, NETWORKS, AND CAMPAIGNS

This year we established deeper relationships in our region by hosting joint meetings with Pacific Islands CAN and New Zealand CAN, supporting our members at the Pacific Island Forum and demonstrating our government is wilfully ignoring strong calls from Pacific countries to put limits on our polluting coal industry. As a region we worked together at COP25 in Madrid joining civil society from around the world to call out the recalcitrance of the Australian Government in continuing to support coal in the face of climate impacts back home and overseas.

Reinvigorating our work in the international development space CANA, Oxfam and World Wildlife Fund (WWF) hosted a Climate Justice breakfast focused on how to support the Pacific going forward with amazing Pacific speakers including the recent Prime Minister of Tuvalu, the honorable Enele Sopoaga, Maria Tiimons of Pacific Calling Partnership and Joseph Zane Sikulu of 350 Pacific.

We also released a media statement to support Australian Council for International Development (ACFID) members who endorsed the Pacific’s call for Australia to phase out coal exports – signed onto by national environment group members working in the Pacific.

Photos (left – right): School Striker Daisy Jeffrey receiving the CAN Fossil of the Day Award on behalf of Australia at COP25. CANA, CANNZ & PICAN inaugural meeting on the sidelines of COP25.



Finance

TREASURER'S REPORT

In this unprecedented year of devastating fires driven by climate change and the dramatic shifts brought on by the pandemic, CANA returned another strong financial performance. The strong result reflects the ongoing commitment of CANA's members to the network, our funding partners and the tight financial management from the CANA Network Support Team.

CANA's members are the heart of the network and critical to our mission and financial position. The contribution from our members grew by 10% reflecting our ongoing focus on engaging the network and ensuring our interventions are effective. The support of our membership is particularly noteworthy given the economic challenges posed by COVID-19.

As with our members, the ongoing support of our funding partners and donors remains critical to CANA enabling effective climate action. The Executive Director and Board's focus on increasing fundraising income generated results with an increase of \$160,000 in donations and grants, a 90% increase on 2019. We sincerely acknowledge the generous support of key funders including Hicks Foundation, European Climate Foundation, Reichstein Foundation, The Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation, Community Impact Foundation (Pool of Dreams), The Sunrise Project and the support of private donors including several Board members.

While COVID-19 did not directly impact membership or fundraising income, it did impact our results. Our expenses reduced as work shifted to online and our staff's homes, several events were postponed, and travel costs reduced. New events like the very successful Brown Bag Lunches were low cost, high engagement events. We also received \$40,000 in Commonwealth stimulus funding, which provided an important financial buffer and certainty during the early period of the COVID-19 crisis.

With the global climate crisis proceeding apace, the need for strategic, coordinated and high impact climate action has never been greater. In the coming year, CANA will be seeking to strengthen its financial base to ensure we have the impact we need to.

Our fundraising objectives for the coming year include securing 1-2 new core funders, to enable us to continue our critical core work of providing the network infrastructure for the climate movement, providing a platform to share and amplify resources and ideas, and to grow our capacity to develop the most effective strategy to help us address the climate crisis.

We are also fundraising for the second phase of the Better Futures Australia initiative. Scoping work was funded by members, and the first year has been generously supported by the European Climate Foundation. We have funding through to May 2021, and to deliver the final key element of the program will require both philanthropic support for core staff costs, and commercial sponsorship for event costs.

We also seek additional funding to expand the Small Grants Program, which continues thanks to support from the Robert Hicks Foundation (managed by Equity Trustees). Additional funding will allow us to offer more services to grantees and potential grantees, as well as make more grants to grassroots organisations committed to changing their communities commitment to climate action.



Damian Sullivan
Treasurer

Finance

AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Our profit and loss and balance sheet are below, and the full audited financial statements are available separately.

PROFIT AND LOSS AS AT 30 JUNE 2020

Climate Action Network Australia | July 2019 – June 2020

INCOME	TOTAL \$AUD
4-0000 Income	
4-1000 Member and Affiliate Fees	306,659.00
4-2000 Interest Income	1,631.39
4-3000 Fundraising	
4-3100 Grants	154,000.00
4-3200 Donations	82,306.00
4-3300 Service Agreement Admin Fees	47,742.82
4-3400 Member Contributions	15,000.00
4-3500 Better Futures Australia	56,092.19
Total 4-3000 Fundraising	355,141.01
4-5000 Misc Income	39,864.00
Total 4-0000 Income	703,295.40
Total Income	703,295.40
Gross Profit	703,295.40
OTHER INCOME (LOSS)	
8-0000 Other Income	
8-1000 Service Agreement Income	538,900.00
8-2000 Small Grants Program Income	56,200.85
Total 8-0000 Other Income	595,100.85
Total Other Income (Loss)	595,100.85



“As a new organisation still finding our feet, the support from CANA has been instrumental in getting us up and running so quickly. They connected us with other organisations both large and small, provided guidance and delivered us with up-to-date and timely information on what the movement as a whole is working on. Whenever I talk to other people starting new climate groups, I always recommend they join CANA as one of their first steps.”

Ben Cox, Chief Executive Officer – Veterinarians for Climate Action



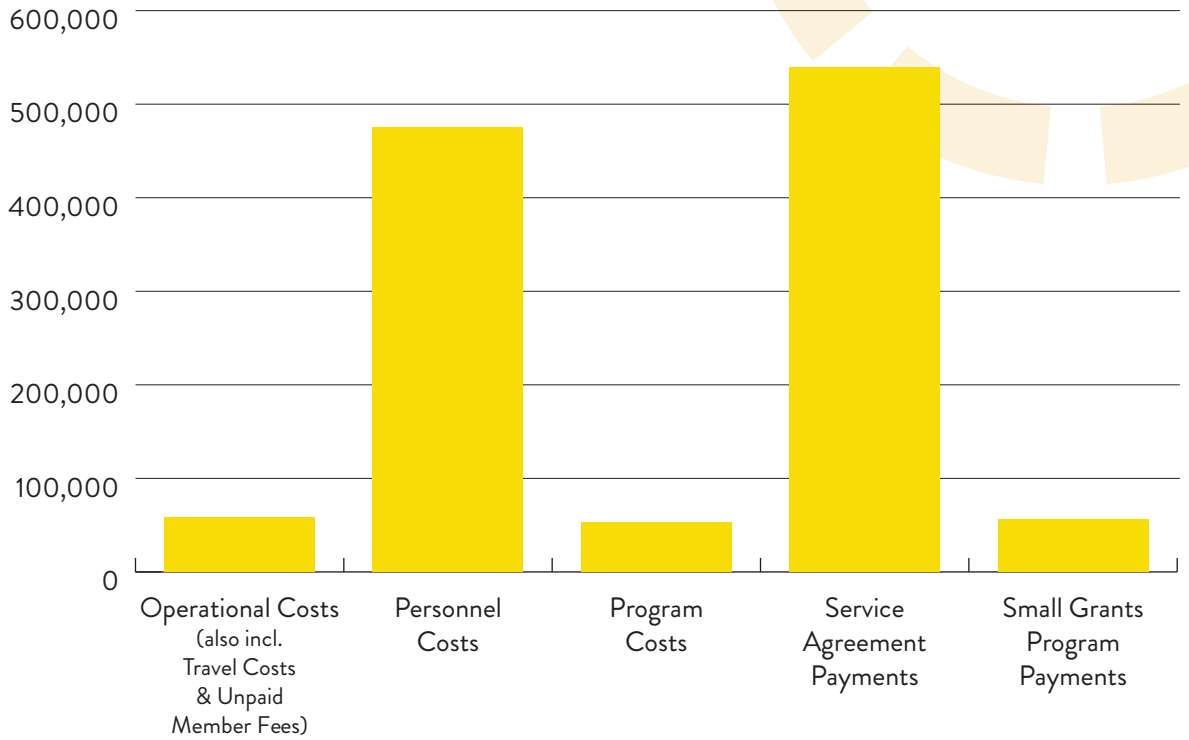
Finance

EXPENSES	TOTAL \$AUD
6-0000 Expenses	
6-1000 Personnel Costs	
6-1100 Wage expenses	420,093.09
6-1200 Superannuation	39,543.36
6-1300 Workers' Comp.	2,138.70
6-1400 Training/Development	1,399.24
6-1500 AL Provision Adjustment	11,914.14
Total 6-1000 Personnel Costs	475,088.53
6-2000 Operational Costs	
6-2100 Office Supplies	22,905.12
6-2200 General Expenses	2,292.94
6-2300 Telephone/Teleconf.	3,587.55
6-2400 Insurance	3,242.63
6-2500 Audit/Bookkeeping	2,300.00
Total 6-2000 Operational Costs	34,328.24
6-3000 Program Costs	
6-3100 CANA Events	18,737.34
6-3200 Communications	1,166.77
6-3300 Project/Research Expenses	15,000.00
6-3400 Contractors	4,800.00
6-3500 Better Futures Australia	13,267.26
Total 6-3000 Program Costs	52,971.37
6-4000 Travel Costs	
6-4100 Ordinary Travel	4,085.48
6-4200 Board Meetings	3,881.83
Total 6-4000 Travel Costs	7,967.31
6-5000 Unpaid Member Fees	16,405.00
Total 6-0000 Expenses	586,760.45
Total Expenses	586,760.45
OTHER EXPENSES	
9-0000 Other Expenses	
9-1000 Service Agreement Payments	538,900.00
9-2000 Small Grants Program Payments	56,200.85
Total 9-0000 Other Expenses	595,100.85
Total Other Expenses	595,100.85
Net Earnings	116,534.95

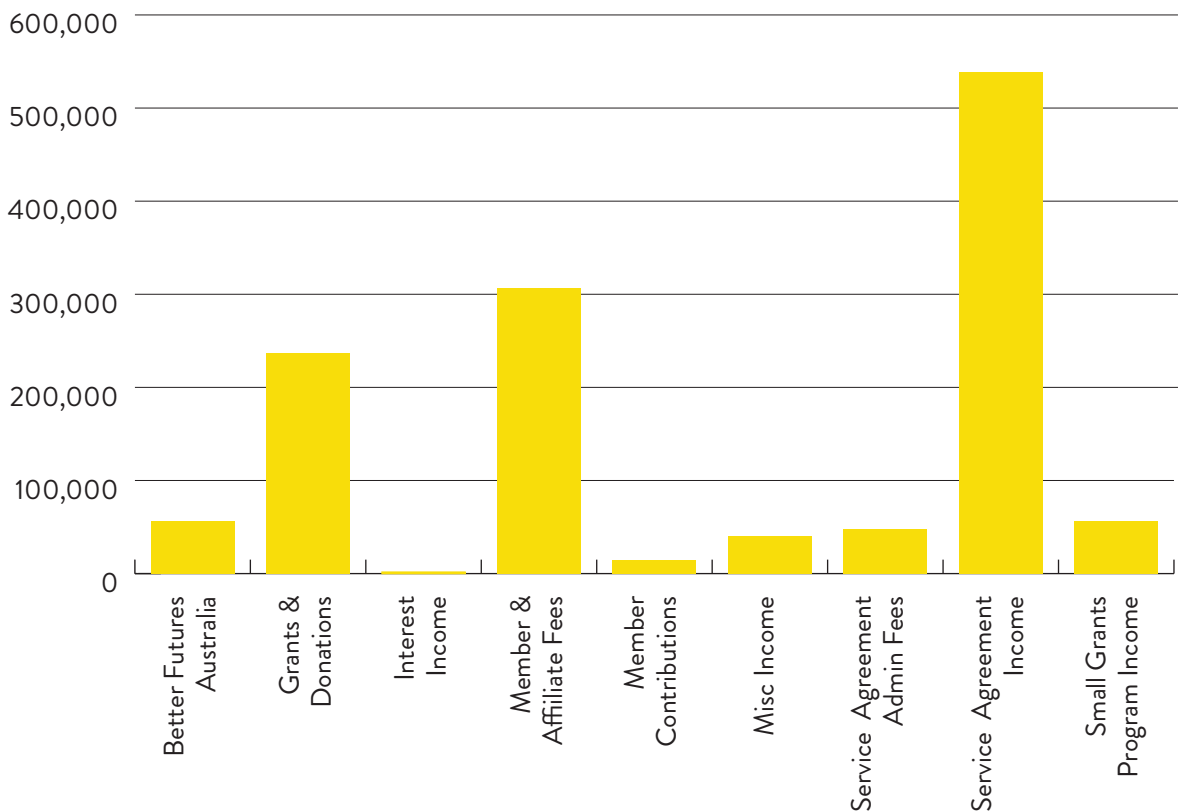


Finance

EXPENSES



SOURCES OF INCOME





Finance

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30 JUNE 2020

ASSETS	TOTAL \$AUD
Current Assets:	
Accounts receivable	
1-2000 Accounts Receivable	26,812.50
Total Accounts receivable	26,812.50
1-1000 Cash On Hand	
1-1100 Bendigo Cash Mgmt	48,691.15
1-1200 Bendigo Debit Card	2,770.78
1-1300 Bendigo Social Inv	457,149.02
1-1400 Bendigo Gift Fund	754,584.86
Total 1-1000 Cash On Hand	1,263,195.81
1-1180 Refundable Deposits	3,212.00
Total Current Assets	1,293,220.31
Total Assets	1,293,220.31
LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDER'S EQUITY	
Current liabilities:	
Accounts payable	
2-1000 Accounts Payable	72,025.42
Total Accounts payable	72,025.42
2-2000 Payroll Liabilities	
2-2300 Provision for Annual Leave	21,021.33
Total 2-2000 Payroll Liabilities	21,021.33
2-3000 Other Liabilities	
2-3100 Partner Funds Payable	550,503.50
2-3200 Unearned Revenue	305,474.00
Total 2-3000 Other Liabilities	855,977.50
ATO Clearing Account	-16,952.00
Total current liabilities	932,072.25
Shareholders' equity:	
Net Income	116,534.95
Retained Earnings	244,613.11
Total shareholders' equity	361,148.06



Acknowledgements

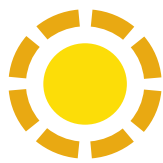
We thank the following organisations, trusts, foundations and individuals who have supported us during 2019-20.

- The participation, financial support and enthusiasm of all CANA members, in turn made possible by their incredible staff, volunteers and donors;
- Generous financial support and donations from:
 - The Robert Hicks Foundation (managed by Equity Trustees)
 - The Sunrise Project
 - The Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation
 - Reichstein Foundation
 - Joan Staples Crisp Nominees
 - Sydney Alliance for Community Building
 - Community Climate Network Australia
 - Kirsten Anker and Robert Glasser
 - Community Impact Foundation (Pool of Dreams)
 - Minax Uriel
 - Victoria McKenzie-McHarg, and
 - Sue Mathews and Mark Burford;
- The many donors who supported our partnerships with 350 Australia, Australian Religious Response to Climate Change, Climate and Health Alliance, Climate for Change, Farmers for Climate Action, FrontRunners, Psychology for a Safe Climate and Totally Renewable Yackandandah;
- The generous time and insightful leadership of CANA's Board of Directors;
- The pro-bono legal advice from Russell Kennedy Lawyers, as well as the pro-bono bookkeeping from the Australian Conservation Foundation;
- The efficiency and helpfulness of Jeff Ryan from Thomas Davis & Co when auditing our financials;
- The generous time from our Small Grants Program Committee, including Damian Sullivan, Moira Williams, Gemma Borgo-Caratti, Kellie Caught, Jessica Panegyres, Joseph-Zane Sikulu, along with the support and advice of Briar Stevens from Equity Trustees on behalf of the Program's funders, the Robert Hicks Foundation;
- Our supportive families and friends who enable us to do this important work; and
- Our talented interns who have provided invaluable input and insight into many CANA projects including Misty Tucker, Caroline Murphy, Luc van Vliet, Mackinley Taylor and Andrew Kelbley.



“CANA plays an important function in bringing movement leaders together to share our priorities and build crucial relationships. In this David vs Goliath battle, we need to make sure we collaborate as best as possible.”

Amanda McKenzie, CEO – Climate Council



CLIMATE
ACTION
NETWORK
AUSTRALIA

ANNUAL REPORT 2019-20

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