

INSPIRING FUTURE  
GENERATIONS

# AGECS

ACN 004 275 709

## ANNUAL REPORT 2023



AGECS

**The Association of Graduates in Early Childhood Studies**

ABN 80 004 275 709

PO Box 12163 A'Beckett Street Melbourne 8006

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The Association of Graduates in Early Childhood Studies would like to acknowledge both the Bunurong/Boon Wurrung, and Wurundjeri people as the Traditional Custodians of the Lands on which we are located in Melbourne. We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging. We also acknowledge the Aboriginal language groups across all of Victoria, whose lands we provide funding for specific projects around Early Childhood Education. We acknowledge their history, their people, and their stories. As an Association we will work together for reconciliation, a process that starts with the acknowledgement of true Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures of Australia, and will always value the contribution to our community and culture, the experiences of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, their families, communities and their stories.

## THE ASSOCIATION OF GRADUATES IN EARLY CHILDHOOD STUDIES

PO Box 12163 A'Beckett Street Melbourne VIC 8006

### Council Members

<b>President</b>	Sarah O'Donnell
<b>Vice President</b>	Melissa Adam
<b>Honorary Treasurer</b>	Emma Boag
<b>Honorary Secretary</b>	Nichola Marriott
<b>General Members</b>	Helen Baker, Alannah Dore, Sue Emmett, Liza Farquhar, Justeen Fitzgibbon, Wendy Grenfell (Editor of AUDAX), Sandra McCarthy-Wilson, Sinead O Conaill, Bridie Raban, Nicole Talarico
<b>Directors</b>	Emma Boag Nichola Marriott Sarah O'Donnell
<b>Finance Committee</b>	Emma Boag, Nichola Marriott, Sarah O'Donnell, Ray Bullen (Financial Advisor), Katrina Tull, (Evans & Partners, Investment Advisor), Elizabeth Potter, Narelle Wilson
<b>Auditors</b>	Nexia Melbourne Audit Pty Ltd
<b>Legal</b>	Platform Legal
<b>Company Secretary</b>	Elizabeth Potter
<b>Banks</b>	ANZ, Westpac
<b>Program Manager</b>	Elizabeth Potter
<b>Engagement Coordinator</b>	Alexandra Heard

## **Presidents Report AGM 2023**

As the year draws to a close, we are all reflecting on how quickly it has gone by. For many it has been a challenging year, we went back to a life post COVID, however the impact of COVID and working with the many children who were born in lockdown was simply hard work, and that was on top of many educators contracting COVID for the second and third times. At AGECS we are acutely aware of the stresses that have impacted on early childhood services, and we remain grateful that our members have remained committed to our organisation.

This time last year I reflected on the need for AGECS to pause and determine what its future would look like and our Council have continued to use our time together to determine our strategic direction and to focus on how best we can support the early childhood community. A lot of this work has gone on behind the scenes, and so things have been a little quiet in what we have had to offer externally, however as a Council we hope that in 2024 you will begin to see the fruits of our labour. We are also exceptionally grateful to our members and educators who have taken the time to support us by answering our surveys and guiding our future. The results of the Community Engagement survey will be used in our decision-making, such as what professional development you want and how this should be delivered to you so that it is not “just another thing to do”. We are very grateful to Alex Heard, our engagement coordinator, who has facilitated this process. It has taken significant periods of time and is a perfect example of how important our contractors are to our volunteer committee. We have also learnt a great deal about our early childhood community and are currently looking at ways we can share our learnings with you all.

Each year with the help of Liz Potter our fabulous Program Manager we further document and review our policies and procedures to ensure that our organisation runs professionally and to reduce the workload as much as possible for the volunteers. I know that she has also provided invaluable assistance to all the committees as well as council. Again this year we have streamlined our documentation to ensure that we act with transparency and clarified our legal requirements especially for our grants. The program manager role has been key to the operation of AGECS but we are eternally grateful that it is Liz who keeps us organised.

We are proud that we have been able to implement the financial policies developed by Liz and our bookkeeper Narelle Wilson who has been a valuable addition to our small group of contractors. We continue to review the way we invest, using opportunities to reflect and change to more ethical investment. Sadly, like most organisations that rely on profit from their investments to be able to operate, we have had to review our budgets and tighten the reins a little. This has meant putting on hold some of our bigger projects and to review the scale in which we do things. However, the AGECS Council is resourceful and it has given us an opportunity to think creatively.

Our RAP subcommittee certainly had to be creative with the delivery of the RAP and this work will continue into the new year. It is fabulous that the Reconciliation series is available on our website and is continually being accessed by early childhood educators. Embedding knowledge and culture of our First Nation's People is a key inclusion of the Early Years and Development Framework, and we hope that we will continue to provide resources that will support educators to learn more. A huge thank you to AJ Williams-Tchen, Aboriginal Consultant, and Aboriginal Ambassadors Aunty Leanne Sumner, Ash Williams-Tchen, Bindi James and Sherry Johnstone, who have been key to AGECS' learning and development. I would also like to thank Maree Wiggins (Past President) who took over the role of Chair of the group from Alannah Dore who has led the group since its inception.

Alannah Dore, AGECS Past President, has been key to the development of the RAP, and her passion in supporting educators to understand more about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture has been key to her time at AGECS. After over 10 years as a Council Member, Alannah will be stepping down at this AGM, although she will be staying on the RAP subcommittee. When I took over the presidency from Alannah, she had worked tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure that AGECS entered a new era. She was key to updating our branding, marketing and the recruitment of the contractors who are vital to our daily operations. I give my heartfelt thanks to Alannah for the support she has given me, and for her constant enthusiasm for early childhood and reconciliation no matter how tricky things get. Thank you Alannah: your smiling face will be missed from our regular meetings but we are glad that you will be still be supporting us.

Volunteers are so very important to AGECS and we would not have an organisation without them. I would like to thank the Fellowship Grant for Leadership and Change subcommittee who again this year have reviewed multiple applications enabling early childhood professionals to further their professional development and share their learning with the early childhood community. Coral Campbell has again ably led this group and helped to guide our applicants through to a successful conclusion. Thank you sincerely to the fellowship committee for their time. We have also worked as closely as possible again this year with the Foundation trustees and the Warrawong and Forest Hill committees and acknowledge the work and support they offer to AGECS and its members. We would welcome interest from any of our members who have interest in joining our council, or supporting the committees, in particular teachers and educators working in the field.

One other Council Member who deserves a special mention this year is Wendy Grenfell who stepped into the role of Trustee for AGECS, served on the Fellowship Advisory Committee and edited AUDAX. The Spring edition of AUDAX will be the last as editor for Wendy. Wendy has edited AUDAX for a very long time, and she has always put her heart and soul into the journal that you receive. I think everyone would agree with me that she outdid herself on her special edition 100 Years of AGECS journal. It was an honour to be

included in such a great read. I am so glad that Wendy will still be a council member, just readjusting her focus for the next year. Thank you so much Wendy.

After my second year in the role of President and two years as Vice President, I will be stepping down from the role. I have very much enjoyed the role, however it is time to place a little more focus on my family and own professional growth in 2024. Taking on the presidency in AGECS 100th year was a huge honour, and I was so very grateful to be able to lead the celebrations, witness the outcomes of our 100-year grants which made such a difference to so many services and to lead the planning of and completion of the strategic plan. The plan will ensure that the organisation's key values led our decision-making over the next few years and that, as a small volunteer group, we are best able to meet the early childhood communities' needs. I hope that in my role as past president I will be able to have a little more time to participate in activities at AGECS such as the development of professional development for the leaders in the early childhood community. It has been a pleasure to work alongside like-minded, passionate early childhood educators and professionals who are all committed to supporting educators, building resources and capacity to allow the best outcomes for children and families. My truly whole-hearted thanks to Melissa Adam who has stepped into the role of Vice President halfway through this year, and to Alex for always answering my questions. But finally, the President's role would have not been nearly as pleasurable without the professionalism, humour, support and actions of Liz Potter. Thanks Liz!

I look forward to seeing what 2024 brings for us all. I hope that it is a year in which we are able to balance work and life; that we are able to stay positive while we review what is needed in our educator roles, and how we can ensure the best outcomes for children while we face the challenges of reform, and families' needs. Take care of yourselves and each other. Kindness will be the key.

**Sarah O'Donnell**  
**President 2022-2023**

## **AGECS RAP Committee Report 2023**

I acknowledge and respect the traditional custodians of all the countries and language groups on this land. I pay my respects to all the Elders past, present and emerging. I acknowledge all Aboriginal and Torres Islander peoples present at the 2023 AGM.

Currently AGECS is working on an Innovate RAP to implement reconciliation initiatives that develop a deeper understanding of building relationships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

*"An Innovate RAP focuses on developing and strengthening relationships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, engaging staff and stakeholders in reconciliation, and developing and piloting innovative strategies to empower Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples".*  
Reconciliation Australia

AGECS RAP Committee acknowledges the generous guidance of Aboriginal Ambassadors from its inception, their involvement will always be in the foundation of AGECS commitment to Reconciliation.

AGECS aims to commit to being an organisation whose advancement to reconciliation is a positive model for Early Childhood professionals.

AGECS website has excellent resources for Reconciliation and Reconciliation Action Plan. This information and guides are available to all on [www.agecs.org.au/rap](http://www.agecs.org.au/rap).

**Maree Wiggins**

**Chair, Innovate RAP Committee**

## **The AGECS Fellowship Program for Leadership and Change Report 2023**

The AGECS Fellowship Advisory Committee (FAC) has been active across 2023, processing two application periods in March and in August. The FAC met firstly on Tuesday, 14 March 2023 (5:00 –7:00 pm) to discuss the applicants and again on Thursday, 17 August 2023 (11:00 am–12:00 pm).

### ***Fellowship Application Process 2023***

**Round One** – The Application Process for the Fellowship Program for Leadership and Change was opened from early February until 10 March 2023, and was advertised on the AGECS webpage and through the AGECS newsletter *inForm*. Five applications were received. After a Fellowship Advisory Committee meeting and determination, a decision was made to offer grants to three individuals, after they responded to several questions concerning their applications. The successful applicants were:

- Bryony Catlin – **\$4,159.64** *Relational Pedagogy Project: Enhancing relationships and attachment across early care settings using the Circle of Security Classroom Approach*
- Marjone Zeeman – **\$9,104.58** *Curriculum Development for the Inclusion of a Companion Animal*
- Iwande Suvanmani – **\$10,000** *Teaching Journey Podcast*

Unfortunately, Iwande Suvanmani withdrew her application due to ethical considerations in the processing of her material.

The other two unsuccessful applicants were advised to re-consider their applications in light of feedback and invited to resubmit in 2024.

**Round Two** – Applications opened in July and closed on 11 August. Two applications were received and were reviewed by the committee in mid-August. One application was deemed as suitable with the project having potential to meet the criteria of the Fellowship grant, whereas the second application was considered unsuitable as it did not meet the criteria. The successful applicant was:

- Lydia Bustin – **\$8,500** *Transforming pedagogy and practice with a Reggio Emilia inspired lens*. The FAC asked Lydia to include some videoing and increased the budget to \$10,000 to accommodate this additional task.

Note – Lydia had been successful for a grant in 2020 but had been unable to take up the project due to COVID. Some money was refunded from her earlier grant, although the accommodation facility refused to provide a refund.

### **Other FAC business**

Across 2023, the FAC committee members have been working with Alex Heard (Engagement Coordinator) to rationalise processes to better align with AGECS Council meeting dates and requirements. Documentation has been standardised using past templates that have been vigorously reviewed and revamped. Timelines for application processes have been reconfigured and adjusted. With this now clarified, all members of AGECS (committee, applicants) will have access to a better process and clear expectations of the process.

Week(s)	Action
0	Application process opens
5	Application process closes and applications sent to FAC members for assessment
6	Fellowship Advisory Committee meets and determines merits of each application
7	Unsuccessful applicants notified
9/10	President sends funding information to Foundation, FAC Chair informs successful applicants. Applicants also receive AGECS Agreement documentation via DocuSign and need to be return this within 10 business days.
11/12	Funds transferred once the Agreement has been signed and returned. Grant money paid out.

### Status of pending Fellowship grants

The Chair of the FAC has been in contact recently with past recipients to clarify status of their pending Fellowship Awards.

Participant/year	Project	2022	2023
Tania Sangiorgio 2020/2021	<i>To explore the community cultural approach to meals which is embedded in the Reggio Emilia preschools through their education program for ECEC.</i>	Project progressing. Reggio Emilia tours 14-18 Nov.	Successfully completed.
Naomi Falconer 2020/2021	<i>Working with preschool educators and foundation teachers to build children's resilience and sense of agency, using the Pyramid Model.</i>	Waiting on information re 2023 conference in US. <b>Wants to postpone until 2023.</b>	In progress.
Lydia Bustin 2019/2020	<i>Transforming pedagogy and practice: A welcoming of possibility.</i>	<b>Cannot commit this year – requesting extension to 2023.</b> Commitment of accommodation funding, \$1,304.94 has been lost. Qantas refunded \$1,463.	Successfully reapplied 2023. Project to proceed in 2024.



Nicole Lees 2019/2020	<i>Learning from our neighbours: Spiritual learning guided by indigenous cultures.</i>	Ongoing communication with Nicole (2022). \$1,701 held for conference and flights to/from NZ. Nicole has credit with one airline but the other airline will not honour flight. Conference not offered in 2022 or 2023.	Flights transferred to Nov 2023, with the anticipation of completing project then.
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*Coral J. Campbell*

**Coral Campbell,**

**Chair of the Fellowship Advisory Committee**

## **Report from the Trustees of the Foundation of Graduates in Early Childhood Studies**

### **Year ended June 30 2023**

We are now more or less out of the Covid period although our in-person meetings were still limited in the past year and the investment markets are suffering from "Covid hangover" issues such as the sharp increases in interest rates.

2023 was another challenging year, not only for the Foundation and all the people and organisations it supports, but for the community as a whole and indeed the whole world. However, in the past year there have been very different challenges compared with the Covid years, created by the ongoing impact of the Covid era restrictions and the war in Ukraine. That said as we are headed towards the end of 2023 it is now easier to look at the world with a glass half full perspective than it has been in the past two to three years.

We finally had the opportunity to have an in-person trustee meeting late in the financial year after only having virtual ones for a couple of years. The committees also were able to meet in person and use the upgraded applications system for the second year. As with the initial year it worked very well with most of the initial small bugs from the first year fixed but a few more improvement opportunities found – most of which have now been addressed. As we stated last year everyone, especially the Trustees, are very pleased with the improvements, although there will remain to be some fine tuning done in the next couple of years as we find more improvement opportunities.

As a foundation we have recognised that this remains a challenging time for all the organisations that we support, and the community in general, and therefore decided to not cut back on the amount we granted, for a third year in a row, although pleasingly the income generated by the Foundation ended up being back to pre-Covid levels after a couple of lean years. However, we did not know that would be the case when the grants were decided as the grants are always determined at the start of each financial year.

For the 2023 year we budgeted to spend more than we expect to earn but not by as much as the previous two years. The result however was that income was about \$50,000 more than expected as investment conditions improved and we only overspent by about \$10,000. The Foundation believes that in the current unprecedented times it is prudent to err on the side of generosity, at least initially, and rely on the good graces of the grant recipients to contact us and reschedule (or possibly repay) if the funds cannot be used for the granted purpose or within the expected timeframe. That has happened in the past year and we have been very pleased with the grantees' response to this approach.

Despite the Covid situation and the challenging economic and global times with the impact of the war in the Ukraine, and paying out slightly more than we earned in income, the foundation has had a good year again. The Foundation's net assets rose slightly from just under \$8.88M in June 2022 to just under \$9.3M in June 2023 to, despite paying out over \$440,000 during the year. We are very confident of the strong position of the foundation's investment portfolio and its ability to continue to make grants at the rate we have been doing through this difficult period.

However, these facts about the Foundation's recent performance understate what it has achieved since its inception. It has been some years since we last presented a full history of the Foundation's achievements so it is worth updating that history.

The Forest Hill Foundation (as it was then) was established in March 1995 with a capital sum of \$1,600,000. In the 9 years to July 2004, it had made 342 grants totalling \$1,166,843 and at that time had a market value of \$2,101,059.

In September 2005 the Foundation received the \$2M from the Warrawong side. From its inception, in 2005, and counting the grants just paid for the current 2024 year, the Warrawong side has now granted \$3,131,681; YES! much more than the whole amount initially put into the Foundation on the Warrawong side.

The total amount granted on the Forest Hill side, from inception to this year, including the amounts just granted so far for the 2024 year, is \$5,124,116, over three times the initial sum invested in the Foundation in 1995.

Not only that, but the capital value of the Foundation as a whole, as reported above is now just under \$9.3M compared to the total capital initially put into the Foundation from the two sides of \$3.6M.

It is a remarkable testament to those members of the Graduates Council who had the foresight to establish the Foundation from the proceeds of the Forest Hill sale and those members on the council, and their advisors, in the early 2000's who did the same with the Warrawong proceeds. Their vision and commitment to the early childhood sector, to date, has turned that \$3.6M invested from the sale of the Forest Hill and Warrawong properties into grants to the sector of \$8.25M plus a corpus currently sitting at \$9.3M which is now granting almost \$500,000 in new grants each year.

A full list of all the grant recipients is shown at the end of this report. We will continue to make grants in excess of income earned while the conditions require this approach, and the grants made in the 2022 year (decisions have been finalised and most of the grants made) are again slightly in excess of what we expect to earn in income over the year.

The way we have run the Foundation's finances is to try to balance current needs of our grant recipients with their future needs. Each year we try to spend the current income on current needs of grant recipients and put aside any capital growth to provide for future grant recipients. However, in tough times like in the past couple of years, that enables us to dip into those reserves to maintain our level of support despite lower income. The amount of income we will receive this coming year is still uncertain but, as mentioned above, is likely to be slightly less than we grant. We will report on the outcome in next year's report but are very confident that it will not have a meaningful impact on the foundation's long-term prospects.

At the time of writing this report the assets of the Foundation are back down to about \$9M after paying out the 2023 / 2024 grants totalling just over \$450,000. The details of these and any other grants made through the year will be provided in next year's report.

Finally, I am pleased to report that Wendy Grenfell was appointed as a trustee has even been able to attend an in-person meeting of trustees. We are all very pleased to have Wendy's knowledge and experience, especially from being on an advisory committee and seeing it from that side, to assist in running the foundation.

The foundation makes most of its grants at the start of each financial year.

**Below is the full list of grants made for the year this report covers.**

### **Forest Hill Grants 2022/23**

The following organizations were recipients of those grants totalling **\$221,550** were paid to:

Banyule Toy Library Inc., Barmah Kindergarten and Occasional Care, BPA Children's Services, Bullsbrook Toy Library Inc., Canterbury Area Toy Library, Carlisle/Victoria Park Toy Library, Carnegie Toy Library, Coldstream Preschool, Drummond Street Services, Emerald Hill Toy Library, Ethnic Community Services Co-op Ltd., Geelong West Toy Library, Girls Guides Assoc of Vic, Goldfields Regional Toy Library Inc., Goodstart Early Learning Ltd, Grovedale Toy Library, Kinglake Ranges Children's Centre, Knox and District Toy Library Inc., Kununurra Toy & Puzzle Library Inc., Lilian Cannam Kindergarten, Mainly Music Australia Ltd, Manning Community Toy Library, Mundaring Toy Library Inc., Northam Toy Library Inc., Northern Inner Multiple Birth Assoc., Oakgrove Community Centre Inc., Parkdale Preschool Association Inc., Pied Piper Toy Library, Reading out of Poverty Inc., River Nile Learning Centre, Tarneit Central Kindergarten, The Bayside Toy Library Inc., The Geraldton Community Toy Library, Tiny Tots Toy Library Ass Inc. Toybox Mildura Toy Library Inc., Vision Australia Limited, VP Community Holdings Limited, Wangaratta West Kindergarten, Wellington Toy Library, West Footscray Neighbourhood House Association Inc., Willetton Toy Library, Wyndham Little Buddies Toy Library Inc., YMCA of Bundaberg Limited, Zoe Support Australia

### **Warrawong grants 2022/23**

The following organizations were recipients of those grants totalling **\$221,942** were paid to:

Acacia Indochinese Comm Supp. Assoc. Inc., Biala Peninsula Inc, City of Whittlesea, Coburg Children's Centre Inc., Edith Cowan University, Environmental Education in Early Childhood Inc., Goulburn Region Preschool Association Inc., Kinglake Ranges Children's Centre, Lipscombe Park Kindergarten, Macquarie University, Mallee Family Care, Melbourne Montessori School Limited, Poet's Grove Family and Children's Centre, Raleigh Street Community Children's Centre, Reading out Poverty Inc., St. Catherine's Early Education Centre, Tarralla Kindergarten Association Inc., The Y Ballarat, Uniting (Victoria and Tasmania) Ltd, Uniting Family Day Care-Wimmera., Uniting Victoria and Tasmania, (Ballarat, Barwon, and Western Melbourne Region), Uniting Victoria and Tasmania., Uniting Victoria Tasmania (Wimmera-Western Vic Region), Vision Australia Limited, Yarralea Children's Centre Inc., Zoe Support Australia.

The two Advisory Committees again did a remarkable job processing, evaluating and selecting from among the large number of worthy applications. They met their deadlines without fuss, ensuring that funds got out to the early childhood field in the very trying times.

Hugh Hodges

Chair of the Foundation  
On behalf of the Trustees  
September 2023



**The Association of Graduates in Early Childhood Studies**  
ACN 004 275 709

## **Financial Statements**

**For the Year Ended 30 June 2023**

# **The Association of Graduates in Early Childhood Studies**

ACN 004 275 709

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# The Association of Graduates in Early Childhood Studies

ACN 004 275 709

## Directors' Report

30 June 2023

The directors present their report on The Association of Graduates in Early Childhood Studies for the financial year ended 30 June 2023.

### General information

#### Directors

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

Names	Position	Dates
Ms Sarah O'Donnell	President	Elected November 2021
Ms Nichola Marriott	Honorary Secretary	Elected November 2021
Ms Emma Boag	Honorary Treasurer	Elected November 2022
Ms Sophia Patitsas	Honorary Treasurer	Elected November 2021, resigned November 2022

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

#### Company secretary

Trevor Jewell had been the company secretary since 2012; he resigned on 6th July 2022.

Elizabeth Potter has been company secretary since 7th July 2022.

#### Principal activities

The principal activity of The Association of Graduates in Early Childhood Studies during the financial year was to provide professional development and networking opportunities for the profession of early childhood education. The Company derived significant revenue from its investment activities which enabled the funding of a number of programs in pursuit of this principal activity.

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

#### Short term objectives

The Company's short term objectives are to:

- Ensure financial sustainability so that long term objectives can be met.

# **The Association of Graduates in Early Childhood Studies**

ACN 004 275 709

## **Directors' Report**

**30 June 2023**

### **General information (continued)**

#### **Long term objectives**

The Company's long term objectives are to ensure:

- AGECS supports the Early Childhood profession through a number of professional learning opportunities to further understanding and knowledge of child development and learning so that all children have access to high standards of care and education in Early Childhood settings.
- AGECS leads the provision of innovative and challenging learning to Early Childhood professionals to develop quality early childhood settings. These settings enhance learning and developmental achievements for all children with the most significant impact being on the outcomes of children experiencing vulnerability.

#### **Strategy for achieving the objectives**

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

- Regular council meetings where quarterly financial reports are presented showing month to date, year to date and budgeted information. The reports also show the current values of cash on hand, term deposits, hybrid/fixed interest securities and shares.
- The Company has a finance sub-committee that reviews the investment strategy to determine the degree of diversification, risk and likely returns from investments, liquidity of assets and the ability to pay costs as they occur.

#### **Performance measures**

- The Company measures its own performance through the use of quantitative and qualitative benchmarks. The benchmarks are used by the directors to assess the financial sustainability of the company and whether the company's short-term and long-term objectives are being achieved.
- The Company has set in place an annual review of the mission statement and the short and long term objectives set for the year. The aim of the review is to ascertain if the objectives support the mission statement.

#### **Operating results and review of operations for the year**

##### **Operating result**

The deficit of the Company for the financial year amounted to \$ (54,149)(2022: deficit \$ (208,754)).



# The Association of Graduates in Early Childhood Studies

ACN 004 275 709

## Directors' Report

30 June 2023

### Other items

### Significant changes in state of affairs

The following significant changes in the state of affairs of the Company occurred during the financial year:

AGECS continued to be affected by the COVID-19 pandemic in 2022 and the first half of 2023, with all meetings and events being held online. As a result, AGECS continued to develop its online systems for member communications and events to ensure the organisation reached a wider cohort and diversity of members across Victoria. AGECS also celebrated its 100 Year Anniversary in 2022 with a special edition of AUDAX, a celebratory lunch, and the disbursement in the 2022 calendar year of over \$70,000 in 100 Year Anniversary Grants and eleven "100 Years of Excellence" Awards to the early childhood profession. AGECS also commenced its strategic planning process to guide the association's future engagement with the early childhood education profession.

### Events after the reporting date

No matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the Company, the results of those operations or the state of affairs of the Company in future financial years.

### Environmental issues

The Company's operations are not regulated by any significant environmental regulations under a law of the Commonwealth or of a state or territory of Australia.

### Future developments

The Company expects to maintain the present status and level of operations and hence there are no likely developments in the entity's operations.

### Information on directors

Ms Sarah O'Donnell

Qualifications

Experience

President (from 6th November 2021, Council member since 2017)

Post Graduate Diploma in Early Childhood, Certified Practitioner EFT, Certificate III in Meditation Teaching, Tuning into Kids and Teens facilitator.

After graduating from Melbourne University, Sarah spent a year living and teaching in London before settling into the city of Knox as a preschool teacher. Since this initial teaching role, Sarah has worked as a PSFO coordinator, been Team Leader of Specialist Children's Service for the Department of Education and has overseen the build and establishment of an integrated children's service which included early learning programs, MCH, and a toy library. For the last few years Sarah has worked in senior leadership positions managing Children's Services Clusters and managing the trial of the Short Term Kindergarten Inclusion Support Program. Currently Sarah works at Uniting part time while establishing her own business Empowered Living working with Educators and families to reduce their stress as a Certified EFT (Tapping) Practitioner and meditation teacher.

# The Association of Graduates in Early Childhood Studies

ACN 004 275 709

## Directors' Report

30 June 2023

### Information on directors (continued)

Ms Nichola Marriott	Honorary Secretary (from 6th November 2021, Council member since 2019)
Qualifications	Diploma of Teaching (Early Childhood) Master of Education (Early Childhood)
Experience	Nichola has taught in a variety of settings including rural Victoria, remote WA, Singapore and suburban Melbourne. She has been a PSFO and a pedagogical leader and is currently sharing her passion for inclusion by working at Yooralla in the KIS programme.
Ms Emma Boag	Honorary Treasurer (from 6th November 2022, Council member since 2021)
Qualifications	Bachelor of Education (Early Childhood)
Experience	Emma is an experienced teacher and leader. She has gained an excellent understanding of the characteristics of young children's learning through extensive experience teaching and including children 0-8 in different contexts. She has taught and led in kindergarten and school settings in Australia and the UK. Emma has a sound knowledge of teaching and leading teachers using different curriculum frameworks, a perceptive and innovative leadership style and a drive to progress children's outcomes. Her current role is with Community Kinders Plus as the Leader of Pedagogy, supporting teachers and educators to deliver high quality early learning to kindergarten aged children.

### Meetings of directors

During the financial year, 6 meetings of directors (including committees of directors) were held. Attendances by each director during the year were as follows:

	Directors' Meetings	
	Number eligible to attend	Number attended
Ms Sarah O'Donnell	6	6
Ms Nichola Marriott	6	6
Ms Emma Boag	6	5
Ms Sophia Patitsas	3	3

### Indemnification and insurance of officers and auditors

No indemnities have been given or insurance premiums paid, during or since the end of the financial year, for any person who is or has been an officer or auditor of The Association of Graduates in Early Childhood Studies.

During the year the entity has paid premiums to insure directors and officers against liabilities for costs and expenses incurred by them in defending any legal proceeding arising out of their conduct while acting in the capacity of officer of the entity, other than conduct involving a wilful breach of duty in relation to the company.

The amount of the premium was \$1,232 (2022: \$1,205)

# The Association of Graduates in Early Childhood Studies

ACN 004 275 709

## Directors' Report

30 June 2023

### Proceedings on behalf of company

No person has applied for leave of court under Section 237 of the *Corporations Act 2001* to bring proceedings on behalf of the Company or intervene in any proceedings to which the Company is a party for the purpose of taking responsibility on behalf of the Company for all or any part of those proceedings.

### Auditor's independence declaration

The auditor's independence declaration in accordance with Subsection 60-40 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* for the year ended 30 June 2023 has been received and can be found on page 6 of the financial report.

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



Director: .....

Ms Sarah O'Donnell

Dated this .....9th..... day of October 2023

**The Association of Graduates in Early Childhood Studies**  
ACN 004 275 709

**AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION UNDER SUBDIVISION 60-40 OF THE AUSTRALIAN CHARITIES AND NOT-FOR-PROFITS COMMISSION ACT 2012 TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE ASSOCIATION OF GRADUATES IN EARLY CHILDHOOD STUDIES**

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2023 there have been no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.



**Nexia Melbourne Audit Pty Ltd  
Melbourne**



**Andrew S. Wehrens  
Director**

**Dated: this 9th day of October 2023**

**Advisory. Tax. Audit.**

Registered Audit Company 291969

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Liability limited under a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation.

## The Association of Graduates in Early Childhood Studies

ACN 004 275 709

### Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

		2023	2022
	Note	\$	\$
Revenue	4	75,536	158,523
Other revenue	4	30,249	(47,251)
Fair value remeasurement gains / (losses) on financial assets		11,662	(133,413)
Administrative, conference and program expenses		(171,596)	(186,613)
<b>Surplus / (Deficit) before income tax</b>		<b>(54,149)</b>	<b>(208,754)</b>
Income tax expense	2.2.	-	-
<b>Surplus / (Deficit) for the year</b>		<b>(54,149)</b>	<b>(208,754)</b>
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year</b>		<b>(54,149)</b>	<b>(208,754)</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

# The Association of Graduates in Early Childhood Studies

ACN 004 275 709

## Statement of Financial Position

As At 30 June 2023

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
<b>ASSETS</b>			
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	5	71,812	113,697
Trade and other receivables	6	23,530	44,781
Other financial assets	7	1,355,878	1,338,362
Prepayments	8	2,377	8,476
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		<u>1,453,597</u>	<u>1,505,316</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>1,453,597</u>	<u>1,505,316</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Accruals and other payables	9	10,590	8,160
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>10,590</u>	<u>8,160</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES		<u>10,590</u>	<u>8,160</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>1,443,007</u>	<u>1,497,156</u>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Retained surpluses		<u>1,443,007</u>	<u>1,497,156</u>
TOTAL EQUITY		<u>1,443,007</u>	<u>1,497,156</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

## The Association of Graduates in Early Childhood Studies

ACN 004 275 709

### Statement of Changes in Equity For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

#### 2023

	Retained Surpluses
	\$
Balance at 1 July 2022	1,497,156
Deficit for the year	(54,149)
Balance at 30 June 2023	1,443,007

#### 2022

Balance at 1 July 2021	1,705,910
Deficit for the year	(208,754)
Balance at 30 June 2022	1,497,156

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

# The Association of Graduates in Early Childhood Studies

ACN 004 275 709

## Statement of Cash Flows For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

	2023	2022
Note	\$	\$
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:</b>		
Receipts from members and customers	5,577	11,541
Payments to suppliers and contractors	(163,134)	(191,390)
Dividends, distributions and imputation credits received	96,392	120,744
Interest received	2,830	1,127
Net cash (used in) operating activities	15 (58,335)	(57,978)
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:</b>		
Proceeds from sale of available-for-sale investments	177,289	178,988
Purchase of investments	(160,839)	(179,372)
Net cash provided by / (used in) investing activities	16,450	(384)
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents held	(41,885)	(58,362)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	113,697	172,059
Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year	5 71,812	113,697

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.



# The Association of Graduates in Early Childhood Studies

ACN 004 275 709

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

The financial report covers The Association of Graduates in Early Childhood Studies as an individual entity. The Association of Graduates in Early Childhood Studies is a not-for-profit Association, registered and domiciled in Australia.

The functional and presentation currency of The Association of Graduates in Early Childhood Studies is Australian dollars.

Comparatives are consistent with prior years, unless otherwise stated.

### 1 Basis of Preparation

The financial statements are general purpose financial statements that have been prepared in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards - Simplified Disclosures and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012.

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs modified, where applicable, by the measurement at fair value of selected non-current assets, financial assets and financial liabilities.

Significant accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are presented below and are consistent with prior reporting periods unless otherwise stated.

### 2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

#### 2.1. Adoption of new and revised accounting standards

The Company has adopted all standards which became effective for the first time at 30 June 2023, the adoption of these standards has not caused any material adjustments to the reported financial position, performance or cash flow of the Company.

#### 2.2. Income Tax

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

#### 2.3. Revenue and other income

Income distributions and capital distributions received from unit trusts are recognised as at the date the unit value is quoted ex-distribution. Dividends in direct equity holdings are recognised on the date payable.

Imputation credits in respect of distributions and dividends received are recognised as revenue as at the date the share is quoted ex-dividend. As the application for the refund of excess imputation credits can only be made after year end, the applicable revenue is accrued for at year end.

Profit and loss on the disposal of financial assets is based on sale price less historical cost.

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

## **Notes to the Financial Statements**

**For the Year Ended 30 June 2023**

### **2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)**

#### **2.4. 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.

The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included as part of receivables or payables in the statement of financial position.

#### **2.5. Share buy-backs**

The managed funds and securities that the Company has invested in may participate in share buy-backs, where appropriate, and receive the proceeds in the form of capital and fully franked dividend component. The full proceeds received by the Company, as part of the distribution income of the Company, (including franking credits) are applied as income. For accounting purposes, the dividend and capital component are treated as income.

#### **2.6. Fair value of assets and liabilities**

The Company measures some of its assets and liabilities at fair value. Fair value is the price the Company would receive to sell an asset or would have to pay to transfer a liability in an orderly (i.e. unforced) transaction between independent, knowledgeable and willing market participants at the measurement date.

As fair value is a market-based measure, the closest equivalent observable market pricing information is used to determine fair value. Adjustments to market values may be made having regard to the characteristics of the specific asset or liability. The fair values of assets and liabilities that are not traded in an active market are determined using one or more valuation techniques. These valuation techniques maximise, to the extent possible, the use of observable market data.

To the extent possible, market information is extracted from either the principal market for the asset or liability (i.e. the market with the greatest volume and level of activity for the asset or liability) or, in the absence of such a market, the most advantageous market available to the entity at the end of the reporting period (i.e. the market that maximises the receipts from the sale of the asset or minimises the payments made to transfer the liability, after taking into account transaction costs and transport costs).

For non-financial assets, the fair value measurement also takes into account a market participant's ability to use the asset in its highest and best use or to sell it to another market participant that would use the asset in its highest and best use.

The fair value of liabilities and the entity's own equity instruments (excluding those related to share-based payment arrangements) may be valued, where there is no observable market price in relation to the transfer of such financial instruments, by reference to observable market information where such instruments are held as assets. Where this information is not available, other valuation techniques are adopted and, where significant, are detailed in the respective note to the financial statements.

## **Notes to the Financial Statements**

**For the Year Ended 30 June 2023**

### **2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)**

#### **2.7. Financial instruments**

For comparative year

Financial instruments are recognised initially using trade date accounting, i.e. on the date that the Company becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

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

##### *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.

##### *Fair value through other comprehensive income (FVOCI)*

##### *Equity instruments*

The Company has a number of strategic investments in listed and unlisted entities over which they do not have significant influence nor control. The Company has made an irrevocable election to classify these equity investments as fair value through other comprehensive income as they are not held for trading purposes.

These investments are carried at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in other comprehensive income (financial asset reserve). On disposal any balance in the financial asset reserve is transferred to retained earnings and is not reclassified to profit or loss.

Dividends are recognised as income in profit or loss unless the dividend clearly represents a recovery of part of the cost of the investment. Other net gains and losses are recognised in other comprehensive income (OCI).

## **Notes to the Financial Statements**

### **For the Year Ended 30 June 2023**

## **2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)**

### **2.7. Financial instruments (continued)**

#### **Financial assets (continued)**

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 (refer to hedging accounting policy for derivatives designated as hedging instruments).

The Company holds derivative financial instruments to hedge its foreign currency and interest rate risk exposures. Embedded derivatives are separated from the host contract and accounted for separately if the host contract is not a financial asset and certain criteria are met.

#### *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 asset is more than 90 days past due.

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.

## **Notes to the Financial Statements**

### **For the Year Ended 30 June 2023**

#### **2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)**

##### **2.7. Financial instruments (continued)**

###### **Financial assets (continued)**

###### *Trade receivables*

Impairment of trade receivables 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 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.

###### **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, bank and other loans and lease liabilities.

##### **2.8. Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand, demand deposits and short-term investments which are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

## Notes to the Financial Statements

### For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

#### 3 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 - impairment

The Company assesses impairment at the end of each reporting period by evaluating conditions specific to the Company that may be indicative of impairment triggers. Recoverable amounts of relevant assets are reassessed using value-in-use calculations which incorporate various key assumptions.

#### 4 Revenue and Other Income

##### Revenue from continuing operations

	2023 \$	2022 \$
Revenue		
- Dividend and distribution income	73,991	146,982
- Memberships	1,545	2,918
- GST re-imbursements	-	8,623
	<b>75,536</b>	<b>158,523</b>
Other Revenue		
- Gain / (Loss) on sale of investments	22,304	(48,398)
- Interest income	3,913	1,147
- Other income	4,032	-
	<b>30,249</b>	<b>(47,251)</b>
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>105,785</b>	<b>111,272</b>

#### 5 Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash at bank	32,566	9,892
Cash Trust accounts	39,246	103,805
	<b>71,812</b>	<b>113,697</b>

#### 6 Trade and Other Receivables

CURRENT		
GST receivable	1,846	1,779
Imputation credits receivable	20,331	42,732
Interest receivable	1,353	270
<b>Total current trade and other receivables</b>	<b>23,530</b>	<b>44,781</b>

# The Association of Graduates in Early Childhood Studies

ACN 004 275 709

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

### 7 Financial Assets

#### 7.1. Financial assets at fair value

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
CURRENT		
Shares in listed entities - fair value	<b>1,355,878</b>	1,338,362

#### 7.2. Assets available for sale

	2023 Market Value	2023 Cost	2022 Market Value	2022 Cost
	\$	\$	\$	\$
ANZ Capital Notes 6	70,749	70,000	69,132	70,000
Argo Investments Ltd	74,688	70,669	75,029	70,669
ASX Ltd	89,460	50,190	116,028	50,190
Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Ltd	20,746	26,180	18,065	25,141
Australian Foundation Investment Company Ltd	198,073	148,360	210,400	148,360
BetaShares Global Sustainability Leaders ETF - CH	30,073	30,133	-	-
Coles Group Ltd	35,772	11,940	34,587	11,940
Commonwealth Bank of Australia	58,558	30,955	52,782	30,955
Commonwealth Bank of Australia - PERLS XII	60,041	60,096	89,964	90,000
Macquarie Bank Capital Notes 2	14,033	13,300	13,864	13,300
Macquarie Bank Ltd - Cap Note 2-Bbsw+2.90% Perp Non-Cum Red T-09-28	39,920	40,176	-	-
Macquarie Bank Capital Notes 3	51,750	50,000	51,400	50,000
MFF Capital Investments Ltd	95,228	70,117	79,118	70,117
MFF Convertible Pref Shares	-	-	7	-
Munro Climate Change Leaders Fund	30,240	29,921	-	-
NAB Capital Notes 3	93,553	90,000	93,069	90,000
NAB Capital Notes 5	81,872	80,000	80,400	80,000
National Australia Bank Ltd	66,637	63,926	69,215	63,926
Stockland	28,835	30,111	25,830	30,111
Telstra Group Ltd	43,125	34,716	38,611	34,716
Transurban Group	58,511	50,465	59,044	50,465
Washington H Soul Pattinson & Company Ltd	-	-	64,123	64,984
Wesfarmers Ltd	95,818	25,477	81,389	25,477
Woolworths Group Ltd	18,196	11,143	16,305	11,143
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,355,878</b>	<b>1,087,875</b>	<b>1,338,362</b>	<b>1,081,494</b>

## Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

### 8 Other non-financial assets

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
CURRENT		
Prepayments	2,377	8,476

### 9 Trade and Other Payables

CURRENT		
Accruals	8,980	8,160
Other payables	1,610	-
	10,590	8,160

### 10 Financial Risk Management

The Company is exposed to a variety of financial risks through its use of financial instruments.

The Company's overall risk management plan seeks to minimise potential adverse effects due to the unpredictability of financial markets.

The main purpose of non-derivative financial instruments is to raise finance for the Company operations.

The Company does not have any derivative instruments as at 30 June 2023.

The most significant financial risks to which the Company is exposed to are described below:

#### Specific risks

- Interest rate risk**  
 The company has no debt instruments in place which are subject to fluctuations in interest rates.
- Foreign currency risk**  
 The company is not exposed to fluctuations in foreign currencies
- Liquidity risk**  
 The company manages liquidity risk by monitoring forecast cash flows and ensuring that adequate borrowing facilities are maintained.
- Credit risk**  
 The maximum exposure to credit risk, excluding the value of any collateral or other security, at balance date to recognised financial assets, is the carrying amount, net of any provisions for impairment of those assets, as disclosed in the balance sheet and notes to the financial statements.

The Company does not have any material credit risk exposure to any single receivable or group of receivables under financial instruments entered into by the company.



## Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

### 10 Financial Risk Management (continued)

#### Financial instruments used

The principal categories of financial instrument used by the Company are:

- Trade receivables
- Cash at bank
- Investments in listed shares
- Trade and other payables
- Term Deposits

#### (i) Interest rate risk

Financial instrument composition and maturity analysis

The Company's exposure to interest rate risk, which is the risk that a financial instrument's value will fluctuate as a result of changes in market interest rates and the effective weighted average interest rates on classes of financial assets and financial liabilities, is as follows:

	Weighted Average Effective Interest Rate		Floating Interest Rate		Non-interest Bearing		Total	
	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022
	%	%	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>Financial Assets:</b>								
Cash and cash equivalents	0.54	0.24	71,812	113,697	-	-	71,812	113,697
<b>Total Financial Assets</b>			<b>71,812</b>	<b>113,697</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>71,812</b>	<b>113,697</b>
<b>Financial Liabilities:</b>								
Accruals & other payables	-	-	-	-	10,590	8,160	10,590	8,160
<b>Total Financial Liabilities</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>10,590</b>	<b>8,160</b>	<b>10,590</b>	<b>8,160</b>

#### Net fair values

For all assets and liabilities, the net fair value approximates their carrying value. No financial assets and financial liabilities are readily traded on organised markets in standardised form other than listed investments. Financial assets where the carrying amount exceeds net fair values have not been written down as the economic entity intends to hold these assets to maturity.

The aggregate net fair value and carrying amounts of financial assets and financial liabilities are disclosed in the balance sheet and in the notes to and forming part of the financial statements. Aggregate net fair values and carrying amounts of financial assets and financial liabilities at balance date.

# The Association of Graduates in Early Childhood Studies

ACN 004 275 709

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

### 10 Financial Risk Management (continued)

#### Net fair values (continued)

	2023 Carrying Amount	2023 Net Fair Value	2022 Carrying Amount	2022 Net Fair Value
<b>Financial Assets</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
Shares in listed entities	1,355,878	1,355,878	1,338,362	1,338,382

### 11 Members' Guarantee

The Company is incorporated under the *Corporations Act 2001* and is a Company limited by guarantee. If the Company is wound up, the constitution states that each member is required to contribute a maximum of \$ 10 each towards meeting any outstanding obligations of the Company. At 30 June 2023 the number of members was 1,107 (2022: 1,060).

### 12 Key Management Personnel Disclosures

The remuneration paid to key management personnel of the Company is \$Nil (2022: \$Nil).

### 13 Auditors' Remuneration

	2023 \$	2022 \$
Remuneration of the auditor Nexia Melbourne Audit Pty Ltd, for:		
- auditing the financial report for the year	6,780	6,160
- other services - preparation of financial report	2,200	2,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,980</b>	<b>8,160</b>

### 14 Contingencies

In the opinion of the Directors, the Company did not have any contingencies at 30 June 2023 (30 June 2022:None).

# The Association of Graduates in Early Childhood Studies

ACN 004 275 709

## Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

### 15 Cash Flow Information

#### 15.1. Reconciliation of result for the year to cashflows from operating activities

Reconciliation of (deficit) to net cash (used in) operating activities:

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
(Deficit) for the year	(54,149)	(208,754)
Cash flows excluded from (deficit) attributable to operating activities		
Non-cash flows in (deficit):		
- fair value (gain) / loss on available for sale financial assets	(11,662)	133,413
- net (gain) / loss on disposal of investments	(22,304)	48,398
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
- decrease / (increase) in trade and other receivables	21,251	(25,005)
- decrease / (increase) in other assets	6,099	(7,190)
- increase / (decrease) in trade and other payables	2,430	1,160
Cashflows (used in) operating activities	(58,335)	(57,978)

### 16 Statutory Information

The registered office and principal place of business of the Company is:

The Association of Graduates in Early Childhood Studies  
100 Leicester Street  
CARLTON VIC 3053

## The Association of Graduates in Early Childhood Studies

ACN 004 275 709

### Directors' Declaration

In accordance with a resolution by the Directors of The Association of Graduates in Early Childhood Studies, the Directors of the Company declare that:

1. The financial statements and notes, as set out on pages 8 to 21, are in accordance with the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profit Commission Act 2012 and:
  - a) comply with Australian Accounting Standards - Simplified Disclosures; and
  - b) give a true and fair view of the financial position as at 30 June 2023 and of the performance for the year ended on that date of the Company.
2. In the Directors' opinion, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

Signed in accordance with subsection 60.15(2) of the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profit Commission Act 2012.



Responsible person .....  
Ms Sarah O'Donnell

Dated 09 October 2023

## **Independent Auditor's Report To the Trustees of the Association of Graduates in Early Childhood Studies**

### **Report on the Audit of the Financial Report**

#### ***Opinion***

We have audited the financial report of The Association of Graduates in Early Childhood Studies (the Trust), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2023, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the trustee's declaration.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of the Association of Graduates in Early Childhood Studies, is in accordance with Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, including:

- (i) giving a true and fair view of the Trust's financial position as at 30 June 2023 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and
- (ii) complying with Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*

#### ***Basis for opinion***

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the Trust in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (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 confirm that the independence declaration required by the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, has been given to the trustees of the Trust, at the time of this auditor's report.

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

#### ***Trustees' responsibility for the financial report***

The trustees of the Trust are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accountant Standards – Simplified Disclosures and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and is appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The trustees are also responsible for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

### **Advisory. Tax. Audit.**

Registered Audit Company 291969

Nexia Melbourne Audit Pty Ltd (ABN 86 005 105 975) is a firm of Chartered Accountants. It is affiliated with, but independent from Nexia Australia Pty Ltd. Nexia Australia Pty Ltd is a member of Nexia International, a leading, global network of independent accounting and consulting firms. For more information please see [www.nexia.com.au/legal](http://www.nexia.com.au/legal). Neither Nexia International nor Nexia Australia Pty Ltd provide services to clients.

Liability limited under a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation.



## **Independent Auditor's Report To the Members of the Association of Graduates in Early Childhood Studies**

### **Report on the Audit of the Financial Report**

#### ***Auditor's responsibility for the audit of the financial report***

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an 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 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.
- 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 Trust's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by those charged with governance.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the trustees' 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 Trust'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 Trust to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

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

**Independent Auditor's Report  
To the Members of the Association of Graduates in Early Childhood Studies**

**Report on the Audit of the Financial Report**

We also provide the trustees with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, actions taken to eliminate threats or safeguards applied.



**Nexia Melbourne Audit Pty Ltd  
Melbourne**



**Andrew S. Wehrens  
Director**

**Dated: this 9th day of October 2023**

# **The Foundation of Graduates in Early Childhood Studies**

**ABN 58 833 071 672**

## **Financial Statements**

**For the Year Ended 30 June 2023**



**The Foundation of Graduates in Early Childhood Studies**

ABN 58 833 071 672

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**For the Year Ended 30 June 2023**

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**AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION UNDER SUBDIVISION 60-40 OF THE  
AUSTRALIAN CHARITIES AND NOT-FOR-PROFITS COMMISSION ACT 2012  
TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE FOUNDATION OF GRADUATES IN EARLY CHILDHOOD STUDIES.**

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2023, there have been no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.



**Nexia Melbourne Audit Pty Ltd  
Melbourne**



**Andrew S. Wehrens  
Director**

**Dated: this 12<sup>th</sup> day of September 2023**

# The Foundation of Graduates in Early Childhood Studies

ABN 58 833 071 672

## Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
<b>Revenue</b>			
Distributions received		347,479	377,895
Imputation credits		93,476	147,957
Interest income		13,951	3,203
Movement in Fair Value of Financial Assets		249,180	(538,378)
Gain / (Loss) on sale of investments		183,641	417,140
		<u>887,727</u>	<u>407,817</u>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Audit fees	8	(8,615)	(7,830)
Bookkeeping fees		(7,000)	(7,000)
Insurance		(3,010)	(2,363)
Other expenses		(4,814)	(6,137)
		<u>(23,439)</u>	<u>(23,330)</u>
<b>Operating Surplus / (Deficit)</b>		<b>864,288</b>	<b>384,487</b>
Distributions made during the year	11	(443,493)	(479,949)
<b>Surplus / (Deficit) for the year</b>		<b><u>420,795</u></b>	<b><u>(95,462)</u></b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

# The Foundation of Graduates in Early Childhood Studies

ABN 58 833 071 672

## Statement of Financial Position

As At 30 June 2023

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
<b>ASSETS</b>			
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	3	676,285	388,147
Trade and other receivables	4	99,948	149,416
Other financial assets	5	8,524,248	8,341,720
Prepayments		3,123	2,741
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		9,303,604	8,882,024
TOTAL ASSETS		9,303,604	8,882,024
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Accruals		8,615	7,830
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		8,615	7,830
TOTAL LIABILITIES		8,615	7,830
NET ASSETS		9,294,989	8,874,194
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Trust capital	10	3,500,000	3,500,000
Retained Surpluses		5,794,989	5,374,194
TOTAL EQUITY		9,294,989	8,874,194

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

## Statement of Changes in Equity

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

### 2023

	Retained Surpluses	Trust Capital	Total
	\$	\$	\$
Balance at 1 July 2022	5,374,194	3,500,000	8,874,194
Surplus for the year	420,795	-	420,795
Balance at 30 June 2023	5,794,989	3,500,000	9,294,989

### 2022

	Retained Surpluses	Trust Capital	Total
	\$	\$	\$
Balance at 1 July 2021	5,469,656	3,500,000	8,969,656
Deficit for the year	(95,462)	-	(95,462)
Balance at 30 June 2022	5,374,194	3,500,000	8,874,194

# The Foundation of Graduates in Early Childhood Studies

ABN 58 833 071 672

## Statement of Cash Flows For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>Note</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:</b>		
(Payments for) / proceeds from financial assets	<b>250,293</b>	(223,771)
Payments to suppliers and others	<b>(22,686)</b>	(23,118)
Dividends received	<b>495,436</b>	442,912
Interest received	<b>8,588</b>	3,878
Grants paid	<b>(443,493)</b>	(479,949)
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities	<b>9 288,138</b>	(280,048)
Net increase / (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents held	<b>288,138</b>	(280,048)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	<b>388,147</b>	668,195
Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year	<b>3 676,285</b>	388,147

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

# The Foundation of Graduates in Early Childhood Studies

ABN 58 833 071 672

## Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

### 1 Basis of Preparation

The financial statements are general purpose financial statements that have been prepared in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards - Simplified Disclosures and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012.

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs modified, where applicable, by the measurement at fair value of selected non-current assets, financial assets and financial liabilities.

Significant accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are presented below and are consistent with prior reporting periods unless otherwise stated.

### 2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The perpetual charitable trust known as the Foundation of Graduates in Early Childhood Studies was established on 7th May 2005, and was previously known as the Forest Hill Early Childhood Foundation - incorporating Warrawong Fund which was established on 27th March 1995.

#### (a) Adoption of new and revised accounting standards

The Trust has adopted all standards which became effective for the first time at 30 June 2023, the adoption of these standards has not caused any material adjustments to the reported financial position, performance or cash flow of the Trust.

#### (b) Income Tax

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

#### (c) Revenue and other income

Income distributions and capital distributions received from unit trusts are recognised as at the date the unit value is quoted ex-distribution. Dividends in direct equity holdings are recognised on the date payable.

Imputation credits in respect of distributions and dividends received are recognised as revenue as at the date the share is quoted ex-dividend. As the application for the refund of excess imputation credits can only be made after year end, the applicable revenue is accrued for at year end.

Profit and loss on the disposal of financial assets is based on sale price less historical cost.

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

## Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

### 2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

#### (d) 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 payables are stated inclusive of GST.

The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included as part of receivables or payables in the statement of financial position.

#### (e) Share buy-backs

The managed funds and securities that the Trust has invested in may participate in share buy-backs, where appropriate, and receive the proceeds in the form of capital and fully franked dividend component. The full proceeds received by the Trust, as part of the distribution income of the Trust, (including franking credits) are applied as income. For accounting purposes, the dividend and capital component is treated as income.

#### (f) Financial instruments

For comparative year

Financial instruments are recognised initially using trade date accounting, i.e. on the date that the Trust becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

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*

Financial assets are divided into the following categories which are described in detail below:

- loans and receivables;
- financial assets at fair value through profit or loss;

Financial assets are assigned to the different categories on initial recognition, depending on the characteristics of the instrument and its purpose. A financial instrument's category is relevant to the way it is measured and whether any resulting income and expenses are recognised in profit or loss or in other comprehensive income.

All income and expenses relating to financial assets are recognised in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income in the 'finance income' or 'finance costs' line item respectively.

##### *Loans and receivables*

Loans and receivables are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market. They arise principally through the provision of goods and services to customers but also incorporate other types of contractual monetary assets.



## Notes to the Financial Statements

### For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

## 2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

### (f) Financial instruments

After initial recognition these are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. Any change in their value is recognised in profit or loss.

The Trust's trade and other receivables fall into this category of financial instruments.

Significant receivables are considered for impairment on an individual asset basis when they are past due at the reporting date or when objective evidence is received that a specific counterparty will default.

The amount of the impairment is the difference between the net carrying amount and the present value of the future expected cash flows associated with the impaired receivable.

In some circumstances, the Trust renegotiates repayment terms with customers which may lead to changes in the timing of the payments, the Trust does not necessarily consider the balance to be impaired, however assessment is made on a case-by-case basis.

#### *Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss*

Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss include financial assets:

- acquired principally for the purpose of selling in the near future
- designated by the entity to be carried at fair value through profit or loss upon initial recognition or
- which are derivatives not qualifying for hedge accounting.

The Trust has some derivatives which are designated as financial assets at fair value through profit or loss.

Assets included within this category are carried in the statement of financial position at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in finance income or expenses in profit or loss.

Any gain or loss arising from derivative financial instruments is based on changes in fair value, which is determined by direct reference to active market transactions or using a valuation technique where no active market exists.

For current year

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

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.

## Notes to the Financial Statements

### For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

#### 2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

##### (f) Financial instruments

###### Financial assets

###### *Classification*

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

- amortised cost
- fair value through profit or loss - FVTPL

###### *Amortised cost*

Assets measured at amortised cost are financial assets where:

- the business model is to hold assets to collect contractual cash flows; and
- the contractual terms give rise on specified dates to cash flows are solely payments of principal and interest on the principal amount outstanding.

The Trust'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 (refer to hedging accounting policy for derivatives designated as hedging instruments.)

The Trust holds derivative financial instruments to hedge its foreign currency and interest rate risk exposures. Embedded derivatives are separated from the host contract and accounted for separately if the host contract is not a financial asset and certain criteria are met.

## Notes to the Financial Statements

### For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

## 2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

### (f) Financial instruments

#### Financial assets

##### *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 Trust 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 Trust's historical experience and informed credit assessment and including forward looking information.

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

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

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

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

##### *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.

#### Financial liabilities

The Trust 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 Trust comprise trade payables, bank and other loans and finance lease liabilities.

## Notes to the Financial Statements

### For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

#### 2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

##### (g) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprises cash on hand, demand deposits and short-term investments which are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

#### 3 Cash and Cash Equivalents

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Cash at bank	7,187	4,681
Deposits at call	669,098	383,466
	<u>676,285</u>	<u>388,147</u>

#### 4 Trade and Other Receivables

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
CURRENT		
GST receivable	463	813
Interest receivable	6,009	646
Imputation credits refundable	93,476	147,957
	<u>99,948</u>	<u>149,416</u>

# The Foundation of Graduates in Early Childhood Studies

ABN 58 833 071 672

## Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

### 5 Other Financial Assets

#### (a) Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss

	2023 \$	2022 \$
CURRENT		
Shares in listed corporations	8,524,248	8,341,720
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,524,248</b>	<b>8,341,720</b>

	2023 Market Value \$	2023 Cost \$	2022 Market Value \$	2022 Cost \$
AFIC Ltd	-	-	312,484	80,279
Amcor Limited	148,600	112,647	180,400	112,647
APA Group Ltd	270,448	271,907	314,546	271,907
Argo investments Ltd	226,665	135,629	227,700	135,629
Atlas Arteria Limited	554,125	523,638	719,202	523,638
BHP Billiton Ltd	312,636	249,524	286,646	249,524
Carsales.com Ltd	661,362	224,983	384,204	135,824
Commonwealth Bank Ltd	538,450	250,237	485,341	250,237
Computershare Limited	417,497	115,599	490,508	128,869
CSL Limited	749,203	477,904	726,731	477,904
Deterra Royalties Limited	253,000	210,168	233,200	210,168
Diversified United Inv Ltd	534,834	276,174	500,048	276,174
Imugene Limited	61,543	147,142	121,734	147,142
Macquarie Group Limited	512,611	280,443	474,776	280,443
Mineral Resources Limited	250,005	150,870	168,945	150,870
OZ Minerals Limited	-	-	108,336	151,081
Pact Group Holdings Ltd	72,864	251,067	199,272	251,068
Qube Holdings Limited	227,074	236,820	217,513	236,820
Reliance Worldwide Corporation Ltd	186,140	212,039	183,416	212,039
Rio Tinto Ltd	167,103	130,279	149,634	130,279
Tombador Iron Ltd	68,848	198,884	83,343	198,884
Transurban Group Ltd	791,673	396,892	798,895	396,892
Xero Limited	541,131	400,702	233,958	300,558
Wesfarmers Ltd - Part Protected	300,727	115,862	255,441	115,862
Wisetech Global Limited	195,535	100,540	92,732	100,541
Woodside Energy Group Ltd	424,783	309,974	392,715	309,974
	<b>8,466,857</b>	<b>5,779,924</b>	<b>8,341,720</b>	<b>5,835,253</b>

## Notes to the Financial Statements

### For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

#### 6 Financial Risk Management

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
<b>Financial assets</b>		
Held at amortised cost		
Cash and cash equivalents	676,285	388,147
<b>Trade and other receivables</b>		
Trade and other receivables	99,948	149,416
	<u>99,948</u>	<u>149,416</u>
Fair value through profit or loss (FVTPL)		
Shares in listed corporations	8,524,248	8,341,720
	<u>8,524,248</u>	<u>8,341,720</u>
<b>Total financial assets</b>	<u>9,300,481</u>	<u>8,879,283</u>

#### 7 Key Management Personnel Disclosures

The remuneration paid to key management personnel of the trust is \$Nil (2021: \$Nil).

#### 8 Auditors' Remuneration

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Remuneration of the auditor Nexia Melbourne Audit Pty Ltd, for:		
- Audit of the financial statements	6,415	5,830
- Preparation of the financial statements	2,200	2,000
	<u>8,615</u>	<u>7,830</u>

#### 9 Cash Flow Information

##### (a) Reconciliation of result for the year to cashflows from operating activities

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

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Surplus / (Deficit) for the year	420,795	(95,462)
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
- (increase) / decrease in trade and other receivables	49,468	(82,556)
- (increase) / decrease in other assets	(382)	(627)
- increase / (decrease) in trade and other payables	785	1,130
- (increase) / decrease in financial assets	(182,528)	(102,533)
Cashflows (used in) operating activities	<u>288,138</u>	<u>(280,048)</u>

# The Foundation of Graduates in Early Childhood Studies

ABN 58 833 071 672

## Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

### 10 Trust Capital

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Initial investment to establish the Trust	1,500,000	1,500,000
Additional capital contribution from the Association of Graduates in Early Childhood Studies Ltd	2,000,000	2,000,000
	<b>3,500,000</b>	<b>3,500,000</b>

### 11 Grants determined and paid during the year

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Forest Hill Grants paid during the year	221,551	231,944
Warrawong Grants paid during the year	221,942	248,005
<b>Total</b>	<b>443,493</b>	<b>479,949</b>

**The Foundation of Graduates in Early Childhood Studies**

ABN 58 833 071 672

**Trustees' Declaration**

In accordance with a resolution by the Trustees of The Foundation of Graduates in Early Childhood Studies, the Trustees of the Trust declare that:

- 1. The financial statements and notes, as set out on pages 2 to 14, are in accordance with the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profit Commission Act 2012 and:
  - a. comply with Australian Accounting Standards - Simplified Disclosures; and
  - b. give a true and fair view of the financial position as at 30 June 2023 and of the performance for the year ended on that date of the Trust.
- 2. In the Trustee's' opinion, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Trust will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

Signed in accordance with subsection 60.15(2) of the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profit Commission Act 2012.

Responsible person .....

Dated            12 September 2023



## **Independent Auditor's Report To the Trustees of The Foundation of Graduates in Early Childhood Studies**

### **Report on the Audit of the Financial Report**

#### ***Opinion***

We have audited the financial report of The Foundation of Graduates in Early Childhood Studies (the Trust), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2023, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the trustee's declaration.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of The Foundation of Graduates in Early Childhood Studies, is in accordance with Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, including:

- (i) giving a true and fair view of the Trust's financial position as at 30 June 2023 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and
- (ii) complying with Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*

#### ***Basis for opinion***

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the Trust in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (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 confirm that the independence declaration required by the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, which has been given to the trustees of the Trust at the same time as this auditor's report.

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

#### ***Trustees' responsibility for the financial report***

The trustees of the Trust are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accountant Standards – Simplified Disclosures and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and is appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The trustees are also responsible for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

## **Independent Auditor's Report To the Trustees of The Foundation of Graduates in Early Childhood Studies**

### **Report on the Audit of the Financial Report**

#### ***Trustees' responsibility for the financial report continued***

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

#### ***Auditor's responsibility for the audit of the financial report***

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an 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.
- 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 Trust's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by those charged with governance.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the trustees' 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 Trust'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 Trust to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

**Independent Auditor's Report  
To the Trustees of The Foundation of Graduates in Early Childhood Studies**

**Report on the Audit of the Financial Report**

***Auditor's responsibility for the audit of the financial report continued...***

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

We also provide the trustees with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, actions taken to eliminate threats or safeguards applied.



**Nexia Melbourne Audit Pty Ltd  
Melbourne**



**Andrew S. Wehrens  
Director**

Dated this 12<sup>th</sup> day of September 2023