



CLIMATE  
ACTION  
NETWORK  
AUSTRALIA

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ANNUAL REPORT  
FOR 2016/2017

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The Climate Action Network Australia Ltd. links organisations across the country and we recognise the Indigenous first nations on whose land we work and that their sovereignty was never ceded. We pay respect to their elders - past, present, and future - and acknowledge the important role Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people play in the climate movement.

ABN: 66 661 626 104 ACN: 098 658 907

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## CLIMATE ACTION NETWORK AUSTRALIA - ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2016/2017

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### FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Shortly after I started at CANA my son Jack turned one. By the time he is my age our world will have been radically transformed by the pollution we are still pumping into our atmosphere and by our collective response to the planetary warming it is causing. Never before in human history have our actions held such consequence.

Inaction is not an option, but the choice of how we act and the solutions we champion is vital. The economic and social disruptions unleashed by technological and market innovation could lead to greater equality of wellbeing, but they could more easily concentrate power and wealth.

That is why social movements are so vital in our response to global warming. Throughout history social movements have been one of the most powerful drivers of societal change and the dismantling of privilege and inequality. Organised people acting together can overcome entrenched interests and in their place erect structures more democratic and capable of providing for the common good.

We should never underestimate our collective task. Right now, hundreds of thousands of Australians are joining the fight to Stop Adani from digging their awful coal mine. We have not seen such a groundswell of outrage against corporate destruction since Energy Resources of Australia tried to mine Jabiluka. Yet the campaign to Stop Adani, bursting as it is with energy and creativity, sits on a knife edge. Meanwhile a cabal of think tanks, politicians and fossil fuel lobbyists are advancing a coordinated attack on Australian civil society, trying to curb our rights to protest, muzzle charities from criticising government policy and cut off our access to philanthropic funds.

We have our work cut out for us, but I am hopeful - since joining CANA in May, more hopeful than I have ever been. Despite the forces aligned against us, we are steadily moving forward. Our network is more deeply aligned and collaborative than it has been for

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many years. We are observing what works in other countries and adopting new ways of organising quicker than ever before. And our fellow residents of this beautiful continent believe in us and our vision. They are embracing clean energy and want more of it. Federally, the fossils are still keeping a phoney energy war alive but a growing number of local and state partisans have moved on.

Over the next two years CANA members and our allies will Stop Adani and we will catalyse a step change in societal ambition to Repower Australia with 100% clean energy. We will do that by having the courage to step up and do what is required of us - abandoning strategies that have failed, doubling down on what's working, and continually trying new things. We will truly grapple with what it means to build power, never confusing access to decision-makers with influence. And we will reach out with humility, generosity and openness to those who do not yet consider themselves part of our movement, because whilst the changes we seek are for the benefit of all, they will not be shared or championed by all unless we include the people most impacted in our ranks.

This report reflects on a year of the kind of achievements that attracted me to work for CANA, but not ones I can claim to have been a part of. I feel excited, privileged and somewhat daunted to be joining you at this critical time. I know of nothing more terrifying and inspiring than global warming and it drives me every day to grow our strength and resilience as a movement. Thank you all for doing the same.

**Jono La Nauze**  
*Executive Director*



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### LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

This year has continued to surprise and challenge everyone working towards a safe climate future. The election of President Donald Trump in the US, that country's flagged withdrawal from the Paris agreement, and our own domestic energy and political leadership crisis continue to delay action and foster division. But one thing remains the same – the determination of CANA members to work together for systemic change and ensure our impact is greater than the sum of our parts.

After two years as the CANA Movement Strategist, Alex Rafalowicz left CANA and Australia to return to Colombia with his family. Alex led CANA through a foundational phase following the Movement Strategy Project in 2014. He brought initiative, drive and commitment to the task of re-establishing CANA as a movement hub and driver of strategic collaboration. On behalf of the board I thank Alex for his hard work, commitment, and the passion for environmental and social justice he brought to CANA.

We were sad to farewell Alex and at the same time excited to welcome Jono La Nauze as the new Executive Director, replacing the role of the Movement Strategist. Jono comes to CANA with nearly two decades of experience leading environmental and social justice campaigns at Friends of the Earth and the Australian Conservation Foundation. Jono joins us at a pivotal moment for our network, as we shift from a period of renewal and re-establishment into one of large scale delivery. Jono's ambition for our network is exciting, and throws a challenge to all of us to deliver in a way that will change the game on climate change.

This is particularly the case for the newly launched Repower campaign through which CANA members and their allies are campaigning for 100% renewable electricity in Australia by 2030. Our commitment to collaboration is as strong as ever, but our challenge now is to deliver at scale, and create the opportunities for a growing community and civil society base to join us.

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As ever, the role of the CANA Network Support Team in this process is to build the strategy, capacity and relationships across our network to be able to deliver on our potential, and in line with the scale of the challenges we face.

We know this won't be easy, but we're confident that with the skills and commitment of our members, the leadership of our staff and board, and our allies across civil society, the philanthropic community and the Australian public we can get there.

Finally, a thank you to you, our members and donors, for your ongoing faith in the CANA project, your commitment to collaboration – to ensuring our impact is greater than simply the sum of our parts, and for the leadership you demonstrate every day in your willingness to take on big challenges.

I'm excited to work with you all again in this coming financial year towards a more just and sustainable future.

**Victoria McKenzie McHarg**  
*Board President*



## OUR WORK

Through 2016-17 the CANA Network Support Team drove work across our three areas of purpose: developing and aligning strategies, building capacity, and deepening and strengthening relationships. Following is a snapshot of the year that was.

### DEEPENING AND STRENGTHENING RELATIONSHIPS

#### **CEO and senior leader retreats**

We brought together CEOs of “committed to leadership” members for residential retreats in October 2016 and February 2017. Senior campaigning, organising and communications staff gathered in November 2016 and May 2017. These retreats fostered the relationships, trust, transparency and alignment that is needed for effective collaboration.

#### **“We are CANA”**

The Network Support Team and a working group of CEOs documented the norms and practice of our network in an effort to increase member understanding of their responsibilities as network participants, the role of the Network Support Team and how decision-making operates in the network. This will be a living, breathing document that we use to guide all of our collaboration.

#### **Expanding and diversifying the network**

CANA’s membership of 75 organisations work in nine different sectors including Cultural Change (6 organisations), Economic Justice (5 organisations), Energy Transformation (11 organisations), Faith (3 organisations), Global Justice (7 organisations), Health & Wellbeing (3 organisations), Local Community Action (22 organisations), Protecting Nature (14 organisations), Research & Ideas (4 organisations). Seven new members joined the network in 2016-17.



## DEVELOPING AND ALIGNING STRATEGY

### **Working groups on energy and state campaign coordination**

The Network Support Team convened working groups around renewable energy, coal closure, gas and a range of state based activities. These groups enable relationship building, knowledge sharing and development of joint work in each of these critical campaign areas.

### **Establishing #Repower as a networked campaign for energy transformation**

Five CANA members led the establishment of a new networked campaign to put Australia on a trajectory to 100% renewable electricity by 2030. This campaign will have shared strategy, messaging, branding, tactics, goals and moments. Embryonic #Repower campaigns are being led by members in Victoria, New South Wales, Queensland and nationally and these will broaden and expand in scope and participation in 2017-18.

### **Rapid response coordination**

Network members came together to share information, align responses and plan next steps at critical moments including the South Australian blackouts and the various fits and starts of federal climate and energy policy. This has resulted in more efficient use of organisational time, and rapid, coherent and consistent responses from the climate movement in the media, to supporters and beyond at these key moments.

### **Updating our Common Agenda**

We facilitated a number of leading NGO members to develop an updated Common Agenda in response developments in the national climate debate. This gave us an opportunity to reinforce internal cooperation and alignment whilst progressing engagement with other sectors of civil society. The Agenda includes measures to strengthen democracy, tackle inequality and ensure that the costs and benefits of the energy transition are spread fairly across society. It provides a solid basis for future cross-sectoral collaboration.

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### **Political and Electoral Strategy coordination**

We carried a comprehensive evaluation of joint work on the 2016 election and used this to inform development of a long term strategy to raise the climate ambition of all political parties in Australia.

### **BUILDING CAPACITY**

#### **National OrgHub**

The National Community Organising Hub met quarterly to share information on organising programs and build a stronger community of practice. Activities to build organising capacity across the movement included:

- Capacity gap analysis covering skills, experience and roles;
- Mentoring and mentor matching of organisers across the network;
- Coaching and feedback for supporter training events



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### **State based OrgHubs**

Members established face-to-face OrgHubs in Queensland, New South Wales and Victoria. Community organisers are using these spaces to learn and develop in their craft. Through sharing their organisational goals, collaborative projects are identified and initiated. A co-chair model develops leadership and keeps the Network Support Team abreast of happenings in each of the major states.

### **Communications Working Group**

Communications staff of committed members in the CANA network have remained in regular contact to share resources and coordinate responses, as well as to plan longer-term to change the narrative around climate and energy. This work has involved creating and sharing communications resources for the benefit of the entire network, and coordinating and sharing communications research. This has reduced duplication and helped network members to speak with a more consistent voice when engaging in the public debate.

### **Supporter data project**

We facilitated unprecedented collaboration in the analysis and use of supporter data between members and connected this to new shared community organising tools and resources. This will set members up well to do joint community organising work for future shared tactics and in upcoming elections.

### **Partnerships Program**

To facilitate strategic growth we established a partnerships program whereby CANA Ltd is able to put charitable donations to work at the front line in constituencies that lack registered charitable organisations focused on climate action. There are two elements to our program. By forming strategic partnerships with organisations such as Farmers for Climate Action and the Climate and Health Alliance, who are led by people from target constituencies, CANA is able to grow the reach and effectiveness of the climate movement. Through our small grants program we ensure the financial resources of

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the philanthropic sector are able to reach innovative, strategic work on the ground that major foundations are not as well placed to see. With the generous support of the Robert Hicks Foundation, the small grants program will begin disbursing funds in the next financial year.

### **Climate justice webinar series and workshops**

We convened a well attended webinar and workshop series in late 2016 to catalyse a more sophisticated analysis of climate justice and share skills in solidarity. The series covered just transition, energy access and affordability and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander campaigns to protect country. A day long workshop on lessons and insights on working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) communities took a deeper dive into how to work in solidarity.

### **Evaluation of first two years of CANA 'reboot'**

Amanda Tattersall of Creative Change Strategies carried out a comprehensive evaluation of the first two years of CANA's 'reboot'. This involved extensive engagement with members - including both one on one and roundtable interviews and an online survey - to produce a report that clearly outlined the ways the network was providing value to its members, and a number of areas that needed future attention and shared work.



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*There was a lot of love for the collaborative work undertaken by CANA. Leaders recognised that collaboration was hard work and time intensive, and that CANA created a space where people “put aside their egos to work together.” The results of this collaboration were significant. Leaders repeatedly said that the collaboration meant that they could “pick up the phone” and talk through issues with one another.*

**Amanda Tattersall,  
CANA Evaluation 2015 - 2016**

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### THANK YOU

The work of the Network Support Team and the Climate Action Network would not have been possible this year without:

- The vision, human resource and financial commitments of the Australian Conservation Foundation, GetUp, Greenpeace, The Wilderness Society and WWF;
- The financial contribution of The Robert Hicks Foundation, The Diversicon Foundation, Sydney Alliance for Community Building, The Garry White Foundation, The BB&A Miller Foundation and Stephen Whately;
- The generous and much discounted hosting of our staff at the Australian Conservation Foundation, the Nature Conservation Council of NSW, the Conservation Council of South Australia, the Centre for Australian Ethical Research and Future Super;
- Our Board directors, all of whom provide generous and insightful leadership;
- The pro-bono legal advice and patience from Russell Kennedy Lawyers, as well as the pro-bono bookkeeping and human resources assistance of the Australian Conservation Foundation;
- Members of our Small Grants scheme Committee Duncan Jinks, Esther Abram, Holly Creenaune, Moira Williams and Kellie Caught; along with the support and advice of Briar Stevens on behalf of the scheme's funders, the Robert Hicks Foundation
- The loving families and friends of the Team who enable us to do this important work

As this annual report was being prepared, we were very saddened to receive the resignation of Jem Bamford, a woman of grit, wisdom and campaigning excellence. Jem was diagnosed with cancer earlier this year and for a time continued her work at CANA with the determination for which she is renowned. Whilst we're sad to lose her talent and wonderful presence, we are pleased to see her focus on living, and we wish her the very best. Thank you Jem, for everything you have given the climate movement.

## GOVERNANCE

The CANA Board is primarily responsible for the governance of the Network. It is responsible for approving the organisation's mission and strategic direction, its budget and its major financial affairs, its policies on governance, management, and program implementation. It does not set specific policy direction or positions on climate change.

The Board is responsible for providing support and direction to the Executive Director. The Executive Director is responsible for the operational management of the organisation.

Board members in 2016-17 were:



**Victoria  
McKenzie-McHarg**  
(President)



**Adam Verwey**  
(Treasurer)



**Karla Deane**  
(Secretary)



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Simon Bradshaw



Duncan Jinks



Claire O'Rourke



Moira Williams



Julie Melrose



Louise Tarrant

Public Fund Committee Members were:



Victoria  
McKenzie-McHarg



Adam Verwey



Duncan Jinks



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### STAFF

The staff that support and guide the work of the Network is referred to as Network Support Team. At the the end of 2016/17 the staff were:



**Jono La Nauze**  
Executive Director



**Jem Bamford**  
Network Organiser  
(Campaigns)



**Steph Cunio**  
Network Organiser  
(OrgHub Convenor)



**Lindsay Soutar**  
Network Organiser  
(Outreach)



**Joel Dignam**  
Network Organiser  
(Member Management  
and Events)



**Alison Platt**  
Administrator

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Other staff during the course of the year were:



**Alex Rafalowic**  
Executive Director/  
Movement Strategist  
(finished May 2017)



**Claire O'Halloran**  
Campaigns Facilitator  
(finished September  
2016)



**Paul Gorrie**  
Network Communications  
and Member Support  
Officer (finished  
December 2016)

## TREASURER'S REPORT

This was a year of activity and change at CANA, and this is reflected in the audited financial reports for 2016/17 which are presented separately.

The increased activity in CANA was reflected in a larger group of team members to provide the network with support, engagement and leadership aligned with the mission of climate change action. The costs of a larger team to support the network resulted in the largest line-item increase in expenditure compared to the previous year with staff, contractor and superannuation expenses rising from \$266,126 in 2015/16 to \$384,444 in 2016/17. Total expenses for the year increased from \$425,334 in 2015/16 to \$599,251 this year.

While expenditure was up on the previous year, income was down. CANA received \$518,385 in 2016/17 compared with \$570,300 in the previous year. While member contributions remained roughly the same, there was less income received from donations and grants.

CANA finished the year with a deficit of \$80,865, compared with a surplus of \$144,966 in the previous year. The balance sheet of CANA at 30 June 2017 is \$224,272. The balance sheet represents around 6 months of normal operating costs for CANA, and is at a level that the Board remains comfortable with. CANA is budgeted to have a loss of around \$80,000 in the 2017/18 year, which the board has elected to undertake while we continue in this period of growth.

This is my second and final year as Treasurer of CANA. It has been a privilege to be a part of a Board and network that works so hard to deliver on a mission that helps to protect our planet and people. I'd like to specifically thank Alison Platt for her finance and accounting work that makes the role of Treasurer much easier.

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Thank you also to the five founding members of CANA - Australian Conservation Foundation, GetUp, Greenpeace, The Wilderness Society, and WWF – who provide the bulk of the revenue that helps CANA to achieve its mission.

The Board and Executive Director have a strong vision for the CANA network. The financial challenge for CANA over the next couple of years will be to find additional revenue that helps maintain the existing levels of support, engagement and leadership that the CANA team provide to the network. I'm confident that Duncan Jinks (as the incoming Treasurer) and CANA team are well equipped to make this challenge.

**Adam Verwey**  
Treasurer, Climate Action Network Australia

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### MEMBERSHIP AS OF 30TH JUNE 2017

CONSTITUENCY	ORGANISATION
Energy Transformation	350.org Australia
Global Justice	ActionAid
Research and Ideas	Alternative Technology Association
Protecting Nature	Arid Lands Environment Centre
Protecting Nature	Australian Conservation Foundation
Protecting Nature	Australian Forests and Climate Alliance
Protecting Nature	Australian Marine Conservation Society
Protecting Nature	Australian Rainforest Conservation Society
Faith	Australian Religious Response to Climate Change
Energy Transformation	Australian Wind Alliance
Energy Transformation	Australian Youth Climate Coalition
Local Action	Bathurst Community Climate Action Network
Local Action	Be The Change Australia
Energy Transformation	Beyond Zero Emissions
Local Action	Blacktown and District Environment Group
Local Action	Cairns Climate Action Network
Global Justice	Caritas Australia
Faith	Catholic Earthcare Australia
Local Action	Citizens' Climate Lobby Australia
Local Action	Climate Action Hobart
Local Action	Climate Action Monaro
Local Action	Climate Action Moreland
Local Action	Climate Action Newcastle
Local Action	Climate Action Sydney Eastern Suburbs
Health and Wellbeing	Climate and Health Alliance

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CONSTITUENCY	ORGANISATION
Local Action	Climate Change Australia Inc
Local Action	Climate Change Balmain-Rozelle
Research and Ideas	Climate Council of Australia
Cultural Change	Climate for Change
Global Justice	Climates
Local Action	Community Climate Network Australia
Energy Transformation	Community Owned Renewable Energy Agency
Local Action	Community Owned Renewable Energy Mullumbimby
Energy Transformation	Community Power Agency
Protecting Nature	Conservation Council of South Australia
Protecting Nature	Conservation Council of WA
Economic Justice	CPSU & CSIRO Staff Association
Local Action	Darebin Climate Action Now
Energy Transformation	Doctors For The Environment Australia
Global Justice	Edmund Rice Centre
Protecting Nature	Environment Centre NT
Protecting Nature	Environment Victoria
Energy Transformation	Environmental Justice Australia
Local Action	Euroa Environment Group
Local Action	Farmers for Climate Action
Economic Justice	Friends of the Earth (Australia)
Economic Justice	GetUp!
Protecting Nature	Gladstone Conservation Council
Global Justice	Global Voices
Cultural Change	Green Music Australia

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CONSTITUENCY	ORGANISATION
Global Justice	Greenpeace Australia Pacific
Health and Wellbeing	Healthy Futures
Research and Ideas	Holdfast Communications/European Climate Foundation
Cultural Change	Less Meat Less Heat
Local Action	Lighter Footprints
Cultural Change	Melbourne Playback Theatre
Economic Justice	National Union of Workers
Protecting Nature	Nature Conservation Council of NSW
Global Justice	Oxfam Australia
Local Action	Parramatta Climate Action Network
Health and Wellbeing	Psychology for a Safe Climate
Protecting Nature	Queensland Conservation Council
Research and Ideas	Research & Strategy for Transition Initiation
Economic Justice	SEARCH Foundation
Energy Transformation	Solar Citizens
Local Action	Sustainable Living Armidale
Local Action	The Climate Reality Project Australia
Energy Transformation	The Hub Foundation
Energy Transformation	The Sunrise Project
Cultural Change	The Valley Centre
Cultural Change	The Verb
Protecting Nature	The Wilderness Society
Faith	Uniting Church, Justice & International Mission
Local Action	Wodonga & Albury Towards Climate Health
Protecting Nature	World Wildlife Fund



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