Blind Citizens Australia

ABN: 90 006 985 226

Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2022

Blind Citizens Australia

ABN: 90 006 985 226

Contents

For the Year Ended 30 June 2022

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Blind Citizens Australia

ABN: 90 006 985 226

Directors' Report

Your directors present their report on Blind Citizens Australia for the financial year ended 30 June 2022.

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| 1. General information |
| Directors |

The names of the directors in office at any time during, or since the end of, the year are:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Names | Position | Appointed/Resigned |
| Stephen Belbin | Director | Commenced 4/12/2021 |
| Julee‑Anne Bell | Director |  |
| Joanne Chua | Director |  |
| Helen Freris | Director |  |
| Lauren Henley | Director | Resigned on 15/09/2021 |
| Francois Jacobs | Director | Commenced 4/12/2021 |
| Douglas McGinn | Director |  |
| John Simpson | President Director | Resigned on 04/12/2021 Resigned on 11/06/2022 |
| Prue Watt | Director |  |
| Andrew Webster | Director |  |
| Fiona Woods | President | Commenced 04/12/2021 |

Directors have been in office since the start of the financial year to the date of this report unless otherwise stated.

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| Information on directors |

Directors have been in office since the start of the financial year to the date of this report unless otherwise stated.

|  |  |  |  |
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| Blind Citizens Australia  ABN: 90 006 985 226  Directors' Report   |  | | --- | | 1. General information | | Information on directors | | |
| Stephen Belbin (He/Him) |  |
| Qualifications | Cert IV, Information, Communication and Technology Cert IV, Work Place Assessment (Train the Trainer)  Diploma Business Management/ Marketing,  Cert IV, Disability and Community Service,  Cert IV, Front‑Line Management Cert IV, Team Leadership |
| Special Responsibilities | Chair, Business Continuity Committee (commenced 11/12/2021) Member, BCA Engage (commenced 11/12/2021) Branch Liaison Coordinator Chair, Stakeholder Engagement Committee (Until 11/12/2021) CEO Recruitment Committee |
|  |  |
| Julee‑Anne Bell (She/Her) |  |
| Qualifications | Bachelor of Music (1st Class Hons) Master of Music Studies |
| Special Responsibilities | Director Member, National Policy Council (commenced 11/12/2021) |

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| Blind Citizens Australia  ABN: 90 006 985 226  Directors' Report   |  | | --- | | 1. General information | | Information on directors | | |
| Joanne Chua (She/Her) |  |
| Qualifications | Cert 4, TAE (Training, Assessments) |
| Special Responsibilities | Director Member, BCA Engage (commenced 11/12/2021) |
|  |  |
| Helen Freris (She/Her) |  |
| Qualifications | Bachelor of Arts Bachelor of Social Work Cert IV, Assess‑ment and Training Graduate Diploma, Family Dispute Resolution Graduate Diploma, Community Sector Management |
| Special Responsibilities | Director Chair, BCA Engage (commenced 11/12/2021) Member, Business Continuity Committee Chair, National Policy Council (until 11/12/2021) External: Director, World Blind Union – Asia Pacific Region (Commenced July 2021) |

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| Blind Citizens Australia  ABN: 90 006 985 226  Directors' Report   |  | | --- | | 1. General information | | Information on directors | | |
| Lauren Henley (She/Her) |  |
| Qualifications | Australian Progress Fellowship Diploma of Community Services Work Certificate IV in Workplace Training and Assessment Certificate III in Disability Work Certificate III in Business Administration |
| Special Responsibilities | Director (until 15/9/2021) Member, National Policy Council (until 15/9/2021) |
|  |  |
| Francois Jacobs (He/Him) |  |
| Qualifications | Bachelor of Arts (English and Political Science) Diploma of Business Analysis Graduate Diploma of Disability and Inclusion |
| Special Responsibilities | Director Member, National Policy Council (commenced 11/12/2021) Member, Fee for Service Committee |

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| Blind Citizens Australia  ABN: 90 006 985 226  Directors' Report   |  | | --- | | 1. General information | | Information on directors | | |
| Douglas McGinn (He/Him) |  |
| Qualifications | Bachelor of Science |
| Special Responsibilities | Director Member, BCA Engage (commenced 11/12/2021) Chair, Finance, Audit, and Risk Management Committee (until 11/12/2021) |
|  |  |
| John Simpson AM (He/Him) |  |
| Qualifications | Diploma of Business (Governance) Fellow, Institute of Community Directors, Australia |
| Special Responsibilities | President (Until 4/12/21) Director (Immediate Past President), (4/12/2021 – 11/06/2022) Member, Finance Audit and Risk Management Committee (11/12/2021 – 11/6/2022) Chair, Fee For Service Committee (Until ‑ 11/06/2022) CEO Recruitment Committee External: Chair, Vision 2020 Australia Independence and Participation Committee |

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| Blind Citizens Australia  ABN: 90 006 985 226  Directors' Report   |  | | --- | | 1. General information | | Information on directors | | |
| Prue Watt OAM (She/Her) |  |
| Qualifications | Bachelor of Science (Neuroscience) |
| Special Responsibilities | Director Chair, National Policy Council (commenced 11/12/2021) |
|  |  |
| Andrew Webster (He/Him) |  |
| Qualifications | Bachelor of Theology Bachelor of Arts Bachelor of Social Work Master of Arts Diploma of Education |
| Special Responsibilities | Director Chair, Finance, Audit and Risk Management Committee (commenced 11/12/2021) CEO Recruitment Committee |

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| Blind Citizens Australia  ABN: 90 006 985 226  Directors' Report   |  | | --- | | 1. General information | | Information on directors | | |
| Fiona Woods (She/Her) |  |
| Qualifications | Bachelor of Arts (Honors) LLB (Honors) |
| Special Responsibilities | President (commenced 4/12/2021) Director and Vice President (until 3/12/2021) Member, Business Continuity Committee Chair, Fee For Service Committee (from June 2022) CEO Recruitment Committee |
| Principal activities | |

The principal activity of Blind Citizens Australia during the financial year was the provision of ongoing support for members; the dissemination of accessible information; the provision of advocacy services for people who are blind, or vision impaired in Australia; the provision of employment resources and job seeking support for members; the facilitation of peer support groups and activities; the facilitation of projects and events to provide information and connection to people who are blind or vision impaired; the development of partnerships with like‑minded organisations and the provision of consultancy services and advice to governments, corporations and the broader community. See BCA’s Year in Review 2021‑22 for a detailed overview of activities and events.

No significant changes in the Company's activity occurred during the financial year.

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| Blind Citizens Australia  ABN: 90 006 985 226  Directors' Report   |  | | --- | | 1. General information |   Short term objectives and long‑term objectives |

The Company's short term objectives are:

* To encourage self‑organisation and self‑determination by people who are blind or vision impaired throughout Australia who shall be united through membership of a national organisation.
* To serve as a national assembly for meetings, communication, and interchange among blind persons from all walks of life, towards the end of reinforcing their confidence in themselves, in each other and in their common cause.
* To provide a forum for collective self‑expression and discussion by Australians who are blind or vision impaired, and to act as the authoritative voice of their joint decisions and common objectives.
* To work for the progressive improvement and modernisation throughout Australia of public policies and practices governing the education, health, welfare, rehabilitation, employment, and recreation of people who are blind or vision impaired.
* To promote or engage in any activities or programs designed to enhance the education, health, welfare, rehabilitation, employment or recreation of people who are blind, or vision impaired in other countries, in furtherance of the organisation’s Objects and of the aims of the World Blind Union.

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Directors' Report

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| --- |
| 1. General information |
| Short term objectives and long‑term objectives |

* To disseminate accurate information about people who are blind or vision impaired, and to promote positive community attitudes towards them.
* To consider and clarify what support structures are needed to ensure the sustainability of the Company including all funding sources from government, corporate entities, philanthropic and other external organisations.

BCA’s strategies and activities undertaken by the Company to achieve the above short and long‑term objectives include:

* The provision of Individual and systemic advocacy.
* The development of policies by the National Policy Council (NPC), which is made up of three Directors and a representative from each state and territory.
* The provision of high‑quality accessible information for members and the wider community.
* Peer support, through a network of Branches or Special Interest Groups in most states and territories, which provide a forum for members to come together to focus on local issues and advance the objectives of BCA at a state, regional or local level.

Blind Citizens Australia

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Directors' Report

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| 1. General information |
| Short term objectives and long‑term objectives |

* The provision of opportunities for members to “have their say” by attendance at the National Convention, BCA Connect or other forums, through feedback to the BCA Website, through contribution to email distribution lists and via various forms of social media.
* The continued development of relationships with organisations in the blind and low vision sector.
* Consultancy and advice to governments, corporations and the community.

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| Acknowledgements |

BCA gratefully acknowledges the support it receives from individual donors whether through one‑off donations or through our regular donations program. We also acknowledge the support of the following organisations, without whom we could not have achieved the objectives detailed in this report:

* Aged Persons Welfare Foundation
* Australian Department of Social Services
* Australian Federation of Disability Organisations (AFDO)
* BCA Backers – regular donations program
* EverAbility (formerly VisAbility)
* Good Will Collective

Blind Citizens Australia

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Directors' Report

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| --- |
| 1. General information |
| Acknowledgements |

* Guide Dogs Australia
* Members who supported member and Giving Day appeals
* National Disability Insurance Agency
* New South Wales Department of Communities and Justice
* Victorian Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (DFFH)
* The Jeffrey Blyth Foundation (including the Shirley Fund)
* Vision Australia

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| Performance Measures |

To achieve these objectives, the Company has adopted the following strategies:

* Ensuring compliance with the conditions of grants received from Federal and State governments.
* Developing public policies in relation to issues that directly affect Australians who are blind or vision impaired.

Blind Citizens Australia

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Directors' Report

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| 1. General information |
| Performance Measures |

* Ensuring submissions are made on issues affecting BCA members and the vision impaired community generally. During the reporting period, submissions prepared included the following issues: Department of Social Services (DSS) consultation on the new Disability Employment Scheme (DES) model, Draft National Plan to End Violence Against Women and Children 2022‑2032, review of the purpose, intent, and adequacy of the Disability Support Pension, Taxi Fare Review, review of Victoria’s Disability Act, Joint Standing Committee on the NDIS ‘General Issues Inquiry’, NDIS legislation reform for the Joint Standing Committee on Community Affairs, Department of Social Services Assistance Animal Survey, Federal Election Policy Platform, accessibility of state and federal elections, response to application by City of Ryde in NSW for a five‑year exemption from the requirements of the Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport. Disability Royal Commission Submissions, Institutional Economic Neglect, reworking our previous submission about the Disability Support Pension, Issues Paper: Promoting Inclusion.
* Ensuring BCA meets obligations agreed to in its Memorandums of Understanding with Vision Australia, Guide Dogs Australia and EverAbility (formerly VisAbility). Through these partnerships BCA provides individual advocacy support on referral, and undertakes collaborative activities around issues relating to employment, civil rights, education, information access, public transport, access to taxis and ride share, air travel, environmental access, state elections, audio description and the NDIS.

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| Blind Citizens Australia  ABN: 90 006 985 226  Directors' Report  2. Operating results and review of operations for the year |
| Operating results |

The net deficit for the year was $292,926 (2021: surplus $69,489). The operating result (excluding other income) for the Company in 2022 was a deficit of $84,604 (2021: deficit $82,358).

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| 3. Other items |
| Significant changes in state of affairs |

There have been no significant changes in the state of affairs of the company during the year.

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| After balance date events |

There are no other subsequent events as at reporting date to be disclosed or adjusted for.

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| Blind Citizens Australia  ABN: 90 006 985 226  Directors' Report  Meetings of directors |

During the financial year, 7 meetings of directors were held. Attendance by each director during the year were as follows:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | |
|  | Directors' Meetings | |
|  | Number Attended | Number eligible to attend |
| Stephen Belbin | 7 | 7 |
| Julee‑Anne Bell | 4 | 4 |
| Joanne Chua | 7 | 7 |
| Helen Freris | 6 | 7 |
| Lauren Henley | 1 | 1 |
| Francois Jacobs | 4 | 4 |
| Douglas McGinn | 6 | 7 |
| John Simpson | 5 | 7 |
| Prue Watt | 7 | 7 |
| Andrew Webster | 6 | 7 |
| Fiona Woods | 7 | 7 |
|  |  |  |

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| Blind Citizens Australia  ABN: 90 006 985 226  Directors' Report  Indemnification and insurance of officers and auditors |

During the financial year, the company paid a premium in respect of a contract insuring the directors of the company, the company secretary, and all executive officers of the company and of any related body corporate against a liability incurred as such a director, secretary or executive officer to the extent permitted by the *Corporations Act 2001*.

The company has not otherwise, during or since the financial year, indemnified or agreed to indemnify an officer or auditor of the company or of any related body corporate against a liability incurred as such an officer or auditor.

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| Auditor's independence declaration |

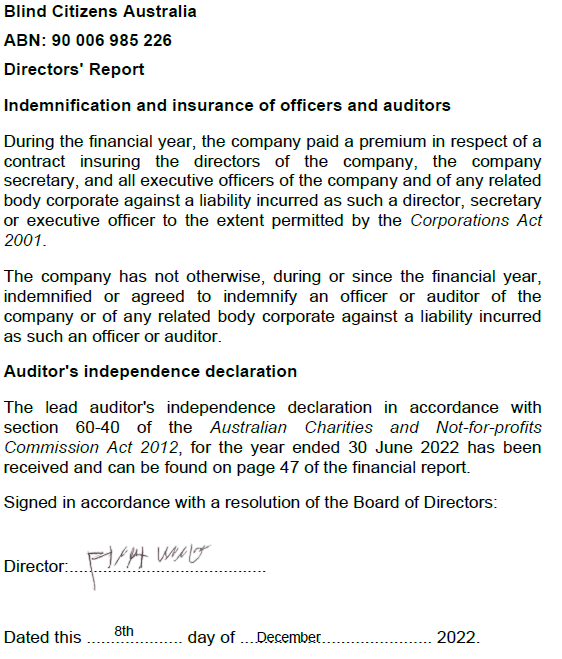
The lead auditor's independence declaration in accordance with section 60‑40 of the *Australian Charities and Not‑for‑profits Commission Act 2012*, for the year ended 30 June 2022 has been received and can be found on page 47 of the financial report.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Director:......................................... |  |

Dated this .................... day of ........................................ 2022.

The following page contains an image of the signed version of the above Director’s Report.



Blind Citizens Australia

ABN: 90 006 985 226

Directors' Declaration ‑ Per Section 60.15 of the Australian Charities and Not‑for‑profits Commission Regulation 2013

The directors of the entity declare that:

* there are reasonable grounds to believe that Blind Citizens Australia is able to pay all of its debts, as and when they become due and payable; and
* the financial statements and notes satisfy the requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not‑for‑profits Commission Act 2012 (Cth)*.

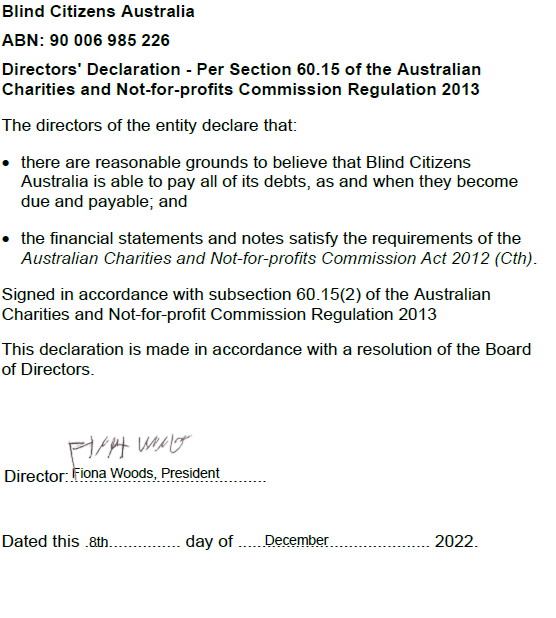
Signed in accordance with subsection 60.15(2) of the Australian Charities and Not‑for‑profit Commission Regulation 2013

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Director:......................................... |  |

Dated this .................... day of ........................................ 2022.

The following page contains an image of the signed version of the above Director’s declaration.



|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Blind Citizens Australia  ABN: 90 006 985 226  Statement of Comprehensive Income  For the Year Ended 30 June 2022 | Note | 2022  $ | 2021  $ |
| Revenue from Ordinary Activities | 3(a) | 1,810,149 | 1,384,815 |
| Other Revenue | 3(b) | 53,215 | 24,900 |
| Total operating revenue |  | 1,863,364 | 1,409,715 |
| Meeting expenses |  | 6,034 | 1,153 |
| Consultancy expenses |  | 52,105 | 137,925 |
| Employment expenses |  | 1,631,426 | 1,184,736 |
| Office expenses |  | 247,481 | 160,430 |
| Travel expenses |  | 10,922 | 7,828 |
| Surplus/(deficit) from ordinary activities |  | (84,604) | (82,357) |
| Other income | 3(c) | (208,322) | 151,846 |
| Total net surplus/(deficit) for the year |  | (292,926) | 69,489 |
| Other comprehensive income |  | - | - |
| Total comprehensive income for the year |  | (292,926) | 69,489 |

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Blind Citizens Australia  ABN: 90 006 985 226  Statement of Financial Position  As at 30 June 2022 | Note | 2022  $ | 2021  $ |
| ASSETS |  |  |  |
| CURRENT ASSETS |  |  |  |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 4 | 102,846 | 298,488 |
| Trade and other receivables | 5 | 12,835 | 5,417 |
| Other assets | 6 | 1,296,326 | 1,528,397 |
| TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS |  | 1,412,007 | 1,832,302 |
| NON‑CURRENT ASSETS |  |  |  |
| Property, plant and equipment | 7 | 21,181 | 23,321 |
| TOTAL NON‑CURRENT ASSETS |  | 21,181 | 23,321 |
| TOTAL ASSETS |  | 1,433,188 | 1,855,623 |
| LIABILITIES |  |  |  |
| CURRENT LIABILITIES |  |  |  |
| Trade and other payables | 8 | 124,182 | 68,814 |
| Employee benefits | 9 | 127,881 | 87,590 |
| Unexpended grant funding |  | 670,426 | 911,713 |
| TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES |  | 922,489 | 1,068,117 |
| NON‑CURRENT LIABILITIES |  |  |  |
| Employee benefits | 9 | 16,120 | - |
| TOTAL NON‑CURRENT LIABILITIES |  | 16,120 | - |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES |  | 938,609 | 1,068,117 |
| NET ASSETS |  | 494,579 | 787,506 |

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Blind Citizens Australia

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Statement of Financial Position

As at 30 June 2022

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Note | 2022  $ | 2021  $ |
| EQUITY |  |  |  |
| Consolidation reserve |  | 494,579 | 510,735 |
| Accumulated surpluses |  | - | 276,771 |
| TOTAL EQUITY |  | 494,579 | 787,506 |

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Blind Citizens Australia  ABN: 90 006 985 226  Statement of Changes in Equity  For the Year Ended 30 June 2022  2022 |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | Accumulated surpluses  $ | Consolidation Reserve  $ | Total  $ |
| Balance at 1 July 2021 |  | 276,770 | 510,735 | 787,505 |
| Deficit for the year |  | (292,926) | - | (292,926) |
| Transfer to/(from) reserves |  | 16,156 | (16,156) | - |
| Balance at 30 June 2022 |  | - | 494,579 | 494,579 |
| 2021 |  |  |  |  | |
|  |  | Accumulated surpluses  $ | Consolidation Reserve  $ | Total  $ | |
| Balance at 1 July 2020 |  | 207,282 | 510,735 | 718,017 | |
| Surplus for the year |  | 69,489 | - | 69,489 | |
| Balance at 30 June 2021 |  | 276,771 | 510,735 | 787,506 | |

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Blind Citizens Australia  ABN: 90 006 985 226  Statement of Cash Flows  For the Year Ended 30 June 2022 | Note | 2022  $ | 2021  $ |
| CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES: |  |  |  |
| Receipts from operating activities |  | 1,558,592 | 1,585,090 |
| Interest received |  | 44 | 402 |
| Payments to suppliers & employees |  | (1,746,270) | (1,513,236) |
| Net cash provided by operating activities | 14(b) | (187,634) | 72,256 |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES: |  |  |  |
| Financial assets purchased |  | - | (300,000) |
| Purchase of plant and equipment |  | (8,008) | (12,410) |
| Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities |  | (8,008) | (312,410) |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents held |  | (195,642) | (240,154) |
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year |  | 298,488 | 538,642 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year | 4 | 102,846 | 298,488 |

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Blind Citizens Australia

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Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2022

The financial statements are for Blind Citizens Australia as an individual entity, incorporated and domiciled in Australia. Blind Citizens Australia is a Company limited by guarantee.

|  |
| --- |
| 1 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies |
| (a) Basis of Preparation |

This financial report is a special purpose financial report prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not‑for‑profits Commission Act 2012 (Cth).* The Board has determined that the Company is a not‑for‑profit entity for financial reporting purposes.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the minimum requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not‑for‑profits Commission Act 2012 (Cth)* and therefore comply with the following Australian Accounting Standards as issued by the Australian Accounting Standard Board:

* AASB 101 Presentation of Financial Statements;
* AASB 107 Statement of Cash Flows;
* AASB 108 Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors;
* AASB 1048 Interpretation of Standards; and
* AASB 1054 Australian Additional Disclosures.

The financial report, except for the cash flow information, has prepared on an accrual basis is based on historical costs and does not take into account changing money values or, except where specifically stated, current valuations of non‑current assets. The amounts presented within the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest dollar.

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Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2022

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| 1 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies |
| (a) Basis of Preparation |

The Company has considered the impact of AASB 1054 and determined that the base requirements have been met, or don't apply to the Company as follows:

Compliance with Australian Accounting Standards (AAS) ‑ The reports are special purpose. Accordingly, the Company has generally applied AAS, particularly those required under Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not‑for‑profits Commission Act 2012 (Cth)*, but is not required to adopt all AAS. Specifically, the Company has chosen not to adopt AASB 1058 and AASB15. Further explanation on the Company's policy regarding unexpended grant funding and the non‑adoption of AASB 1058 has been discussed below at (k).

The prior year financial report was prepared in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards ‑ Reduced Disclosure Requirements. The transition from the previous financial reporting framework to Special purpose financial reporting has not affected the Company's reported financial position, financial performance and cashflows. When required by Accounting Standards, comparative figures have been adjusted to conform to changes in presentation for the current financial year.

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| (b) Comparative Figures |

When the Company applies an accounting policy retrospectively, makes a retrospective restatement or reclassifies items in its financial statements, details have been disclosed in the following notes to the financial statements.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Blind Citizens Australia  ABN: 90 006 985 226  Notes to the Financial Statements  For the Year Ended 30 June 2022   |  | | --- | | 1 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies |   (c) Cash and Cash Equivalents |

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short‑term highly liquid investments which are convertible to a known amount of cash and subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

|  |
| --- |
| (d) Property, Plant and Equipment |

Each class of property, plant and equipment is carried at cost less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to the acquisition of the item.

The carrying amount of property, plant and equipment is reviewed annually by directors to ensure it is not in excess of the recoverable amount of these assets. The recoverable amount is assessed on the basis of the expected net cash flows that will be received from the assets employment and subsequent disposal. The expected net cash flows have not been discounted to their present value in determining recoverable amounts.

Plant and equipment that have been contributed at no cost, or for nominal cost are valued and recognised at the fair value of the asset at the date it is acquired.

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Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2022

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| 1 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies |
| (d) Property, Plant and Equipment |

**Depreciation**

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets including buildings and capitalised leased assets, but excluding freehold land, is depreciated on a diminishing value basis over the asset's useful life to the Company commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use. Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the shorter of either the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful lives of the improvements. Land is not depreciated.

The depreciation rates used for each class of depreciable assets are:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Class of Fixed Asset | Depreciation Rate |
| Plant and equipment | 20%‑33% |

The assets' residual values, depreciation methods and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at the end of each reporting period.

An asset's carrying amount is written down immediately to its recoverable amount if the asset's carrying amount is greater than its estimated recoverable amount.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing proceeds with the carrying amount. These gains and losses are included in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income.

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| (e) Financial Instruments |

Financial instruments are recognised initially on the date that the Company becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

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Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2022

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| --- |
| 1 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies |
| (e) Financial Instruments |

On initial recognition, all financial instruments are measured at fair value plus transaction costs (except for instruments measured at fair value through profit or loss where transaction costs are expensed as incurred).

**Financial assets**

All recognised financial assets are subsequently measured in their entirety at either amortised cost or fair value, depending on the classification of the financial assets.

**Classification**

On initial recognition, the Company classifies its financial assets into the following categories, those measured at:

* amortised cost
* fair value through profit or loss ‑ FVTPL
* fair value through other comprehensive income ‑ equity instrument (FVOCI ‑ equity)
* fair value through other comprehensive income ‑ debt investments (FVOCI ‑ debt)

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Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2022

|  |
| --- |
| 1 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies |
| (e) Financial Instruments |

Financial assets are not reclassified subsequent to their initial recognition unless the Company changes its business model for managing financial assets.

**Amortised cost**

The Company's financial assets measured at amortised cost comprise trade and other receivables and cash and cash equivalents in the statement of financial position.

Subsequent to initial recognition, these assets are carried at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method less provision for impairment.

Interest income, foreign exchange gains or losses and impairment are recognised in profit or loss. Gain or loss on derecognition is recognised in profit or loss.

**Financial assets through profit or loss**

All financial assets not classified as measured at amortised cost or fair value through other comprehensive income as described above are measured at FVTPL.

Net gains or losses, including any interest or dividend income are recognised in profit or loss.

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Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2022

|  |
| --- |
| 1 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies |
| (e) Financial Instruments |

**Impairment of financial assets**

Impairment of financial assets is recognised on an expected credit loss (ECL) basis for the following assets:

* financial assets measured at amortised cost
* debt investments measured at FVOCI

When determining whether the credit risk of a financial assets has increased significant since initial recognition and when estimating ECL, the Company considers reasonable and supportable information that is relevant and available without undue cost or effort. This includes both quantitative and qualitative information and analysis based on the Company's historical experience and informed credit assessment and including forward looking information.

The Company uses the presumption that an asset which is more than 30 days past due has seen a significant increase in credit risk.

The Company uses the presumption that a financial asset is in default when:

* the other party is unlikely to pay its credit obligations to the Company in full, without recourse to the Company to actions such as realising security (if any is held); or
* the financial assets is more than 90 days past due.

Blind Citizens Australia

ABN: 90 006 985 226

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2022

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| --- |
| 1 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies |
| (e) Financial Instruments |

Credit losses are measured as the present value of the difference between the cash flows due to the Company in accordance with the contract and the cash flows expected to be received. This is applied using a probability weighted approach.

**Trade receivables and contract assets**

Impairment of trade receivables and contract assets have been determined using the simplified approach in AASB 9 which uses an estimation of lifetime expected credit losses. The Company has determined the probability of non‑payment of the receivable and contract asset and multiplied this by the amount of the expected loss arising from default.

The amount of the impairment is recorded in a separate allowance account with the loss being recognised in finance expense. Once the receivable is determined to be uncollectable then the gross carrying amount is written off against the associated allowance.

Where the Company renegotiates the terms of trade receivables due from certain customers, the new expected cash flows are discounted at the original effective interest rate and any resulting difference to the carrying value is recognised in profit or loss.

**Other financial assets measured at amortised cost**

Impairment of other financial assets measured at amortised cost are determined using the expected credit loss model in AASB 9. On initial recognition of the asset, an estimate of the expected credit losses for the next 12 months is recognised. Where the asset has experienced significant increase in credit risk then the lifetime losses are estimated and recognised.

Blind Citizens Australia

ABN: 90 006 985 226

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2022

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| --- |
| 1 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies |
| (e) Financial Instruments |

**Financial liabilities**

The Company measures all financial liabilities initially at fair value less transaction costs, subsequently financial liabilities are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

The financial liabilities of the Company comprise trade payables and lease liabilities.

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| (f) Impairment of Tangible and Intangible Assets |

At the end of each reporting year, the Company reviews the carrying values of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have been impaired. If such an indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use, is compared to the asset's carrying value. Value in use is either the discounted cash flows relating to the asset or depreciated replacement cost if the criteria in AASB 136 'Impairment of Assets' are met. Any excess of the asset's carrying value over its recoverable amount is expensed to the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income.

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| Blind Citizens Australia  ABN: 90 006 985 226  Notes to the Financial Statements  For the Year Ended 30 June 2022   |  | | --- | | 1 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies |   (g) Leases |

**Right‑of‑Use Asset**

At the lease commencement, the Company recognises a right‑of‑use asset and associated lease liability for the lease term. The lease term includes extension periods where the Company believes it is reasonably certain that the option will be exercised. The right‑of‑use asset is measured using the cost model where cost on initial recognition comprises of the lease liability, initial direct costs, prepaid lease payments, estimated cost of removal and restoration less any lease incentives received.

The right‑of‑use asset is depreciated over the lease term on a straight line basis and assessed for impairment in accordance with the impairment of assets accounting policy.

**Lease Liability**

The lease liability is initially measured at the present value of the remaining lease payments at the commencement of the lease. The discount rate is the rate implicit in the lease, however where this cannot be readily determined then the Company's incremental borrowing rate is used.

Subsequent to initial recognition, the lease liability is measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method. The lease liability is remeasured whether there is a lease modification, change in estimate of the lease term or index upon which the lease payments are based (e.g. CPI) or a change in the Company's assessment of lease term.

Blind Citizens Australia

ABN: 90 006 985 226

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2022

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| --- |
| 1 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies |
| (g) Leases |

Where the lease liability is remeasured, the right‑of‑use asset is adjusted to reflect the remeasurement or is recorded in profit or loss if the carrying amount of the right‑of‑use asset has been reduced to zero.

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| (h) Trade and Other Payables |

Trade and other payables represent the liability outstanding at the end of the reporting period for goods and services received by the Company during the reporting period which remain unpaid. The balance is recognised as a current liability with the amounts normally paid within 30 days of recognition of the liability.

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| (i) Provisions |

Provisions are recognised when the Company 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.

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| (j) Income Tax |

The Company is exempt from income tax under Division 50 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*.

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| --- | --- |
| Blind Citizens Australia  ABN: 90 006 985 226  Notes to the Financial Statements  For the Year Ended 30 June 2022   |  | | --- | | 1 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies |   (k) Revenue and Other Income |

**Grant Revenue**

Government grants are recognised at fair value where there is reasonable assurance that the grant will be received and all grant conditions will be met. Grants relating to expense items are recognised as income over the periods necessary to match the grant to the costs they are compensating. Grants relating to assets are credited to deferred income at fair value and are credited to income over the expected useful life of the asset on a straight‑line basis (refer to Note 1(m) for unearned grants policy).

**Interest Revenue**

Interest revenue is recognised using the effective interest rate method, which for floating rate financial assets is the rate inherent in the instrument.

**Revenue from the Rendering of Services**

Revenue from the rendering of a service is recognised upon the delivery of the service to the customers

|  |
| --- |
| (l) Unexpended Grant Funding |

The Company receives grant monies to fund projects either for contracted periods of time or for specific projects irrespective of the period of time required to complete those projects. It is the policy of the Company to treat grant monies as unearned grants in the statement of financial position where the entity is contractually obliged to provide the services in a subsequent financial period to when the grant is received or in the case of specific project grants where the project has not been completed.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Blind Citizens Australia  ABN: 90 006 985 226  Notes to the Financial Statements  For the Year Ended 30 June 2022   |  | | --- | | 1 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies |   (m) Goods and Services Tax (GST) |

Revenue, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST), except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

Receivables and payable are stated inclusive of GST.

Cash flows in the statement of cash flows are included on a gross basis and the GST component of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities which is recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is classified as operating cash flows.

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| (n) Adoption of New and Revised Accounting Standards |

Several amendments to Australian Accounting Standards and interpretations are mandatory for the 30 June 2022 reporting period. These include:

AASB 1060: General Purpose Financial Statements ‑ Simplified Disclosures for For‑Profit and Not‑for‑Profit Tier 2 Entities (effective for the year ending 30 June 2022)

The amendments listed above did not have any impact on the amounts recognised in the current or prior periods but may affect future periods.

|  |
| --- |
| (o) New Accounting Standards for Application in Future Periods |

Certain new accounting standards, amendments and interpretations have been published that are not mandatory for 30 June 2022 reporting periods and have not been early adopted by the Company.

Blind Citizens Australia

ABN: 90 006 985 226

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2022

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| --- |
| 1 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies |
| (o) New Accounting Standards for Application in Future Periods |

These include:

AASB 2020‑1: Amendments to AASs ‑ Classification of Liabilities as Current or Non‑current (effective for the year ending 30 June 2023)

The Company has not yet assessed the specific financial reporting impacts of these standards.

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| 2 Critical Accounting Estimates and Judgements |

The directors make estimates and judgements during the preparation of these financial statements regarding assumptions about current and future events affecting transactions and balances.

These estimates and judgements are based on the best information available at the time of preparing the financial statements, however as additional information is known then the actual results may differ from the estimates.

The significant estimates and judgements made have been described below.

|  |
| --- |
| Key Estimates ‑ Provisions |

As described in the accounting policies, provisions are measured at management’s best estimate of the expenditure required to settle the obligation at the end of the reporting period. These estimates are made taking into account a range of possible outcomes and will vary as further information is obtained.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Blind Citizens Australia  ABN: 90 006 985 226  Notes to the Financial Statements  For the Year Ended 30 June 2022  3 Revenue and Other Income | | | | | | | |
| (a) Revenue from Ordinary Activities | | | | | | | |
|  |  | | 2022  $ | | 2021  $ | |
| ‑ Government funding |  | | 1,324,757 | | 972,750 | |
| ‑ Grants |  | | 266,984 | | 208,155 | |
| ‑ Fundraising |  | | 218,408 | | 198,624 | |
| ‑ Conventions |  | | - | | 5,286 | |
| Total Revenue |  | | 1,810,149 | | 1,384,815 | |
| (b) Other income details | | | | | | | |
|  | | | 2022  $ | | 2021  $ | |
| Other income: | | |  | |  | |
| ‑ Other income | | | 9,453 | | 4,317 | |
| ‑ Investment income | | | 36,802 | | 20,583 | |
| ‑ Gain on sale of assets | | | 65 | | - | |
| ‑ Interest income | | | 44 | | - | |
| ‑ Other income | | | 6,851 | | - | |
|  | | | 53,215 | | 24,900 | |
| (c) Other Income | | | | | | | |
|  | |  | | 2022  $ | | 2021  $ |
|  | |  | |  | |  |
| ‑ Other income | |  | | (208,322) | | 81,223 |
| ‑ ATO Cash Boost | |  | | - | | 70,623 |
|  | |  | | (208,322) | | 151,846 |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Blind Citizens Australia  ABN: 90 006 985 226  Notes to the Financial Statements  For the Year Ended 30 June 2022  4 Cash and Cash Equivalents | | | | |
|  |  | 2022  $ | 2021  $ |
| Bank balances |  | 102,846 | 298,436 |
| Cash on hand |  | - | 52 |
|  |  | 102,846 | 298,488 |
| 5 Trade and Other Receivables | | | | |
|  |  | 2022  $ | 2021  $ |
| Current |  |  |  |
| Trade receivables |  | 12,835 | 5,417 |
|  |  | 12,835 | 5,417 |
| 6 Other Assets | | | | |
|  | | 2022  $ | 2021  $ |
| Accrued income | | 25,000 | 50,598 |
| Other financial assets | | 1,250,488 | 1,458,810 |
| Other asset | | 865 | - |
| Prepayments | | 19,973 | 18,989 |
|  | | 1,296,326 | 1,528,397 |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Blind Citizens Australia  ABN: 90 006 985 226  Notes to the Financial Statements  For the Year Ended 30 June 2022  7 Property, Plant and Equipment | | | |
|  | 2022  $ | 2021  $ |
| Plant and equipment |  |  |
| Works in progress |  |  |
| At cost | 6,062 | - |
| Plant and equipment |  |  |
| At cost | 12,567 | 27,121 |
| Accumulated depreciation | (12,567) | (27,121) |
| Furniture, fixtures and fittings |  |  |
| At cost | - | 1,183 |
| Accumulated depreciation | - | (1,183) |
| Computer equipment |  |  |
| At fair value | 43,979 | 83,772 |
| Accumulated depreciation | (28,860) | (60,451) |
| Total computer equipment | 15,119 | 23,321 |
| **Total plant and equipment** | 21,181 | 23,321 |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Blind Citizens Australia  ABN: 90 006 985 226  Notes to the Financial Statements  For the Year Ended 30 June 2022   |  | | --- | | 7 Property, Plant and Equipment |   (a) Movements in Carrying Amounts | | | | | | | |
|  |  | Works in Progress  $ | Plant and equipment  $ | Furniture, Fixtures and Fittings  $ | Computer Equipment  $ | Total  $ |
| Balance at the beginning of year |  | - | - | - | 23,321 | 23,321 |
| Additions |  | 6,062 | - | - | 4,662 | 10,724 |
| Disposals |  | - | - | - | - | - |
| Depreciation |  | - | - | - | (12,864) | (12,864) |
| Balance at 30 June 2022 |  | 6,062 | - | - | 15,119 | 21,181 |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Blind Citizens Australia  ABN: 90 006 985 226  Notes to the Financial Statements  For the Year Ended 30 June 2022  8 Trade and Other Payables | | | | |
|  |  | 2022  $ | 2021  $ |
| Current |  |  |  |
| Trade payables |  | 1,887 | - |
| GST payable |  | 15,703 | 34,440 |
| Accrued expense |  | 74,114 | 14,113 |
| Other payables |  | 32,478 | 20,261 |
|  |  | 124,182 | 68,814 |

Trade and other payables are unsecured, non‑interest bearing and are normally settled within 30 days. The carrying value of trade and other payables is considered a reasonable approximation of fair value due to the short‑term nature of the balances.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 9 Employee Benefits | | | |
|  | 2022  $ | 2021  $ |
| Current liabilities |  |  |
| Annual leave | 115,814 | 79,280 |
| Long service leave | 12,067 | 8,310 |
|  | 127,881 | 87,590 |
| Non‑current liabilities |  |  |
| Long service leave | 16,120 | - |
|  | 16,120 | - |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Blind Citizens Australia  ABN: 90 006 985 226  Notes to the Financial Statements  For the Year Ended 30 June 2022   |  | | --- | | 9 Employee Benefits |   (a) Movements in Carrying Amounts | | | |
|  |  | |
|  | 2022  $ | 2021  $ |
| Balance at the beginning of year | 87,590 | 71,303 |
| Additional provisions raised during the year | 132,112 | 89,368 |
| Amounts used | (75,701) | (73,081) |
| Balance at the ending of year | 144,001 | 87,590 |
| 10 Interests of Key Management Personnel | | | |

The remuneration paid to key management personnel of Blind Citizens Australia during the year is as follows:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | | 2022  $ | | 2021  $ |
| Short‑term employee benefits | | 346,610 | | 319,770 |
|  | | 346,610 | | 319,770 |
| 11 Auditors' Remuneration | | | | | |
|  | 2022  $ | | 2021  $ | |
| ‑ Remuneration of the auditor Crowe Tasmania (2021: MCA Accountants Pty Ltd) for auditing or reviewing of the financial statements | 6,850 | | 5,500 | |
| Total | 6,850 | | 5,500 | |

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| Blind Citizens Australia  ABN: 90 006 985 226  Notes to the Financial Statements  For the Year Ended 30 June 2022  12 Related Party Transactions |

During, or since the end of the financial year, Mr. John Simpson has received or become entitled to receive benefits in respect of trading with Information Alternatives of which Mr. Simpson is a partner and shareholder. In each case, these benefits were provided on normal commercial terms. With this exception, the Company believes that none of the Directors engaged in any contractual obligations that was, or was going to be of interest to the Company, or in any form became or would become a related party to the Company during their term as Directors.

During the financial year Mr Julian Bennison, son of BCA CEO Mrs Emma Bennison, provided technical consultancy support for the maintenance and development of BCA’s computing infrastructure. To ensure transparency, following an open Expression of Interest process, the Board approved this contractual arrangement on condition that the business relationship be managed directly by the General Manager Operations.

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| (a) Transactions with Related Parties |

Transactions between related parties are on normal commercial terms and conditions no more favourable than those available to other parties unless otherwise stated.

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| 13 Financial Risk Management |

The main risks Blind Citizens Australia is exposed to through its financial instruments are credit risk, liquidity risk and market risk consisting of interest rate risk, foreign currency risk and equity price risk.

The Company's financial instruments consist mainly of deposits with banks, local money market instruments, short‑term investments, accounts receivable and payable and leases.

Blind Citizens Australia

ABN: 90 006 985 226

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2022

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| --- |
| 13 Financial Risk Management |

The totals for each category of financial instruments, measured in accordance with AASB 9 as detailed in the accounting policies to these financial statements, are as follows:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | 2022  $ | 2021  $ |
| Financial assets |  |  |  |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 4 | 102,846 | 298,488 |
| Trade and other receivables | 5 | 12,835 | 5,417 |
| Other assets | 6 | 1,250,488 | 1,458,810 |
| Total financial assets |  | 1,366,169 | 1,762,715 |
| Financial liabilities |  |  |  |
| Trade and other payables | 8 | 124,182 | 68,814 |
| Total financial liabilities |  | 124,182 | 68,814 |

**Objectives, policies and processes**

The Board of Directors have overall responsibility for the establishment of Blind Citizens Australia’s financial risk management framework. This includes the development of policies covering specific areas such as foreign exchange risk, interest rate risk, liquidity risk and credit risk.

Risk management policies and systems are reviewed regularly to reflect changes in market conditions and Blind Citizens Australia’s activities.

Blind Citizens Australia

ABN: 90 006 985 226

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2022

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| --- |
| 13 Financial Risk Management |

The day‑to‑day risk management is carried out by Blind Citizens Australia’s finance function under policies and objectives which have been approved by the Board of Directors. The management has been delegated the authority for designing and implementing processes which follow the objectives and policies. This includes monitoring the levels of exposure to interest rate and foreign exchange rate risk and assessment of market forecasts for interest rate and foreign exchange movements.

The Board of Directors receives monthly reports which provide details of the effectiveness of the processes and policies in place.

Mitigation strategies for specific risks faced are described below:

**Market risk**

Market risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 14 Cash and Cash Equivalents | | | | |
| (a) Reconciliation of Cash | | | | |
|  | Note | 2022  $ | 2021  $ |
| Cash at the end of the financial year as shown in the statement of cash flows is reconciled to items in the statement of financial position as follows: |  |  |  |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 4 | 102,846 | 298,488 |
|  |  | 102,846 | 298,488 |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Blind Citizens Australia  ABN: 90 006 985 226  Notes to the Financial Statements  For the Year Ended 30 June 2022   |  | | --- | | 14 Cash and Cash Equivalents |   (b) Reconciliation of result for the year to cashflows from operating activities |

Reconciliation of net income to net cash provided by operating activities:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | 2022  $ | 2021  $ |
| Profit for the year | (292,926) | 69,488 |
| Cash flows excluded from profit attributable to operating activities |  |  |
| Non‑cash flows in profit: |  |  |
| ‑ depreciation | 12,864 | 13,973 |
| ‑ Unrealised capital gains | 205,606 | (81,223) |
| Changes in assets and liabilities: |  |  |
| ‑ (increase)/decrease in trade and other receivables | (7,419) | 31,936 |
| ‑ (increase)/decrease in prepayments | 23,747 | 706 |
| ‑ increase/(decrease) in trade and other payables | 55,370 | 46,827 |
| ‑ increase/(decrease) in provisions | 56,411 | 16,287 |
| ‑increase/(decrease) in unexpended funds | (241,287) | - |
| ‑increase/(decrease) in other liabilities | - | (25,738) |
| Cashflows from operations | (187,634) | 72,256 |

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| Blind Citizens Australia  ABN: 90 006 985 226  Notes to the Financial Statements  For the Year Ended 30 June 2022  15 Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets |

In the opinion of the Directors, the Company did not have any contingencies at 30 June 2022 (30 June 2021:Nil).

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| 16 Capital and Leasing Commitments |
| (a) Significant operating lease commitments |

The Company has a 12‑month leasing agreement for the use of office space and facilities. This has been accounted for as rental expense.

|  |
| --- |
| (b) Significant capital lease commitments |

The Company does not have any capital lease commitments.

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| 17 Economic Dependence |

The Company is dependent on federal and state agencies for a material amount of its revenue used to operate the business. At the date of this report, the Board has no reason to believe that these agencies will not continue to support the Company.

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| 18 Events After the End of the Reporting Period |

There are no subsequent events as at reporting date to be disclosed or adjusted for.

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| 19 Company Details |
|  |
| The registered office and principal place of business of the company is: |
| Blind Citizens Australia |
| Ross House |
| 247‑251 Flinders Lane |
| MELBOURNE VIC 3000 |

Blind Citizens Australia

Auditors' Independence Declaration To the Members of Blind Citizens Australia

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2022, there have been:

(i) no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in section 60‑40 of the *Australian Charities and Not‑for‑profits Commission Act 2012* in relation to the audit; and

(ii) no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

Crowe Audit Australia

Alison Flakemore

Senior Partner

Dated this..............................day of..............................2022.

Hobart, Tasmania.

Blind Citizens Australia

Independent Audit Report to the members of Blind Citizens Australia

Qualified Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Blind Citizens Australia, which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2022, the statement of comprehensive income, the statement of changes in equity, the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the Director's declaration.

In our opinion, except for the effects, if any, of the matter described in the Basis for Qualified Opinion paragraph, the accompanying financial report of the Company has been prepared in accordance with the *Australian Charities and Not‑for‑profits Commission Act 2012*, including:

* giving a true and fair view of the Company’s financial position as at 30 June 2022 and of its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended; and
* complying with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 1 and Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not‑for‑profits Commission Regulation 2013.*

Blind Citizens Australia

Independent Audit Report to the members of Blind Citizens Australia

Basis for Qualified Opinion

The comparative 2021 financial year figures have not been subject to audit by Crowe. As a result our audit and audit report is limited to the 2022 financial statements and transactions within that financial year. Accordingly, no opinion is expressed on the accuracy of the 2021 financial information, nor its consistency with the accounting policies outlined in the Notes to the Financial Statements.

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 our report. We are independent of the Company in accordance with the auditor independence 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.

Blind Citizens Australia

Independent Audit Report to the members of Blind Citizens Australia

Emphasis of Matter – Basis of Preparation

We draw attention to Note 1 (a) and (k) to the financial statements, which indicates that the Company has not applied all recognition and measurement accounting standards, specifically the Company has chosen to not adopt AASB 1058 and AASB 15. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Emphasis of Matter – Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial statements, which describe the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared to assist the Association to meet the requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not‑for‑profits Commission Act 2012 (Cth).* As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Other Information

The Directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the Director’s Report the year ended 30 June 2022, but does not include the financial report and our auditor’s report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Blind Citizens Australia

Independent Audit Report to the members of Blind Citizens Australia

In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of the Board for the Financial Report

The Directos are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report and have determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 1 to the financial statements is appropriate to meet the needs of the members in accordance with the financial reporting requirements of the applicable legislation and for such internal control as the Directors determine necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the Directors are responsible for assessing the Company’s ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Directors either intend to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Blind Citizens Australia

Independent Audit Report to the members of Blind Citizens Australia

Auditor’s Responsibilities 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 auditor’s 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 the 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.

Blind Citizens Australia

Independent Audit Report to the members of Blind Citizens Australia

* 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 Company’s internal control.
* Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Directors.
* Conclude on the appropriateness of the Director’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 Company’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 Company to cease to continue as a going concern.

Blind Citizens Australia

Independent Audit Report to the members of Blind Citizens Australia

* 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 Board 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 the audit.

**Crowe Audit Australia**

Alison Flakemore

**Senior Partner**

Dated this..............................day of..............................2022.

Hobart, Tasmania

The remaining pages of this document contains an image of the signed version of the above Auditors' Independence Declaration and Independent Auditor’s Report, on Crowe Audit Australia letterhead.

