



**PARKS & LEISURE**  
AUSTRALIA

**ANNUAL REPORT 2015-2016**

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Immediate Past President  
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Tim Sargent

Les Munn (NSW/ACT)  
Martin Lambert (QLD)  
Paul Jane (VIC/TAS)  
Rachel Thorpe (WA)

Co-opted Members  
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Barbra Gaiotto  
Eve Craker  
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We sincerely thank our national partners for their support.





Kristen Jackson  
President

NATIONAL PRESIDENT REPORT

2015/16 has been another important year for Parks and Leisure Australia (PLA) as it continues to grow, strengthen and develop as the peak industry body for professionals in the parks and leisure industry in Australia.

This year, we welcomed some new members to the National Board. Rachel Thorpe as WA Regional President and WA representative, Barbra Gaiotto, with the National Conference portfolio, Eve Craker representing the Generate Network Australia, and Anand Pillay with the research portfolio. I'd like to thank these new board members for volunteering their time and stepping up into their new roles.

A membership based organisation such as PLA relies on the ongoing support of sponsors and partners. We are fortunate to continue to have some great national sponsors in Tennis Australia, Greenlife Group, Jasstech Solutions, Toro Australia, Belgravia Leisure and Forpark Australia. Without the amazing support of these sponsors, PLA would not be able to provide the range of services it offers its members.

Our social media presence through the year has again been boosted by our partnership with KWP! This was particularly evident through our most successful social media campaign, the National Conference held in Sydney in October 2015. Moore Stephens has continued its support of PLA through the provision of financial services.

PLA has also ramped up its advocacy activities during the year. These activities included participation in the Living Cities Workshops held in Canberra in February and Sydney in August organised by AILA (Australian Institute of Landscape Architects). PLA also signed up as one of the founding members of the new Living Cities Alliance.

As part of the Federal Election Campaign, PLA Advisory prepared '10 Great Ideas for a More Active Healthy Australia.' This document puts the argument that new thinking is needed regarding infrastructure investment in Australia and that investment in health prevention through improved parks and leisure opportunities will lead to a population which is physically and mentally healthier. If you haven't seen this great paper yet, visit the Research/Advocacy section of the PLA website.

PLA Advisory members have also been busy working on a climate change position paper which the Board endorsed in August. Look out for a copy of this important paper soon. I'd like to thank the members of both the PLA Executive group and PLA Advisory general group for their efforts in research and preparing papers for use by PLA members across Australia. The hours spent by these groups to further the national interests of PLA are appreciated.

2015/16 has seen the most successful year yet for regional professional development seminars and conferences held right around Australia. The work of the committees and staff organising these conference events has paid off by providing quality opportunities for industry members who may not be able to attend national events to interact with colleagues and learn from best practice and innovation within their state.

I'd like to recognise and thank the members of our five Regional Councils who volunteer their time to provide a range of services to members at a regional level. These Regional Councils are all supported by amazing Executive Officers. Thanks to them all.

I am sure you all had a productive and engaging time at the 2015 National Conference in Sydney and went back to your respective workplaces reinvigorated to implement what you learnt. A huge thank you to the 2015 National Conference Organising Committee, especially the NSW/ACT representatives, and PLA National and Regional staff for their efforts in bringing the 2015 Sydney National Conference together.

At a National Board level, we have continued to work through a number of governance and long term financial sustainability issues. These have included clarifying and documenting roles and responsibilities for the National Board, National President and CEO and developing a new code of conduct for national and regional boards.

I'd like to sincerely thank my fellow National Board members for their commitment and passion in volunteering for our organisation in the interest of our members. Sincere thanks for giving me the opportunity to be National President this year.

This year has seen long term Board member Kevin Lowe step down from the National Board. His leadership, passion and insight over many years is appreciated. Joanne Smith also stepped down after 3 1/2 years on the National Board. Both will continue to contribute to PLA through their respective Regional Councils.

A huge thanks to Mark Band as CEO and his team in the National Office for their efforts during 2015/16, particularly Lina who keeps the office running, Nicoll for her work with our sponsors, Cathy for her hard work with the National Conference and importantly, Kirsty who keeps our finances on track.

PLA continues to grow and gain strength and I wish all involved with PLA at a regional and national level, members and sponsors, all the best for the future.



Mark Band  
CEO

## CEO REPORT

With another financial year behind us we reflect on what has been achieved and where we want to go. The last few years have certainly been challenging as we have deconstructed and reconstructed the organisation both by way of its physical location and its services and systems which are under constant review. This is perhaps the first year in which we feel we are getting on top of this and with a highly passionate and skilled National Board and office staff supported by the tireless work of our regional EO's and their committees, we have established some solid structures which have provided a foundation on which to build and grow the organisation.

Whilst we acknowledge there is continued room for improvement, our reporting and financial systems have become better managed and accountable and the policies and procedures being developed nationally by the Board have led to a greater sense of clarity and purpose for us all.

As an almost fully self funded not for profit organisation, the importance of monitoring is obviously critical and our main income streams of membership, sponsorship and conferences and seminars need to be constantly assessed to ensure we remain viable. This year I am pleased to say that all income streams have shown an increase in profitability on previous years and I would personally like to thank both our members and our corporate partners and sponsors that have continued to support our professional association.

Some of the highlights this year have been the continued implementation of the Fifty Point Plan which is currently being reviewed and a new and refined strategic direction being implemented by the National Board. Specific outcomes from the key areas of the plan include a marked increase in national sponsorships and partnering with the likes of Forpark Australia, Tennis Australia, Greenlife Group, Toro, Jasstech, Belgravia Leisure, KWP! and Moore Stephens all of which have showed great support to the professional association. I would also like to personally thank Forpark for their long standing national sponsorship which comes to an end this year. Forpark have been a great partner and remain involved with PLA.

Advocacy remains high on the national agenda and this year has seen an increase in the profile of PLA and what we do as a sector by pre election lobbying and participating in the Living Cities workshop hosted by AILA in Canberra.

Relationships have been strengthened with our national and international partners including:

- the NZRA and their peer review for the rebuilding of Christchurch's sporting infrastructure;
- closer links with the World Urban Parks (WUP) and member access to this organisation through PLA's membership;
- the re-signing of the MOU with NParks Singapore for a further three years to undertake training in the CUGE Parks Management course and ongoing seminars;
- the reigniting of a relationship with the Institute of Parks and Recreation Singapore;
- establishing and cementing relationships with our Tokyo counterparts with a visit in February 16; and
- ties with the USA and the LA parks department who will be speaking at our conference in Adelaide.

The membership restructure is still being assessed and considered by a national working party as it is crucial that we get this right. The rationale behind the change is in line with capturing large agencies and organisations and representing their interests whilst ensuring as many professionals in our sector benefit from our services and networking.

Myself and many of the national board members have represented PLA at state, national and international conferences and seminars and highlighted the importance and link with our sector and community wellbeing and the link with sport and health.

The social media campaigns are ramping up and thanks to the incredible support of KWP!, PLA has begun to penetrate a wider audience through a number of means including Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn with our network reach now over 25,000 via electronic mail and almost 2000 via social media.

Training and professional development is core to what we do and in recent times we have partnered with, and at the time of writing this report were drafting the agreement with WUP and the Eppley Institute in the USA to administer our National Certificate in Parks and Leisure Management which will flow on to the International Certificate in Parks Management administered by WUP. This will provide our members with a long awaited national accreditation that will link with a Continuing Professional Development (CPD) scheme currently being developed between myself and the national board.

We are also working closely with a Trust Fund set up in the old 'RAIPR' days which sits outside of PLA's direct authority. The intent of this fund, which is administered by an independent group of Trustees, is to establish a 'research portal' on our website and to tie this in with a tertiary organisation here in Australia.

These are just a few of the main initiatives we have been working on or have achieved in the last 12 months and as I have stated, the organisation is now establishing a firm foundation. With the continued support of you our members and our key strategic partners, the future is looking bright.

On a personal note I would like to thank the National Board for their direction over the last 12 months and the regional Executive Officers and their respective Councils for their continued hard work in growing the organisation and enhancing the wellbeing of all Australians.

In closing, I would personally like to thank the National Office staff who are an absolute pleasure to work with and never cease to amaze me with their commitment and sheer hard work most of which goes unnoticed outside of the national office here in Adelaide. They are true professionals and I personally thank Lina, Nicoll and Kirsty for your support as well as Cathy for her relentless hard work and professionalism behind the scenes to make the national conference a success every year.

And to you our members and partners, I look forward to serving you in the next 12 months with hopefully even bigger and better things to come.



Tim Sargent  
Finance Director

**FINANCE DIRECTOR REPORT**

I am pleased to report that the organisation has reported a surplus for the year of \$100,145 which is a far better result than the deficit of \$(51,903) reported the year before. In my opinion the closer regular monitoring of the performance against the budget set by each region has created the accountability required to ensure we achieved this result. In my role as the Finance Director I will not be satisfied until I see the organisation continuing to make surpluses every year.

Main points to highlight with respect to the 2016 Financial Statements are as follows:

- Revenue from operations is up on last year by 30% due to increases in the areas of local state seminars/conferences along with sponsorship. With respect to sponsorship I would personally like to thank the CEO Mark Band and his team in enabling the sponsorship dollars to grow from \$191,059 to \$401,589 in (12) months.
- In the Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income we have recognised for the first time an income tax benefit of \$171,645 which states the value the organisation has in carried forward tax losses.
- The Statement of Financial Position shows our net equity position has improved from \$81,555 to \$353,345 which has come about through improved financial performance and the recognition of the future tax benefit.
- Current Assets to Current Liabilities show that we have an excess of \$181,700 (prior year \$81,555) meaning that for every \$1 of liabilities we have \$1.57 of short term assets which provides comfort that PLA has sufficient liquidity to be able to pay our debts as and when they fall due.

The budget set for the 2016/17 year shows that the organisation is targeting another surplus which is required to make the Statement of Financial Position more robust to maintain stability.

Finally, I would like to thank the other board members for the input and support in making PLA where it exists today. I can assure you that every effort is being made to ensure that this is not a one off result and I look forward to reporting a stronger position in twelve months time.



Les Munn  
President  
NSW/ACT

**NSW/ACT REGIONAL PRESIDENT REPORT**

The last financial year was another success for the NSW/ACT region with membership and sponsorship continuing to grow. Your regional council continued to organise many industry related events, mainly through the hard work of our Executive Officer Bethanie, with the assistance of a number of our enthusiastic council members.

Events held over the last 12 months:

- Best Practice Turf Management – September 2015
- Intergenerational Places and Spaces – November 2015
- Outdoor Playground Inspector Course L 2 Dubbo – December 2015
- Barangaroo tour and Xmas drinks – December 2015
- Outdoor Playground Inspector Course L 2 Ballina – March 2016
- Management of Trees in Public Open Space – April 2016
- PLA NSW/ACT State Conference Hunter Valley – May 2016

The playground training courses continue to be popular with opportunities being provided for regional councils to have their staff obtain accredited training in Playground Inspection without the expense of sending them to the main cities. A number of the seminars such as Management of Trees in Public Open Space and Intergenerational Places and Spaces were also very well supported.

The State Conference was an excellent event with great feedback from all delegates. The location was in the beautiful Hunter Valley and the speakers and content were exceptional. Those lucky enough to be there were treated to a passionate presentation from Poppy Starr, a young 16 y.o. girl from Newcastle who recently competed in the USA to win the Women's Open World Skatebowl Championship. It was inspirational to see someone so young confidently speak from the youth's perspective with regard to skating facilities and other recreational opportunities.

Sponsorship has also continued to grow, as it has across the country, as PLA continues to expand and develop a higher profile. All of our regions are working hard in the interests of the people who work in our industry and the ongoing efforts of the various Regional Councils are continuing to reap rewards.

At a local level, there have been a number of changes on the council recently with long standing members Jeff Wearing (Wollongong City Council), Mark Taylor (Ku-ring-gai Council) and Dana Spence (Camden Council) standing down after long stints and very loyal service to our industry.

Both Mark and Dana were past Regional Presidents and were given a special "Thankyou" send off by the committee. They will be missed and we thank them for the many years of dedicated service to PLA.

Three new members have been welcomed to the Regional council. Ed Sanderson (Centennial Park and Botanic Gardens Trust), Sam Eriksson (Tamworth Regional Council) and James Harris (Shoalhaven City Council) have now joined us. We wish to give them a warm welcome and look forward to working with them over the coming years.

All is shaping up for another exciting year and on behalf of the council I look forward to providing the necessary support and opportunities for our members who support this wonderful industry.



Martin Lambert  
President  
QLD

QLD REGIONAL PRESIDENT REPORT

The region has had another strong year. With the tireless enthusiasm and professionalism of our Executive Officer, Tracy we have achieved many of our goals and even a few stretched targets. Tracy has helped us grow our profile and sponsor base as well as building collaboration with other industry sectors.

Our highlight was of course the State Conference at Twin Waters on the Sunshine Coast (8-10 June). Thank you to the conference committee for the hard work and stress to run another great conference.

The conference theme was “Living Infrastructure.” We partnered with 202020 and ran an urban forest masterclass on the first day (yes infrastructure that is alive). This was the first time we have had the 202020 crew in Qld and it was not only successful but it also generated a lot of discussion around the need for more green space and more importantly the need to advocate the benefits for cities.

Our second day focused on “Infrastructure for Living” with presentations from industry leaders in Queensland and featuring keynote speakers Steve Burgess author of *Complete Streets – Guidelines to Urban Street Design*, Dr Thomas Astell-Burt and Dr Xiaoqu Feng from the National Health and Medical Research Council, and Leanne Evans, a national women in sport advocate.

The State Awards of Excellence was a night of celebration and introduced our great debate-where luminaries and big brains were pitted against each other on the roads vs parks controversy.

I would like to once again thank our state conference gold sponsors Sunshine Coast Council and our major sponsors Greenlife Group, Jasstech and Toro. It was also great to see the Department of National Parks Sport and Racing, getting involved in the industry and sending several staff and supporting presenters from the department to share their knowledge and insight.

Our other events during the year included:

- 24th November – Land Tenure (Brisbane) – Second one for this year - @Sports House
- 4th December – Christmas Function - @ the Gardens Club
- 11th March – Breakfast Forum – Cricketers Club
- 14th March – Cairns Network Luncheon – Cairns

PLA Qld also assisted NPSR with providing keynote speakers for their Sport and Recreation Advisors Forum at the end of June. This gave us an opportunity to bring Andrew Leslie NZRA CEO and Kate Maddock from Victoria to Redcliffe to present.

To reignite the social and fun (and networking aspects) of PLA we also launched the SEQ networking group who now meet regularly to share knowledge and experience. I have to give a special thanks to Angela Wright for leading this initiative. In keeping with this we are exploring more regional events and get togethers in the rest of Qld and have events planned for Townsville and Cairns and are in planning for Mackay and Rocky.

I would like to close with thanks to the incredible efforts of those on our Regional Council, all of whom have stepped up at various stages. We also produced 5 newsletters and John Wood coordinated the national Research Connections newsletters.

This will be my last year as Qld President, I feel certain that we have made incredible progress and have much more to offer the industry. I welcome our next president who will take over shortly after the National Conference.

Once again, my sincere thanks to all who have been part of PLA Qld in the last year and to all the supporters, sponsors and professionals who make our industry such an important and enjoyable place to work in.



John Wilkinson  
President  
SA/NT

SA/NT REGIONAL PRESIDENT REPORT

It has been an honour to fulfil the role of President of the SA/NT region over the past 12 months, and I would like to thank the members of the Regional Council for their support and work over the past year. On reflection, the past 12 months have seen more changes within our Regional Council, with the departure of some councillors, and the joining of three new councillors. It has been great to see these faces come on board and bring new skills and perspectives. We have also farewelled our Executive Officer, Cathie Trezona, who did an amazing job during her time in the role. On this note, we also welcomed Philip Marshall to the role. He is getting to know our industry and has hit the ground running; bringing a great depth of knowledge relating to board management.

At a regional level, the Council has been active on a number of fronts. These have included advocacy on important sector issues, holding seminars and launching the new Parks Alive toolkit. The State Conference was held in April at Memorial Drive and attracted a range of delegates, speakers and exhibitors, and we are working on growing the conference to be bigger and better in 2017!

With the new skills brought by the regional councillors, we are working to grow our output to benefit the industry in SA/NT, with a key area being a potential Open Space planners network. This is also complemented by our recent efforts and funding applications to develop an Open Space Planning and Design Guide for SA. We hope that more work will happen in this space over the next 12 months and we will keep you updated on future developments.

The next 12 months promises to be a period during which we will continue to build on what we have established and continue to support the creation of a strong and united industry. We are aiming to establish a more welcoming and connected region and encourage anyone who has an interest in getting involved in contacting us, as there are great benefits for all of us in doing so. Lastly, I would like to thank our regional council who have given their time willingly and selflessly to support the industry.



**Paul Jane**  
President  
VIC/TAS

**VIC/TAS REGIONAL PRESIDENT REPORT**

Vic/Tas has continued to increase the profile of the organisation in the region over the past year through advocacy, professional development and networking opportunities.

The State Conference, now in its third year, attracted 227 delegates, up from 168 in 2015. A highlight of the conference was the entertaining and informative opening address delivered by former Chief Executive of Parks Victoria, Bradley Fauteux.

Included with the conference is the Awards of Excellence dinner, which attracted 230 guests (176 in 2015). Congratulations to all category winners and good luck in the National Awards. I encourage all members to nominate those innovative and strategically sound projects from your workplace in next year's Awards of Excellence program. The Awards dinner was a fantastic night and provided many opportunities to network and reconnect with former colleagues.

The increased activity of the region has seen more members putting their hands up to be involved in sub committees. Presently, more than 20 members are volunteering their time and expertise on three sub-committees, which is a great way to increase industry networks and a good stepping-stone for further involvement in PLA activities.

PLA has continued to advocate on behalf of its members. In the past 12 months, PLA has established an LGA liaison group with Football Federation Victoria, and has made two submissions to Infrastructure Victoria's All Things Considered Options Paper. The Board is currently in the process of formulating partnership arrangements with more than 12 industry groups to ensure we can work together effectively and leverage off each other's offerings. The finalisation of these agreements (MOUs) will be a major goal of the Board over the next 12 months.

I would like to thank the Vic/Tas Region Council and the increasing number of members who have given up their time to support our efforts. In particular, I would like to thank Richard O'Byrne and James Collins who have stepped down after 12 and 6 years, respectively. Their support for and work has been invaluable.

Over the next 12 months, the Board will be completing the guide lines for the Installation and Maintenance of Outdoor Fitness Equipment project (funded by SRV), continuing to deliver meaningful professional development activities, and providing other forums and activities for industry professionals to connect.

I would also like to acknowledge the valuable support received from many LGAs and organisations during the past 12 months, particularly our sponsors, Greenlife Group and TORO Australia, Urban Maintenance Services (UMS), and Sport and Recreation Victoria, which enables us to deliver professional development to the industry at a significantly reduced rate.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the efforts of the council for their advice and support, and executive team of Richard and Pamela Simon whose passion for the industry and professionalism has helped us to grow our offerings and influence.



**Rachel Thorpe**  
President  
WA

**WA REGIONAL PRESIDENT REPORT**

2015/16 has been another very busy year for WA, and we have much to celebrate. We have seen an increased recognition of WA's contribution to the health and wellbeing of our communities. The contribution reflects the growing professions and the fact that the WA regional council is strongly committed to providing members excellent services, support, resources and leadership.

2015/16 saw a handing over of the presidency, a revision of our Strategic Plan with a renewed and strong focus on member support and engagement. We continued to influence a number of high profile advocacy initiatives in 2015. In conjunction with other allied industry organisations PLA WA formed the Green Space Alliance which as an informal industry group to provide a united voice on green space issues to the Western Australian Government, with the following vision:

*"To live in a community that values green spaces at its core, which deliver benefits to everyone through improved health, wellbeing and liveability by using innovative water and urban planning solutions."*

In the last year we helped develop the Discussion and Position Paper which was launched at the State Conference. PLA WA has presented at all meetings with State and Shadow Ministers and Director Generals, once again raising our profile in PLA WA.

Members see professional development as a priority service from PLA WA. The successful State Conference in June attracted over 240 delegates and an additional 74 registered for the Awards of Excellence ceremony. Almost 90% of attendees who responded to the evaluation stated the program was very good to excellent, highlighting the role we play in providing opportunities for our industry to undertake continued professional development and to celebrate excellence in their work. The events and seminar calendar continues to grow, providing our members with current evidence-based practice information. In 2015/16 there was a growth in the number of members and industry representatives that attended these events and seminars, which is evidence of the importance we place on providing relevant information and case studies impacting our industry.

**Activation of Open Space through Arts and Culture:** held Thursday 20th August 2015 at the WA State Library. PLA WA would like to acknowledge Artsource, CAN WA, DADAA, Country Arts WA, City of Subiaco, pvi collective, Department of Culture & the Arts and FORM for their valuable contribution.

**Mountain Bike, Skills and Pump Parks: Consultation, Planning, Design, Construction & Management:** held Wednesday 23rd September 2015 at the John Leckie Pavilion, Nedlands. We would like to acknowledge and thank TC Trail Design, WestCycle, Tredwell Management, Common Ground Trails, WAMBA, City of Nedlands, Kalamunda Mountain Bike Collective, City of Albany and Pemberton Camp School.

**Smooth Deployment: Getting New Staff Up and Running in the Right Direction:** held Tuesday 10th November 2015 at the RISE in Maylands. This seminar was the first part of the Facility Managers Series. We would like to acknowledge and thank Jeremy Nunn from Health Safety Works and Sarah Adams from City of Bayswater for presenting at the seminar.

**How to Make Your Gym Stand Out From the Crowd:** The second seminar of the Facility Managers Series was held Thursday 3rd December 2015 at the Loftus Recreation Centre in Leederville. A special thanks to Belgravia Leisure, Active Management, City of Stirling and Belgravia Leisure for presenting at the seminar.

Once again PLA WA is sincerely grateful for the support and organisation sustainability grant funding received from the Minister and the Department of Sport and Recreation. We would not be able to achieve and raise PLA WA's profile without the tireless effort and commitment from our Executive Officer and Administration / Event Officer.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all my fellow regional councillors who volunteer their time and our members who volunteer to be judges, working group and conference committee members and presenters, who truly make the WA parks and leisure industry amazing.



Tara Looby  
Skillbased Director -  
Marketing and  
Communications

Our members are “the people behind the places,” as such our focus is on servicing the professionals who work across policy, planning and the provision of assets, services, facilities, programmes and research in the parks and leisure sector. This year I am happy to report membership is continuing to grow at a very pleasing rate, which builds a stronger, more interactive and knowledgeable PLA.

PLA held 43 professional development events and seminars for members and the wider sector across Australia during the reporting period. This comprised 37 PD events/seminars, 5 regional conferences and 1 national conference. The events covered a broad range of topics from changes in leadership strategy and design of community and open spaces, to networking events for parks and leisure practitioners.

The national annual conference, was held in Sydney in October with the theme of ‘Inspire: Create the Future Together.’ The conference provided a great opportunity for academic and professional exchange with over 70 sessions attended by over 470 participants.

We would like to express sincere gratitude to our 2015/16 sponsors and partners;

**National Sponsors**

- Tennis Australia
- Forpark Australia
- Toro Australia
- Belgravia Leisure
- Greenlife Group
- Jasstech Solutions

**National Partners**

- KWP!
- Moore Stephens

The support provided by these organisations assists us to both meet and exceed our strategic objectives each year. PLA is committed to being the peak industry association for professionals working in the parks and leisure sector in Australia, and our corporate sponsors and partners are helping us to realise this goal.

This year PLA also teamed up with New Zealand Recreation Association to establish Parks Week, which successfully ran from the 5-13 March, 2016. Parks Week promoted the many benefits our parks and open spaces provide to the community.

Over 200 events ran across both sides of the Tasman to raise awareness of the value of parks and open spaces and to get people off the couch and enjoying the outdoors. We look forward to building an even stronger event next year.

PLA also implemented a number of functionality improvements to the website this year. These improvements along with a strong social media presence have provided a more collaborative and interactive experience for members. Over the past 12 months we have built our ‘followers’ to more than 2150 across platforms including Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn. Moving forward we are looking at ways to further enhance this cooperative environment for members to share experiences and knowledge.

Finally PLA continues to engage with members through the Annual Membership Survey, which enables members to discuss their overall engagement and satisfaction with PLA. The survey addresses everything from event attendance/value received, networking opportunities, to overall benefits of membership. The survey provides valuable information about your opinion. We continue to encourage all members to participate in the survey and help shape and guide the future of PLA.



Eve Craker  
Skillbased Director - The  
Generate Network

I am very excited to announce that this past year saw a major milestone with PLA launching the Generate Network.

The Network is free for all young people (or people young at heart) who work in the environmental and recreation sector. The sector encompasses parks and reserves, sport and recreation delivery, swimming pools, and environmental management and planning.

Sponsored and supported by; Parks and Leisure Australia, New Zealand Recreation Association, the New Zealand Department of Conservation, and World Urban Parks, the Generate Network currently exists only in New Zealand.

Recently and due to the growing success of the New Zealand Generate Network, PLA has endeavoured to expand the Generate Network across the ditch.

As background, the Network is governed by the following guiding principles:

**Mission:** Our purpose is to provide a collective voice, evoking change and supporting development opportunities for those working in the environmental and recreation sector

**Vision:** Building together a united and thriving parks, sport and recreation industry

**Key Objectives:** Engage, develop and connect

With an appointment and specific Generate position on the PLA National Board, I have been working with Jenn Halliday (Chair of New Zealand Generate) to establish Australia’s very own Generate.

With so many ideas and the willingness to jump straight in, I wanted to ensure that Generate was established with a strong foundation to ensure its ongoing sustainability. Armed with an action plan, one of our main focuses is research. We wanted to utilise findings from our research to help identify the professional development needs of our future and recent industry arrivals – thus shaping the future of Generate.

With the help of the PLA Advisory Committee, we have now embarked on undertaking several research projects including a survey to members and seeking feedback at PLA events and conferences. The more information we collect the more informed our decision making can be.

Whilst we are still collecting data and understanding the gap Generate can fill, I am excited to see what the next 12 to 18 months can bring.

Be sure to watch this space!



## FINANCIAL REPORT

### Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income

	2016	2015
	\$	\$
Revenue	1,699,623	1,303,317
Other income	3,578	3,289
Depreciation and amortisation expense	-	(6,371)
Conference expenses	(512,844)	(450,141)
Other expenses	(1,090,212)	(901,997)
<b>Surplus/(deficit) before income tax</b>	<b>100,145</b>	<b>(51,903)</b>
Income tax benefit/(expense)	171,645	-
<b>Surplus/(deficit) for the year</b>	<b>271,790</b>	<b>(51,903)</b>
<b>Other comprehensive income</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total comprehensive income/(loss) for the year</b>	<b>271,790</b>	<b>(51,903)</b>

### Statement of Financial Position

	2016	2015
	\$	\$
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	349,237	154,863
Trade and other receivables	117,272	152,430
Other assets	32,984	109,229
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>499,493</b>	<b>416,522</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Deferred tax assets	171,645	-
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>171,645</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>671,138</b>	<b>416,522</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
Trade and other payables	132,960	56,611
Current tax liabilities	5,445	16,856
Other financial liabilities	179,388	261,500
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>317,793</b>	<b>334,967</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>353,345</b>	<b>81,555</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>		
Accumulated surplus	353,345	81,555
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>	<b>353,345</b>	<b>81,555</b>

## FINANCIAL REPORT

## Statement of Changes in Equity

2016

	Accumulated Surplus \$	Asset Revaluation Reserve \$	Total \$
<b>Balance at 1 July 2015</b>	81,555	-	81,555
Surplus attributable to members of the entity	271,790	-	271,790
<b>Balance at 30 June 2016</b>	<b>353,345</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>353,345</b>

2015

	Accumulated Surplus \$	Asset Revaluation Reserve \$	Total \$
<b>Balance at 1 July 2014</b>	117,083	69,264	186,347
Deficit attributable to members of the entity	(51,903)	-	(51,903)
Revaluation increment (decrement)	69,264	(69,264)	-
Retrospective adjustment upon change in accounting policy	(52,889)	-	(52,889)
<b>Balance at 30 June 2015</b>	<b>81,555</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>81,555</b>

## Statement of Cash Flows

	2016 \$	2015 \$
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:</b>		
Receipts from customers	1,501,695	1,133,037
Payments to suppliers and employees	(1,461,873)	(1,451,397)
Interest received	3,578	3,289
Receipt from grants	150,974	154,909
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	<b>194,374</b>	<b>(160,162)</b>
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents held	<b>194,374</b>	<b>(160,162)</b>
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	<b>154,863</b>	315,025
Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year	<b>349,237</b>	154,863

A full version of the Parks and Leisure Australia Financial Statements for the year ending 30 June 2016, including the supporting notes is available online at [www.parksleisure.com.au](http://www.parksleisure.com.au)



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