



ANNUAL REPORT 2020

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CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

ON BEHALF OF THE WIMMERA DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION BOARD OF MANAGEMENT, I AM PLEASED TO PRESENT THE 2019-20 ANNUAL REPORT.

The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the importance of the Wimmera Development Association in leading, representing, collaborating and supporting Wimmera Southern Mallee communities, agencies and municipalities. When the pandemic first started to impact our lives, WDA stepped up to understand what was happening, in real time, and advocate for the support needed for our region to remain resilient in the face of the challenging times ahead.

As this report highlights, WDA undertook key leadership activities during the first months of the pandemic to understand its impact on community events and sporting clubs, and engaged high-quality speakers to assist residents find their inner resilience. WDA supported the migrant community by innovatively delivering homework clubs virtually and providing access to quality food and nutrition. The impacts of home-schooling on families, and the quality of our telecommunications infrastructure was measured – and each of these exercises fed into our advocacy work and accessing support for the region.

The strong networks between Horsham Rural City, West Wimmera, Hindmarsh, Yarriambiack and Northern Grampians shires continue to strengthen through collaboration and sharing information. The enhanced activity among economic development officers across the region in coming together regularly and working together on a number of initiatives to support businesses and economic development is just one example.

WDA continued delivering core activities throughout 2019-20. Among highlights was leading the launch of the Wimmera Weather Radar at Rainbow in April. Many in the region say it brought one of the best seasonal breaks the Wimmera Southern Mallee has seen for decades.

WDA commenced a major housing study to understand the volume of housing stock in the region, the quality of that stock, and demand and supply.

All eyes are on the Australian Pulse Protein (APP) plant, which had finished building stage one by June 2020 and was about to start production. It is a flagship project for the region and part of the renaissance coming in the way of food processing and manufacturing.

WDA delivered core programs including Leadership Wimmera, Wimmera Settlement Services, Wimmera Southern Mallee Socio-Economic Value of Recreational and Environmental Water project, Regional Tourism Destination Management and Collaboration Plan – all continuing to support regional business and community aspirations.

WDA has commenced a governance review of its board structure and started an initial strategic review to prepare to develop a new strategic plan. These are expected to be completed before June 2021. I am pleased to report that WDA has again achieved a clean independent audit and I thank the accounting team at Horsham Rural City Council for their diligence and support of our administration.

Our close working relationships with the Wimmera Southern Mallee Regional Partnership, GMMWater, Uniting Wimmera, Wimmera CMA, Federation University and regionally based government agencies such as the Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions (DJPR), the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) and Regional Development Victoria (RDV) share our vision for the region, acting as advocates and actively collaborating to build the social, economic and environmental assets we need for a sustainable future.

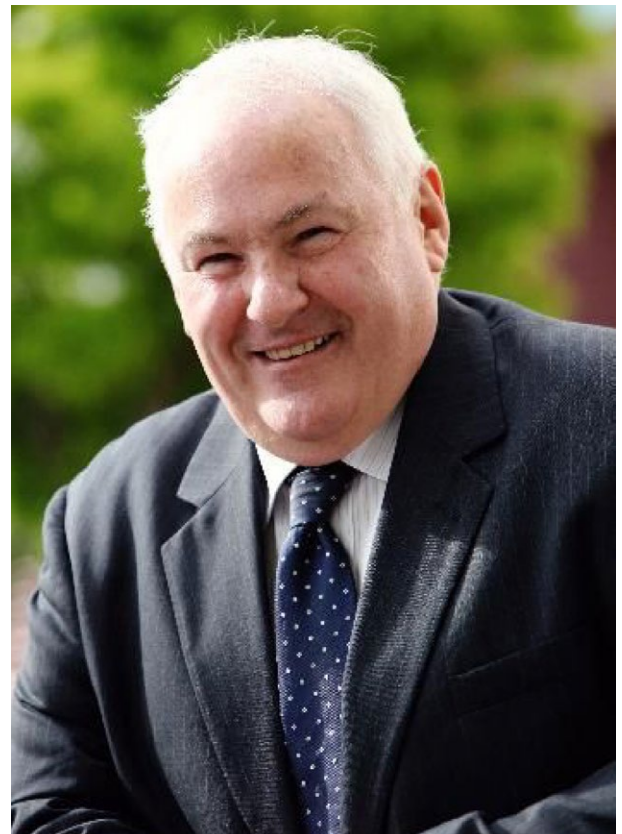
I also extend many thanks to Rowly and Judy Paterson, as well as the management and staff of ACE Radio and The Weekly Advertiser who continue to provide sponsorship for Leadership Wimmera along with their ongoing support for many regional activities.

I take the opportunity to thank WDA Board of Management members for all they have contributed to our organisation during the year. The key to our success is due, in part, to the range of skills and experience of all those involved.

Finally, a thank you to WDA staff members Chris Sounness, Mark Fletcher, Jessica Grimble, Sara Barron, Vernetta Taylor, Emily Telfer, Jessica Koschitzke and Taneya Burke who have contributed to another successful year for the Wimmera Development Association.

CR KEVIN ERWIN

Chairman



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT



I AM PLEASED TO PROVIDE THIS SNAPSHOT OF WIMMERA DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION ACTIVITIES FOR THE 2019-20 ANNUAL REPORT.

The 2019-20 year for WDA, the region, the state, Australia and the globe has been like no other. Changes occurred at WDA from July to February; but March through June, as we responded to COVID-19, it was whirlwind.

I joined WDA in mid-August 2019. Mark Fletcher had been acting in the role of executive director since January 2019 and did a great job delivering on WDA priorities and supporting the team. Mark also provided a great induction to the organisation for myself and throughout the year provided excellent guidance regarding organisational governance, processes and procedures along with project and program leadership. The WDA team of Mark Fletcher, Jessica Grimble, Sara Barron, Vernetta Taylor, Emily Telfer (maternity leave) and trainees Jessica Koschitzke and Taneya Burke cannot be thanked enough for their efforts during 2019-20.

I will break the rest of this report into core WDA activities and WDA COVID-19 response.

CORE WDA ACTIVITIES

During the year ending June 2020, WDA submitted a number of submissions to both state and federal governments. We utilised a collaborative submission process – in that, we worked with WDA board members to shape the submissions, and submitted our ideas under a number of Wimmera Southern Mallee organisations. We provided regional thoughts to the state government on workforce challenges, addressing regional disadvantage, infrastructure needs and the Victorian Ports; and agriculture workforce needs AND improving telecommunication in rural and regional Australia to the federal government. We highlighted challenges regarding citizenship testing to Federal Member for Mallee Dr Anne Webster.

WDA has commenced a study of housing in the region to understand how quantity and quality of housing is impacting the region's ability to grow. Anecdotally, housing is affecting our ability to recruit people to the region and people are highlighting the challenges of investing in developing housing and land. There is growing evidence this is impacting on the disadvantaged in our region. The report will be available in November 2020. During the first half of 2020, WDA established a HR Network, aimed at understanding how we can support employers bringing people to the region and improving the experience that employees have while working in the region.

WDA has a played role in the Grampians New Energy Taskforce (GNeT), which has outlined a roadmap for the region to reach zero emissions by 2050. The report and supporting material is available via www.gnet.com.au. With agriculture the dominant industry, and the abundance of renewable energy, finding a pathway to zero will be important for the Wimmera Southern Mallee to attract investment into the future. During 2020, the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) established the Grampians Regional Climate Adaptation Group – focused on developing a strategy to ensure our region's industries, natural resources, infrastructure and communities are well-positioned to adapt to a changing climate.

WDA submitted a number of funding submissions in the past 12 months – including seeking funding for projects around microgrids, bush food development, encouraging entrepreneurship through artisan foods, and finding pathways to zero emissions. We also submitted funding proposals to the state government to support migrant communities to celebrate key events and enable simple access to technology.

A number of projects were completed during the 2019-20 year – each of them producing a positive legacy. The Wimmera Weather Radar at Rainbow launched in April after an eight-year journey of advocacy. Many hope it keeps delivering the rain each year as occurred in 2020. Personally, I will say it's a coincidence, rather than any correlation – but here's hoping. Also finalised is the Grampians Cycling Masterplan project, which is utilised for further improvement of cycle paths; and the Wimmera Mallee Tourism Destination Plan, which delivered six major outcomes including a silo painted at Lake Albacutya. While the Wimmera Southern Mallee Socio-Economic Value of Recreational and Environmental Water report was scheduled for completion in 2020, the steering committee will continue the study for an additional year due to the value it is delivering to stakeholders. Finally, Westlink - a partnership between Centre for Migrant Youth, Ballarat Migrant Resource Centre, Centre for Participation, Nhill Learning Centre and WDA - commenced, supporting delivery of services to young migrant people in the region.

Emily Telfer went on maternity leave in December. Emily led the Leadership Wimmera program and will return in 2021. Jessica Koschitzke was the trainee throughout 2019 and did an outstanding job before she took up study to become a nurse. Jessica Grimble joined WDA at the end of January to deliver the Leadership Wimmera program and lead the response to Regional Development Victoria's statewide review of leadership programs. A journalist by trade, Jessica also provided great leadership in our media engagement - particularly through using her network to build relationships

between stakeholders and the media. Vernetta Taylor joined the team to support business and economic development and stepped up to co-ordinate WDA's COVID-19 response activities - particularly regarding the impacts of COVID-19 lockdowns on community events and sporting clubs. Taneya Burke joined as the trainee in 2020 and has undertaken her role with vigour though difficult circumstances.

I would like to highlight a few achievements of the core programs we deliver.

The 2019 Leadership Wimmera program saw 11 Business Leaders and 16 Regional Leadership Skills graduates – two of them WDA staff members, in Sara Barron and Jessica Koschitzke. RMCG conducted a review of leadership programs across the state during 2019-20, which has suggested placing a larger focus on community leadership development. This echoes where we intend to move with Leadership Wimmera. The Victorian Regional Community Leadership Committee voted to become Regional Leadership Australia and in coming years will move to a skills-based board. RLA has provided great leadership in developing and implementing a Learning and Development Framework, and a Monitoring Evaluation Review and Implementation plan.

Settlement and migration services have had a very committed 12 months. Delivering services through a pandemic created a challenging situation which Sara Barron embraced, providing excellent leadership to ensure services needs were met. Sara went above and beyond when many of the services required face-to-face interaction. Providing support through the SETS program allowed us to support more than 125 migrants in the region who have been in Australia less than five years. We have delivered homework clubs, Jelly Beans Playgroup and learner driver education. WDA supported the delivery of services by co-ordinating regular gatherings of people who deliver services to migrants, and formed a strategic leadership group to help set direction for the region - including involvement in the Wimmera CALD Workforce Industry Project (WCWIP) and the EVOLVE partnership.

COVID-19 RESPONSE

COVID-19 has been unlike any other experience we have lived through. It has tested every part of society, and everything has had to respond and change. Business as usual was not possible. For WDA, our workforce, community, stakeholders and service delivery were all bought into question.

I congratulate the WDA team for the way they came together and went above and beyond to help the community. When the pandemic was declared, WDA had more than half our team with less than eight months experience in the organisation. We built a team virtually, supported one another to understand individual challenges on both the work and home fronts, and have all experienced many challenges throughout this time. Seeing how the team responded made me feel very lucky to work with them.

During the first three months of the pandemic, we delivered a number of response activities while still delivering on planned activities. We also learned to use a range of virtual platforms including Zoom and Microsoft Teams, and many partner organisations leant on our expertise. We attended countless virtual meetings, with some days having 10-plus meetings during the course of a day leading to the 2020 phenomena, "Zoom fatigue".

The below activities were delivered in the first three months of the response to the pandemic. Each activity was designed to make an immediate difference, increase our understanding of issues and provide recommendations on how to improve our region and increase resilience of residents and organisations. These activities were delivered in partnership with a number of regional organisations and I thank all the people and organisations supporting WDA to undertake this work:

- Rapid assessment of the financial impact of COVID-19
- Wimmera Southern Mallee Economic Development Network
- Impact of events cancelled due to COVID-19
- The impact on telecommunications infrastructure due to working and learning from home
- Impacts of learning from home on parents and guardians
- Wimmera Southern Mallee Media and Council Liaison
- Youth Support Network
- Cross Border Group
- LGA Pandemic Group Meetings
- Leadership Resilience
- Virtual Centrelink access for CALD community
- Food parcels for Homework Club members

Further detail on the various projects follows later in this annual report document.

Thank you to the WDA board and executive who provided great guidance throughout the year and supported and encouraged myself and the team. I also thank the many stakeholders who have supported and encouraged WDA to step up into spaces we may not have worked in the past, but where people were looking for support to bring groups together to collaborate during a challenging time.

Finally, to the financial supporters of Wimmera Development Association – Horsham Rural City, Hindmarsh, Northern Grampians, West Wimmera and Yarriambiack shire councils, GWMWater and ACE Radio. Your ongoing commitment and support is truly appreciated.

CHRIS SOUNNESS

Executive Director

REMPPLAN

Wimmera Development Association utilises REMPLAN Economy, an economic modelling and planning program, to analyse outcomes of potential changes in employment or investment in the region.

The REMPLAN Economy system combines regional and state information to forecast impacts from investment and employment projections. The Wimmera Southern Mallee dataset is compiled from:

- ABS 2016 Census Place of Work Employment (Scaled)
- ABS 2015 / 2016 National Input Output Tables
- ABS June 2018 Gross State Product
- ABS 2016 Census of Population and Housing (Scaled)
- ABS 2016 / 2017 Tourism Satellite Account
- TRA 2015 Regional Tourism Profiles; Domestic day and International visitors: Central Highlands and Western Grampians - weighted averages. Domestic overnight visitors: Central Highlands, Western Grampians and Wimmera - weighted averages.

Wimmera Development Association datasets include Wimmera Southern Mallee Grampians regions, Victoria and member municipalities. Access to this data is available to councils and businesses looking to forecast economic benefits to the region delivered by specific projects.



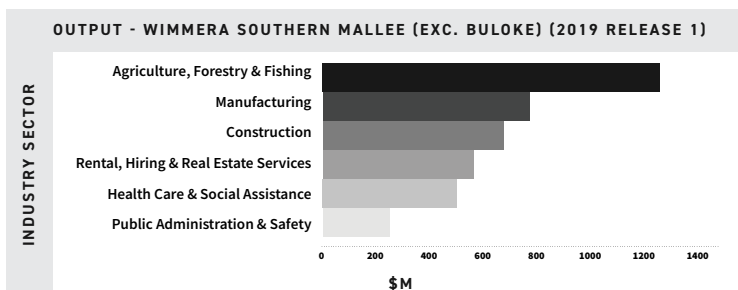
OUTPUT REPORT

This report shows the gross revenue generated by businesses and organisations in the Wimmera Southern Mallee (exc. Buloke).

Output data represents the gross revenue generated by businesses and organisations in each of the industry sectors in a defined region. Gross revenue is also referred to as total sales or total income.

The total output estimate for the Wimmera Southern Mallee (exc. Buloke) is \$6.153 billion.

The selected sectors contribute \$3.934 billion (63.9 per cent) of total output.



WIMMERA - SOUTHERN MALLEE (EXC. BULOKE) (2019 RELEASE 1)

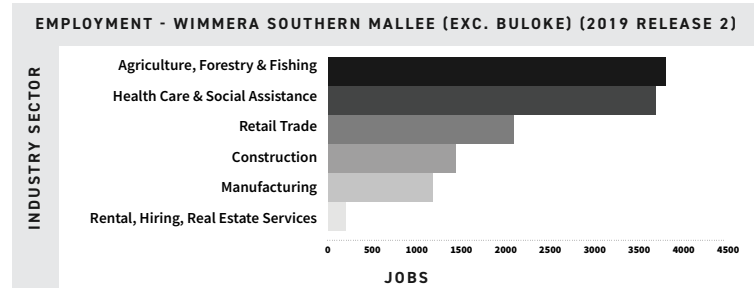
| Industry Sector | \$M | % |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|---------------|
| Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing | \$1.253 | 20.4% |
| Manufacturing | \$0.745 | 12.1% |
| Construction | \$0.649 | 10.6% |
| Rental, Hiring & Real Estate Services | \$0.545 | 8.9% |
| Health Care & Social Assistance | \$0.497 | 8.1% |
| Retail Trade | \$0.245 | 4.0% |
| Sub-Total | \$3.934 | 63.9% |
| Other | \$2.219 | 36.1% |
| Total | \$6.153 | 100.0% |

EMPLOYMENT REPORT

This report shows the number of employees whose place of work is located within the Wimmera Southern Mallee (exc. Buloke).

The total employment estimate for the Wimmera Southern Mallee (exc. Buloke) is 20,867 jobs.

The selected sectors contribute 12,463 jobs (59.7 per cent) to total employment.



WIMMERA - SOUTHERN MALLEE (EXC. BULOKE) (2019 RELEASE 1)

| Industry Sector | Jobs | % |
|---------------------------------------|--------|--------|
| Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing | 3,847 | 18.4% |
| Health Care & Social Assistance | 3,765 | 18.0% |
| Retail Trade | 2,081 | 10.0% |
| Construction | 1,435 | 6.9% |
| Manufacturing | 1,203 | 5.8% |
| Rental, Hiring & Real Estate Services | 132 | 0.6% |
| Sub-Total | 12,463 | 59.7% |
| Other | 8,404 | 40.3% |
| Total | 20,867 | 100.0% |

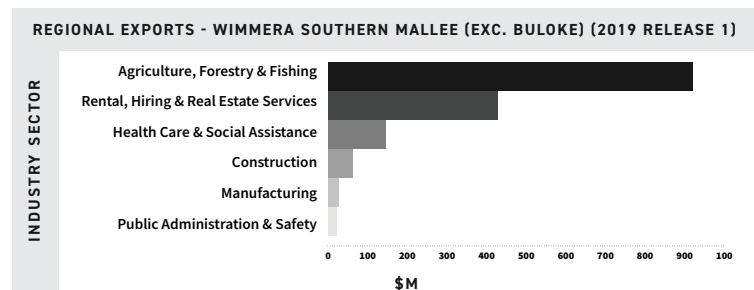
REGIONAL EXPORTS REPORT

This report shows the value of goods and services produced by industry sectors in the Wimmera Southern Mallee (exc. Buloke) which are sold to consumers, businesses, and governments based outside the region's boundaries.

Regional Exports data represents the dollar value (\$) of goods and services exported outside of the defined region that have been generated by businesses and organisations in each of the industry sectors within the region. Another way of defining exports is as an inflow of money into the region, i.e. Motels have an inflow of money from people who live outside the region's boundaries thus they are earning export dollars. No distinction is made between domestic and international exports.

The total regional export estimate for the Wimmera Southern Mallee (exc. Buloke) is \$2.148 billion.

The selected sectors contribute \$1.523 billion (70.9 per cent) of total regional exports.



WIMMERA - SOUTHERN MALLEE (EXC. BULOKE) (2019 RELEASE 1)

| Wimmera - Southern Mallee (exc. Buloke) (2018 Release 1) | Value (\$M) | % |
|----------------------------------------------------------|-------------|--------|
| Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing | \$0.912 | 42.4% |
| Manufacturing | \$0.418 | 19.4% |
| Health Care & Social Assistance | \$0.130 | 6.0% |
| Construction | \$0.042 | 2.0% |
| Retail Trade | \$0.012 | 0.6% |
| Rental, Hiring & Real Estate Services | \$0.009 | 0.4% |
| Sub-Total | \$1.523 | 70.9% |
| Other | \$0.626 | 29.1% |
| Total | \$2.148 | 100.0% |

REMPAN

VALUE ADDED REPORT

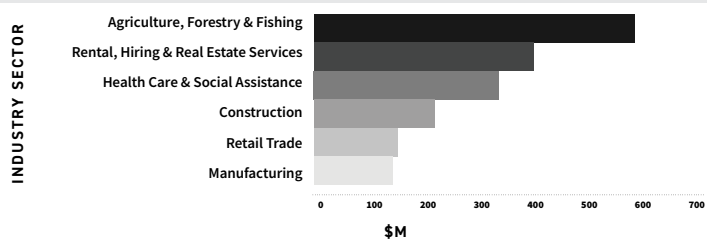
This report shows the value that is added by industry sectors in the Wimmera Southern Mallee (exc. Buloke) to intermediate inputs.

Value Added data represents the marginal economic value that is added by each industry sector in a defined region. Value Added can be calculated by subtracting local expenditure and expenditure on regional imports from the output generated by an industry sector, or alternatively, by adding the wages and salaries paid to local employees, the gross operating surplus and taxes on products and production. Value Added by industry sector is the major element in the calculation of Gross Regional Product / Gross State Product / Gross Domestic Product.

The total Value Added estimate for the Wimmera Southern Mallee (exc. Buloke) is \$2.964 billion.

The selected sectors contribute \$1.795 billion (60.6 per cent) of total Value Added.

VALUE ADDED - WIMMERA SOUTHERN MALLEE (EXC. BULOKE) (2019 RELEASE 1)



WIMMERA - SOUTHERN MALLEE (EXC. BULOKE) (2017 RELEASE 2)

| Industry Sector | \$M | % |
|---------------------------------------|---------|--------|
| Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing | \$0.567 | 19.1% |
| Rental, Hiring & Real Estate Services | \$0.395 | 13.3% |
| Health Care & Social Assistance | \$0.337 | 11.4% |
| Construction | \$0.206 | 6.9% |
| Retail Trade | \$0.149 | 5.0% |
| Manufacturing | \$0.141 | 4.8% |
| Sub-Total | \$1.795 | 60.6% |
| Other | \$1.169 | 39.4% |
| Total | \$2.964 | 100.0% |

GRP EXPENDITURE REPORT

The Gross Regional Product for the Wimmera Southern Mallee (exc. Buloke) was calculated using the Expenditure method.

GRP is the total value of final goods and services produced in the region over the period of one year. As can be seen from the table, this includes exports but subtracts imports.

GRP can be measured by adding up all forms of final expenditure

- Consumption by households
- Consumption by governments
- Additions or increases to assets (minus disposals)
- Exports (minus imports)

This calculation does not include intermediate expenditure as this would lead to double counting (the wheat and flour in a loaf of bread).

DISCLAIMER

All figures, data and commentary presented in this software are based on data sourced from the Australia Bureau of Statistics (ABS), most of which relates to the 2016, 2011, 2006 and 2001 Censuses.

Using ABS datasets and an input / output methodology industrial economic data estimates for defined geographic regions are generated.

This software is provided in good faith with every effort made to provide accurate data and apply comprehensive knowledge. However, REMPLAN does not guarantee the accuracy of data nor the conclusions drawn from this information. A decision to pursue any action in any way related to the figures, data and commentary presented in this software is wholly the responsibility of the party concerned. REMPLAN advises any party to conduct detailed feasibility studies and seek professional advice before proceeding with any such action and accept no responsibility for the consequences of pursuing any such action.

| GRP Expenditure Method | \$M |
|-----------------------------------------|--------------|
| Household Consumption | \$2.402 |
| Government Consumption | \$0.773 |
| Private Gross Fixed Capital Expenditure | \$0.790 |
| Public Gross Fixed Capital Expenditure | \$0.204 |
| Gross Regional Expenses | \$4.168 |
| plus Regional Exports | \$2.166 |
| minus Domestic Imports | -\$2.796 |
| minus Overseas Imports | -\$0.328 |
| Gross Regional Product | \$3.210 |
| Population | 47,382 |
| Per Capita GRP | \$0.000 |
| Per Worker GRP | \$0.000 |
| GRP Expenditure Method | \$M |
| Household Consumption | \$2,401.771 |
| Government Consumption | \$772.760 |
| Private Gross Fixed Capital Expenditure | \$789.708 |
| Public Gross Fixed Capital Expenditure | \$204.116 |
| Gross Regional Expenses | \$4,168.356 |
| plus Regional Exports | \$2,165.693 |
| minus Domestic Imports | -\$2,795.665 |
| minus Overseas Imports | -\$328.034 |
| Gross Regional Product | \$3,210.351 |
| Population | 47,382 |
| Per Capita GRP | \$0.068 |
| Per Worker GRP | \$0.154 |

COVID-19 REMPLAN

ECONOMY, JOBS AND BUSINESS INSIGHTS

The Wimmera Southern Mallee region, in western Victoria, includes the municipalities of Hindmarsh, Horsham, Northern Grampians, West Wimmera, Yarriambiack and Buloke.

In recent times, major developments in our region, including securing water supplies, overhauling infrastructure and renewed government focus on regional Australia have all combined to poise the Wimmera Southern Mallee for economic growth. A centre for agricultural production and processing, mining, transport and manufacturing, there are abundant career opportunities across a broad range of professions servicing the regional population of about 54,000 people.

COVID-19 ECONOMIC IMPACT ANALYSIS - JUNE 2020

COVID-19 continues to have a significant impact on our national economy. Physical distancing policies, travel restrictions and general uncertainty have all contributed to some of the most severe changes to economic activity that we have seen for many decades.

Since the onset of the pandemic, the Australian Business Economic Impact Survey (ABEIS) has continued to provide valuable insights into the performance of businesses. The current crisis has had varying impacts on revenue across

different industry sectors and regions. Every region's economy is unique. Not only does every region's economy have its own unique composition of employment across industries, there are also unique combinations of occupations within industries, unique industry supply chains, and patterns of household consumption.

Other insights and observations include generally lower employment impacts, relative to turnover. This is likely to be a reflection of JobKeeper support and other government assistance programs, combined with businesses forgoing short-term profits in order to retain staff.

The ABEIS has also captured insights into how businesses are responding and adapting.

The overwhelming majority of survey respondents continue to indicate that their businesses have been impacted by COVID-19. However, month-to-month responses to June 2020 show a growing proportion of respondents indicating that their businesses have not been impacted and will be unlikely to be in the future.

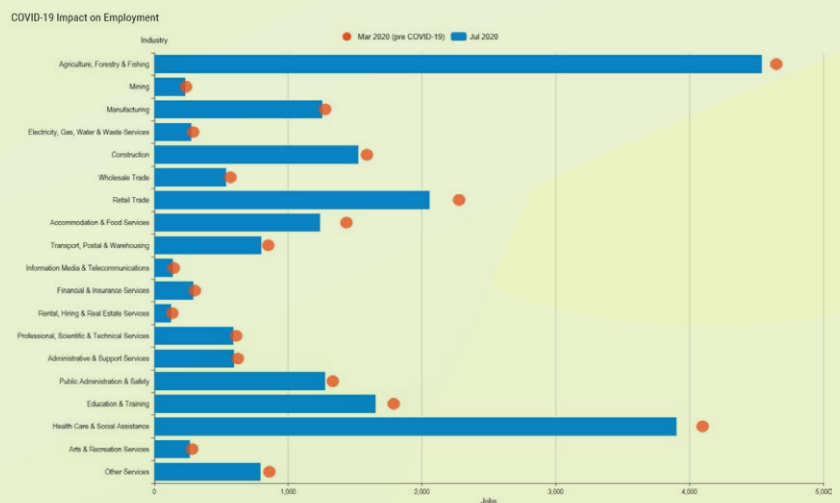
As the spread of the virus is contained and the social lockdown policies are gradually relaxed, it is anticipated that the negative impacts of the pandemic will lessen.

For further information, please contact the team at WDA on (03) 5381 6500 or visit <https://app.remplan.com.au/wimmera/economy>

IMPACT ON EMPLOYMENT

In the Wimmera Southern Mallee, prior to COVID-19 and the introduction of social lockdown measures to manage the pandemic, the total employment across all local industry sectors was estimated at 23,360. For July 2020, total employment is estimated at 22,102 - a fall of 5.4 per cent. Please note, this is a monthly estimate and should not be annualised.

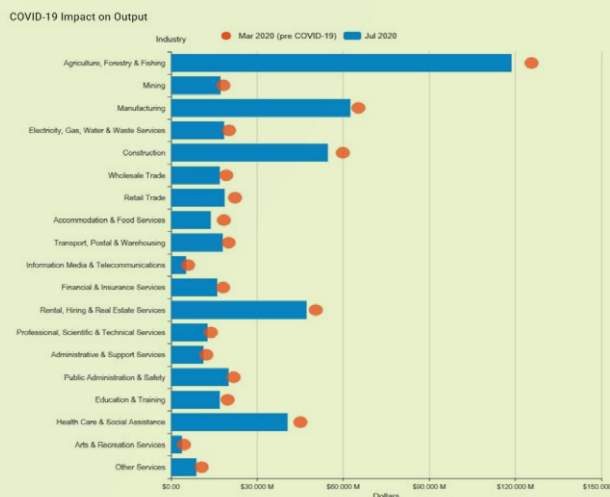
The greatest decrease in employment is in retail trade. In percentage terms, it's accommodation and food services.



IMPACT ON OUTPUT

In the Wimmera Southern Mallee, prior to COVID-19 and the introduction of social lockdown measures to manage the pandemic, the total monthly output across all local industry sectors was estimated at \$572.103m. For July 2020, industry output is estimated at \$522.867m, a fall of 8.6 per cent. Please note, this is a monthly estimate and should not be annualised.

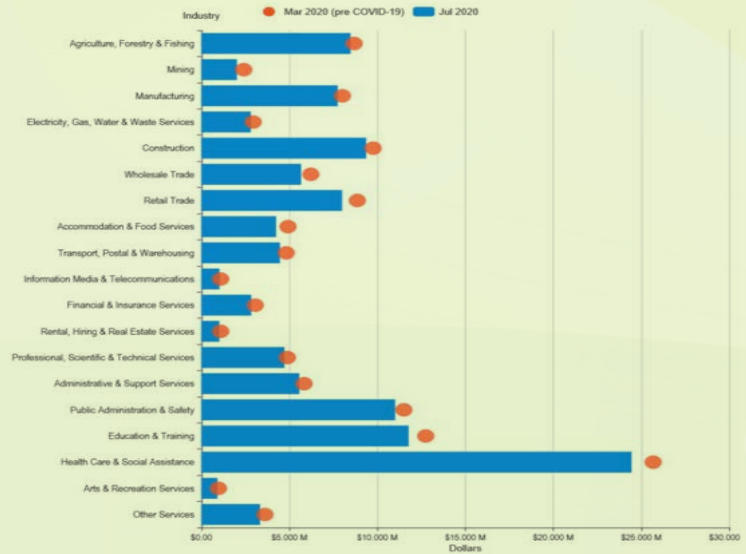
The greatest decrease in output is in agriculture, forestry and fishing. In percentage terms, it's accommodation and food services.



IMPACT ON WAGES AND SALARIES

In the Wimmera Southern Mallee, prior to COVID-19 and the introduction of social lockdown measures to manage the pandemic, the total monthly expenditure for wages and salaries across all local industry sectors was estimated at \$127.176m. For July 2020, the total of wages and salaries is estimated at \$119.567m - a fall of six per cent. Please note, this is a monthly estimate and should not be annualised.

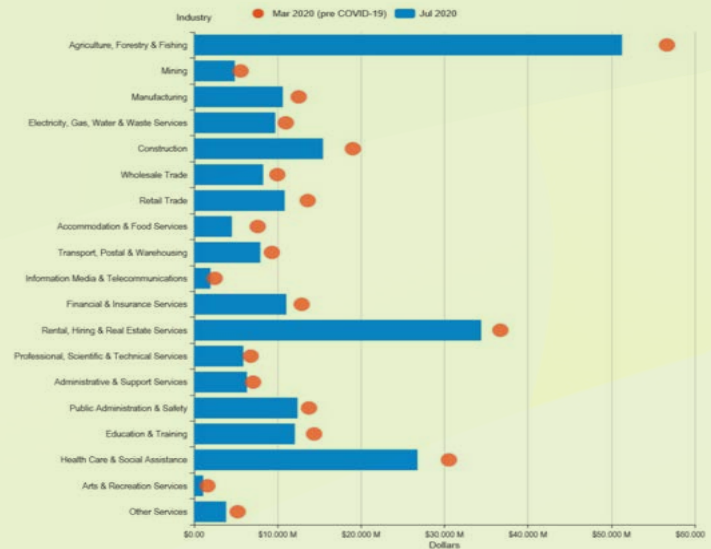
The greatest decrease in wages and salaries is in health care and social assistance. In percentage terms, it's mining.



IMPACT ON VALUE ADD

In the Wimmera Southern Mallee, prior to COVID-19 and the introduction of social lockdown measures to manage the pandemic, the total monthly output across all local industry sectors was estimated at \$572.103m. For July 2020, industry output is estimated at \$522.867m, a fall of 8.6 per cent. Please note, this is a monthly estimate and should not be annualised.

The greatest decrease in output is in agriculture, forestry and fishing. In percentage terms, it's accommodation and food services.



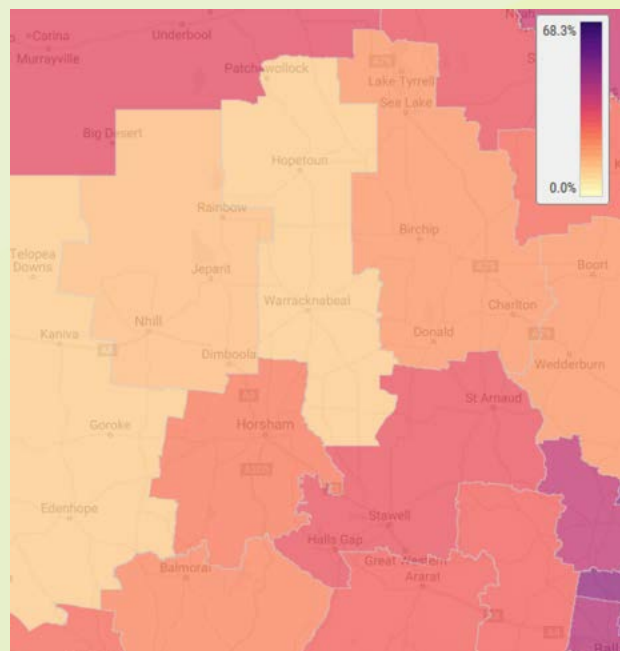
JOBKEEPER

The JobKeeper Payment scheme is a subsidy for businesses significantly affected by coronavirus (COVID-19). Businesses eligible for JobKeeper are required to have experienced a decline in revenue of at least 30 per cent.

Higher levels of JobKeeper applications are a likely indicator of greater negative economic impacts from COVID-19, however, in the Wimmera Southern Mallee much of our small business sector is made up of sole operators which in the initial months of the JobKeeper program were ineligible to apply.

Estimated number of businesses that have applied for JobKeeper by LGA:

- Hindmarsh - 13.2 per cent
- Horsham Rural City Council - 23.3 per cent
- Northern Grampians - 28.7 per cent
- West Wimmera - 10.8 per cent
- Yarriambiack - 10.3 per cent



LEADERSHIP WIMMERA 2020



FLAGSHIP PROGRAMS

2020 was a year like no other. With a worldwide pandemic declared weeks after February's retreats at Roses Gap, Leadership Wimmera's flagship six-month programs moved entirely online. The 28 participants went on to meet monthly via Zoom while also navigating working and learning from home in an uncertain and ever-changing environment.

2020 also presented opportunities. It gave participants a chance to build the resilience they needed to support themselves, and others, to navigate the pandemic; to share experiences and provide a support network of like-minded individuals; and to learn new ways of working – all additional to the learnings they likely signed up for.

Leading Teams facilitated programs for 16 Business Leaders participants and 12 Regional Leadership Skills participants – requiring flexibility, adaptability and teamwork to overcome the challenges of learning and delivering a leadership development program under evolving COVID-19 restrictions.

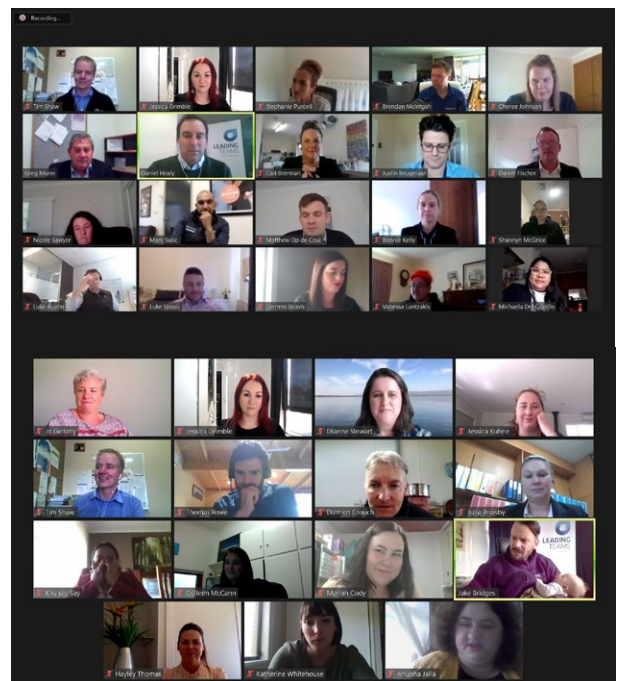
Regional Leadership Skills participants produced a community project as part of their program. Adapting ideas to accommodate for COVID-19 restrictions, participants completed a 50-kilometre run raising money for a sporting club, launched education campaigns for eco-friendly living and the region's multicultural community, and developed an initiative to provide information to people through the use of digital technology.

Leadership Wimmera recognises Chris Souness, Wimmera Development Association executive director; David Jochinke, Victorian Farmers Federation president and Murra Warra farmer; and Melissa Morris, Women's Health Grampians regional consultant – Wimmera for sharing their leadership journey and advice with 2020 participants as part of a lunchtime learning series.

COVID-19 OPPORTUNITIES

Weathering the Storm: Using personal power to steer yourself and your community through uncertain times || with Kate Burke of Think Agri

Leadership Wimmera hosted this webinar in April as the world as we knew it rapidly responded to the Coronavirus pandemic. The webinar aimed to give people tools to navigate



the changing environment and uncertainty of the time – and, indeed, the many months ahead.

Community leadership series || with Christine Kotur

Christine Kotur provides expert professional services in the fields of strategy, governance, leadership development, complex inquiries, reviews and facilitation. She is a highly regarded independent chair, company director and strategic advisor to CEOs, senior executives, board chairs and directors, councillors and committees.

A series of lunchtime forums during June targeted community leaders seeking insight into the role of a community leader, effective collaboration, and change management.

Wimmera speakers also shared their experiences in these areas. Northern Grampians Shire chief executive Liana Thompson and Uniting Wimmera executive officer Josh Koenig, also a Horsham Rural City Councillor, discussed community leadership; while Wimmera Health Care Group's Amelia Crafter discussed the engagement and collaboration

required to build the Wimmera Cancer Centre. Jo Bourke reflected on her involvement with the Wimmera-Mallee Pipeline Project and she and Chris Kotur discussed change management.

Virtual Federal Parliament Day || presented by the Victorian community leadership network

Regional Victoria's nine community leadership programs combined to offer participants a virtual education opportunity, focusing on Federal Parliament, in September. The schedule included the Public Education Office, Senator for Victoria Scott Ryan, former Member for Indi Cathy McGowan, Member for New England Barnaby Joyce, former Member for Eden-Monaro Mike Kelly, Senator for Victoria Janet Rice and Member for Bendigo Lisa Chesters, and Independents Dr Helen Haines and Zali Steggall.

Deputy Prime Minister Michael McCormack was originally due to appear but later deferred his presentation to a separate session.

Program staffers met weekly from March to support each other, and their respective programs, through the pandemic – one of the benefits to come from this period.

GRADUATE NETWORK

Leadership Wimmera's Graduate Network presents opportunities throughout the year to community leadership program graduates and members of the public. These events and workshops make it possible for people in the Wimmera to continue their personal and professional development without the need to travel outside the Wimmera.

The Graduate Network hosted a Leadership Workshop for Horsham Youth Council in January - a one-day intensive for youth councillors aged 12 to 18, introducing them to effective teamwork strategies, goal setting and other leadership fundamentals such as DiSC under the guidance of Leading Teams facilitator Daniel Healy.

In September, communications and engagement professional Amelia Crafter presented Communicating with Confidence – a workshop focusing on public speaking not only in a traditional sense, but also in the COVID world of online meetings and presentations.

A two-day Leadership Master Class in October, again with Leading Teams' Daniel Healy, discussed models such as high-performing teams, self talk, situational leadership, the relationship pyramid and personal trademarks. Designed as a refresher course for graduates, it also attracted the interest of people seeking an opportunity to upskill for work and community benefit.

The Australian Institute of Company Directors presented its five-day Company Directors Course for 14 Wimmera Southern Mallee residents in November. Designed to strengthen the governance skills and knowledge of directors and senior executives, the course provided an in-depth look at the critical elements of corporate governance and directorship.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

The state government, through Regional Development Victoria, is Leadership Wimmera's major financial supporter.

Leadership Wimmera also acknowledges the valued support of founding sponsors ACE Radio Broadcasters. The organisation, through the Geoff and Helen Handbury Foundation, directly sponsored two staff members and assisted a further three people to participate in the Business Leaders program.

Agriculture Victoria scholarships supported one participant in each program, with the Minerals Council of Australia providing two scholarships for Regional Leadership Skills participants.

Horsham Rotary Club, Wimmera Development Association and past Leadership Wimmera committee chair, Robyn Lardner, together with her husband Des also supported people to participate.

Leadership Wimmera also recognises the generous time and commitment of the Leadership Wimmera advisory committee members' assistance in delivering leadership learning opportunities to Wimmera Southern Mallee residents in 2020.

Leadership Wimmera advisory committee:

- Tim Shaw, chair
- Luke Austin
- Jo Bourke
- Donald Carter
- Amelia Crafter
- Colin Kemp, Regional Development Victoria representative
- Josh Koenig, Wimmera Development Association representative

Program manager

- Jessica Grimble

The following committee members retired from service this year:

Mary Dagleish, Cathy Tischler, Rob Moir and Emilia Johns



WIMMERA SETTLEMENT PROGRAM

SETTLEMENT ENGAGEMENT & TRANSITION SUPPORT (SETS)

Wimmera Settlement Services has navigated a challenging year with the onset of COVID-19 in March and the associated lockdowns. Despite the challenges to deliver outreach services and community events, our COVID-19 response has enabled us to stay engaged with communities and clients at time of extreme vulnerability and isolation. We have also strengthened and expanded our partnerships to deliver services.

COVID-19 has also brought new opportunities to the region through online collaborations, training and services. Wimmera Settlement Services will continue to build on the opportunity to bring new expertise and services into the region and maximise the reach of our delivery across the area as we look towards recovery planning.

STRENGTHENING PARTNERSHIPS:

SETS Community Of Practice

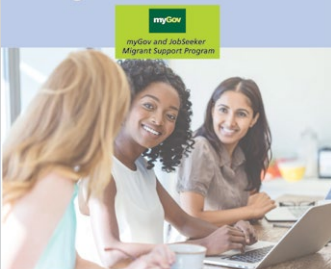
The SETS CoP is convened by the Migration Council of Australia and brings together SETS providers across Australia. The response to the COVID-19 situation has been invaluable for information and resource sharing, particularly multi-lingual COVID-19 updates.

Regional Partnerships and Neighbourhood Houses

Although Settlement Service client numbers have not been impacted, access to clients has been difficult and SETS Client services have been more reliant on online services (e.g. English language classes, homework clubs and playgroups) to deliver outreach, information and service updates.

Wimmera Settlement Services continues to work closely with partner organisations Nhill Learning Centre (NLC), Centre for Participation Multicultural Council (CFP), Ballarat Regional Multicultural Council (BRMC), Oasis Wimmera, the Karen community groups in Horsham and Nhill and the Wimmera Australian-Filipino Social Club to understand community needs and supply IT equipment, data, COVID-19 safety packs, nutrition and wellbeing packs and COVIDSafe ways to deliver support to individuals and communities. We are also developing relationships with Bendigo's Karen community with Bendigo Community Health.

Help support Wimmera migrants and refugees to access online government services



The Wimmera Development Association and Centre for Participation are recruiting for volunteers for the myGov and JobSeeker Migrant Support Program. Your role will be to assist migrant and refugee clients to:

- Set up a myGov account or reactivate/re-access their myGov account via the myGov portal
- Support clients with an online JobSeeker application should this assistance be needed

Please contact the WDA on info@wda.org.au or call 0418 944 050 for more information and to register your interest.



WCWIP/ MyGov migrant support program

The Wimmera CALD Workforce Industry Partnership (WCWIP) has been critical to understanding how migrant and refugee employees are being impacted by the COVID-19 situation. In response, Wimmera Settlement Services has developed a MyGov migrant support program, designed to match volunteers with migrant and refugee clients to create MyGov accounts and register for JobSeeker should they need to. Please see Settlement COVID-19 Response for details.

STRATEGIC DIRECTION

Regional Settlement Strategic Planning Group

WDA has established a Regional Settlement Strategic Planning Group to co-ordinate regional priority issues pertinent to migration and economic capacity building. Employment, training and housing have been identified as migration priorities.

Settlement Committee

The settlement committee continues to meet bi-monthly as an operational group of more than 17 member organisations across the Wimmera Southern Mallee. The settlement committee has been a critical bridge between local organisations and information sharing network during the COVID-19 period.

SCHOOLS AND YOUTH SERVICES:

Centre for Multicultural Youth (CMY) and Westlink Project

In October 2019, WDA, BRMC and CMY worked collaboratively to bring the

Westlink project to Horsham and Nhill. The Westlink project brought CMY expertise to the region to deliver in-school and out-of-school activities, training and development to multicultural youth in the region.

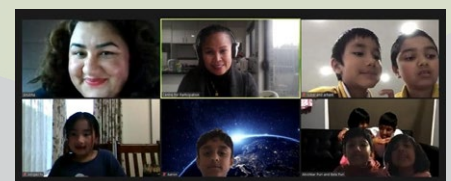


With the closure of Horsham and Nhill colleges during lockdown periods, Westlink focused on the AWA project, uniting youth in Nhill, Horsham, Ballarat and Ghana in an online virtual choir. Nhill and Horsham youth groups and homework clubs represented 46 per cent of all participants.

OUT-OF-SCHOOL-HOURS LEARNING, FAMILY SUPPORT AND TRAINING

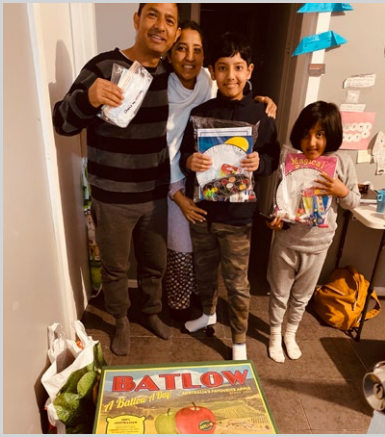
Homework Clubs

WDA welcomed Anubha Jalla Das as Horsham Homework Club's new co-ordinator. Anubha comes with a wealth of experience working with young children as well as being president of Oasis Wimmera multicultural community group. Nhill College's integration officer, MuSi Ler, continues to deliver homework club in Nhill. Both co-ordinators have done an incredible job to migrate homework club delivery online throughout school lockdown in term two.



WDA's efforts to establish a homework club in Stawell, in partnership with Stawell Neighbourhood House, were significantly hampered

by the COVID-19 situation. However, we have worked hard to engage new migrant families and have appointed Ayuen Kur as part-time community engagement officer to provide outreach support.



Jellybeans Playgroups

Jellybeans service delivery has also transitioned to Zoom. Jellybeans Playgroup is a settlement service for multicultural families to connect with the community and enjoy different cultures. It has more than 20 members, representing families from India, Nepal, Vietnam, Burma and Australia. Activities have been supplemented by activity packs and 'healthy body and mind' fruit and vegetable box deliveries to help families feel supported and connected. One hundred and forty-seven packs have been distributed to clients and service users between March and June 2020.



Wonder woman Training

WDA, Federation University and Wimmera Regional Library collaborated to bring a five-week, back-to-work and employment program to Horsham in November. Twelve students successfully completed the course, one student commenting it had: "Given her the confidence to re-enter the job market as a first time working mum."

THE WIMMERA SOUTHERN MALLEE MIGRANT SUPPORT PROGRAM (WSMMSP)

The Wimmera Southern Mallee Migrant Support Program (WSMMSP) entered its second year - supporting women and young people from migrant backgrounds to thrive on their settlement journey in the Wimmera.



Driver Assistance Program

The Driver Assistance program continues to be delivered across Horsham, Nhill and Stawell, despite an interruption to services during the COVID-19 lockdowns. The WDA Driver Assistance Program has been established to increase involvement in civic and community life, reducing social isolation and facilitate pathways to employment. It supports migrant and refugee clients to get their learner licenses, convert international licenses and support learner drivers to get their Ps, through private lessons and testing. To date, 19 students are registered on the program and six have successfully gained their full licences.



Harmony Sewing Group

Harmony Sewing Group is run in partnership with The Maker's Gallery Studio and Wimmera Regional Library Corporation with support from Nhill Learning Centre's Paw Po project. The program has more than 30 signed up members from India, Sri Lanka, Kashmir, Peru, Burma, Vietnam, Philippines, Russia, Solomon Islands, Nigeria, Kenya, Serbia and Sudan. Activities during the earlier part of the year were focused on a multicultural patchwork in preparation for Cultural Diversity Week. These activities were suspended in March in response to the lockdown.

COMMUNITY, FESTIVALS AND EVENTS



Football crazy! Interkultura 2019

In October, BRMC and WDA supported 24 players from Nhill and the Young G youth group to attend the second Interkultura multicultural football tournament in Ballarat. The football event was followed by a multicultural food feast. Craig Foster, former Socceroo captain, SBS chief football analyst and human rights ambassador, led the celebration of friendship through football. Tal Karp, Olympian and former Matilda was inspirational leader of the Girls Only! Skills Clinics co-ordinated by Melbourne Victory FC.

Limestone Football Carnival 2019

The Nhill team were so psyched by the experience, they jumped on the opportunity to hop over the border and participate in the Limestone Football Carnival. Wimmera Settlement Services, Nhill Learning Centre and Lucindale Naracoorte Council combined forces to make sure they got there!

OASIS Christmas Party, December 2019

More than 70 family and friends of the multi-cultural communities of Horsham and surrounding areas gathered at the Botanical Gardens for Oasis's annual Christmas event, supported by Wimmera Settlement Services and Horsham Rotary Club.

Cultural Diversity Week, March 2020

Annual celebrations for Cultural Diversity Week were poised to take place the week after the first lockdown, and therefore the event this year was cancelled. Wimmera Settlement Services would like to thank Oasis Wimmera, Wimmera Australian-Filipino Social Club, Horsham Karen Community Group and Horsham Town Hall staff for the work they put into the planning for this event. We sincerely hope to put all that preparation to good use as we transition towards COVID – normal in 2021.



AWA YOUTUBE VIDEO LAUNCH

Join us for an online red carpet affair, as we launch our Awa video clip into the world!

7pm, Saturday 1 August (Via Zoom)

Dress up in your finest fancy dress for this special occasion!

VICTORIA Member and Contact **cmj** Centre for Multicultural Youth **cmj.net.au**



COVID-19 RESPONSE WORK

RAPID ASSESSMENT OF THE FINANCIAL IMPACT OF COVID-19

WDA's immediate actions in response to the initial restrictions imposed by the federal government on March 23 and March 26, to combat the spread of COVID-19 - including the lockdown of bars, clubs, restaurants, cafes, food courts, cinemas, gyms and beauty services - was to reach out to local accountants and financial advisors to gauge the initial and forecasted impacts of COVID-19 on businesses within the Wimmera Southern Mallee. The findings were shared with economic development officers and other relevant stakeholders within the five municipalities. This process proved to be extremely beneficial as it provided a better understanding of the unforeseen situation that local businesses were facing and what immediate and ongoing support was required for small business.

WIMMERA SOUTHERN MALLEE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NETWORK

In response to the impacts of COVID-19, WDA invited the existing Economic Development and Tourism Network, consisting of economic development and tourism officers across the region, to meet on a more regular basis. The monthly networking meetings - although held as regularly as fortnightly depending on COVID-19 impacts at the time - provided an opportunity for information sharing and support during this unprecedented time. WDA engaged guest presenters to speak to the network including Visit Victoria, Grampians Tourism, Regional Development Victoria, Small Business Victoria, Department of Health and Human Services, Rural Financial Counselling, Creative Victoria, Localised and REMPLAN - all providing relevant and constructive information and insights for the network. In addition, the opportunity for attendees to provide regional updates was also beneficial as members shared ideas and knowledge on how to best support small business at this time.

IMPACT OF EVENTS CANCELLED DUE TO COVID-19

WDA, in partnership with Women's Health Grampians, surveyed more than 40 event organisers across the region whose events scheduled between March 22 and May 31 were ultimately cancelled or postponed due to COVID-19 restrictions. Wayne Street, of Street Ryan and Associates, collated the results and produced a report that illustrated that the cost of cancelled events in this period to the region is estimated at \$15.392 million in direct event expenditure and a further \$7 million in indirect expenditure. Cancellations affected almost 60,000 participants with more than 20,000 day trips and 36,000 overnight visitors staying in the region about 75,000 nights forfeited. Organisers say their groups lost more than \$800,000 in direct revenue and more than \$120,000 in surplus. The report was distributed and the findings presented by Wayne Street via webinar to survey participants and other relevant stakeholders.



COMMUNITY SPORT PROJECT

Recognising the significant impact of COVID-19 on community sport, WDA identified the importance of supporting our community sporting clubs and organisations - and, in particular, their committees of management - to help ensure a viable future beyond COVID-19. Collaborating with Wimmera Regional Sports Assembly (WRSA), WDA engaged Wayne Street, of Street Ryan and Associates, who presented two webinars to the community sport sector highlighting the participation rates, volunteer

engagement and the economic contribution of community sport. Sport plays a significant role in the Wimmera Southern Mallee economy, contributing more than \$18 million to the region. Many sporting clubs have an annual revenue in the range of \$50,000 to \$350,000+ which is a significant financial responsibility falling on volunteer-based committees on management. A community sport report was produced and distributed that provided the following key recommendations to community sporting groups to help secure their future: Strategic planning, financial management, diversification and volunteer management. WDA and WRSA engaged subject matter experts to present on each topic via the WRSA COVID-19 webinar series.

WIMMERA SOUTHERN MALLEE COVID COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (WSM CCAC)

WDA, in partnership with Emma Vogel of SPS Consulting, identified a need for a community led committee to provide input and information regarding the

short-term crisis response across the region, the development of a medium-term recovery strategy for the region and to consider high-level aspirations for the revitalisation of the region. The WSM CCAC was formed, consisting of 13 members representing a cross section of the region, including geographic, skill, gender and age. The WSM CACC met on a monthly basis from April. A particular focus was placed on identifying gaps in the response programs and maximising the response effectiveness by identifying opportunities to mobilise locally available skills, resourcing and collaboration. The following four key areas were identified and subsequently workshopped: The future of community groups, CBD revitalisation, value adding to agriculture, and addressing



disadvantage. Ultimately the WSM CCAC was a key stakeholder engagement tool for response teams to gain and test ideas and obtain critical information in a timely manner.

CROSS BORDER COMMUNITIES SUPPORT

With the introduction of tighter South Australian cross border restrictions, the impact on the West Wimmera shire was felt immediately - raising concerns for the community on a multitude of levels. WDA orchestrated two groups to meet, with a purpose to bring key stakeholders together and to gain a greater understanding of how the South Australian border closure was impacting the region, and how WDA could advocate and support during this time. The Cross Border Health Advisory Group consisted of regional health leaders and other key stakeholders and identified several areas of concern and discussed and actioned avenues for resolution. The Cross Border Business Support Group consisted of representatives from West Wimmera Shire Council, Regional Development Victoria and WDA. This group met to discuss the additional impact that South Australian border closures were having, and potentially could have, on businesses in the region and how best to support and advocate for those businesses at this time. WDA wrote a letter of advocacy for the West Wimmera Shire highlighting the many identified impacts that the South Australian border closures was having on the West Wimmera community and requesting additional support from federal and state governments. This letter was sent to the Prime Minister of Australia Scott Morrison, Premier of Victoria Dan Andrews, Premier of South Australia Steven Marshall, Federal Member for Mallee Dr Anne Webster, Federal Member for Wannon Dan Tehan, State Member for Lowan Emma Kealy, and Victoria ministers Jaala Pulford and Jaclyn Symes.

LEARNING FROM HOME DURING COVID-19 - RESEARCH PROJECT

During the month of May, WDA conducted social research exploring the challenges and impacts of learning from home during COVID-19. The research was designed to gather information from parents and caregivers about the experiences of leading learning from home. Four local journalists, stood down due to COVID-19, were engaged to conduct 50 telephone interviews with participants across the region. Some preliminary findings included that learning from home was overwhelming delivered by women; people with primary school-aged children reported greater dissatisfaction with the experience; a significant number of people had to take leave, reduce hours of work or work additional hours in the evenings and on weekends to manage work responsibilities; a number of households relied on elder siblings to support the education of younger children; internet connectivity was highly variable with households; access to hardware (computers, laptops etc) was an issue for many households and many made additional investments to support children's learning. The opportunity to engage more deeply with children and have a deeper appreciation of the level of study expected of their children was noted as a positive from the experience. Substantial variation was noted in the level of flexibility provided by employers regarding work activity, and there was also a substantial variation reported from participants about the level of support and engagement

provided by schools to support learning from home. The full report and findings will be available for distribution in November 2020.



MYGOV

The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated and highlighted many pre-existing challenges to accessing online government services for migrant and refugee communities in the Wimmera Southern Mallee, resulting in protracted registration for MyGov accounts and JobSeeker applications at a time of urgency.

WDAs Wimmera Settlement Services developed the MyGov migrant support program. The program enables volunteers to support migrant clients through MyGov registration and JobSeeker applications if needed. WDA is working in partnership with the Centre for Participation to recruit volunteers and match clients to deliver the program.

FOOD DISTRIBUTION

Outreach to those most vulnerable and impacted by COVID-19 has been hindered by restrictions and lockdowns. Wimmera Settlement Services has supported clients and service users with 'healthy body and mind' fruit and vegetable boxes. The boxes have provided a tangible connection between families and settlement services at a time when easing the effects of social isolation is paramount.

ONLINE DELIVERY OF HOMEWORK CLUBS AND JELLYBEANS PLAYGROUP

Since March 2020, Nhill and Horsham homework clubs made the migration from face-to-face service delivery to online sessions. Jellybeans playgroup in Horsham has also migrated online. WDA has continued to connect with Stawell Neighbourhood House to engage new families and has appointed a part-time community engagement officer to provide outreach support. Activities have been supplemented by activity packs and vegetable box deliveries

WIMMERA SOUTHERN MALLEE MEDIA AND COUNCIL LIAISON

WDA brought together representatives of Horsham Rural City, Northern Grampians, Yarriambiack, West Wimmera,

COVID-19 RESPONSE WORK

Hindmarsh and Buloke councils and local media from March. Initially meeting weekly and held under Chatham House rules, the liaison gave councils and the media an opportunity to share information about the evolving COVID-19 response and the sentiment among communities. It also helped to build a greater understanding and appreciation of the roles that mayors, chief executives and council communications officers play, along with a greater understanding and appreciation of the local media landscape. Often, members of the media gained significant news tips to pursue following the meeting. A stronger rapport and trust can only benefit these working relationships. Meetings later moved to a fortnightly schedule.

SUPPORTING WIMMERA YOUTH THROUGH THE COVID-19 HEALTH CRISIS

WDA has facilitated fortnightly meetings for people working in youth supporting roles across the Wimmera Southern Mallee. The meetings have given people an opportunity to share ideas and information, collaborate on projects, learn from each other, and provide peer support throughout the pandemic. Participants work in health and wellbeing, outreach, support and liaison, community development and education.



WIMMERA SOUTHERN MALLEE CONNECTIVITY SURVEY

WDA instigated a survey aiming to understand the impacts of the COVID-19 health crisis on Wimmera Southern Mallee internet connectivity. Residents tested the speed of their home or mobile internet service during May – while they were, in many cases, working and learning from home. The region's IT infrastructure was tested like it had never been before.

Analysis of the survey results showed that living in an urban area did not guarantee better internet speeds compared to those of rural customers, and many people were seeking alternative or upgraded services that were fit for purpose. The survey showed many people paid for internet speeds they did not receive. Results also showed that the COVID-19 pandemic

has likely seen traditional “peak times” for internet use evaporate as demand relating to working and learning from home was spread across a longer period. Results also show residents have limited choices when it comes to

providers and that has more impact than location when it comes to cost and connectivity. Larger providers did not guarantee superior service.

WDA will use the results of the survey and subsequent analysis to advocate for improved infrastructure, in line with the Wimmera Southern Mallee Regional Digital Plan; advocate for greater education for consumers – including connectivity process and available providers; and tap into a growing market for alternative providers.

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP SUPPORT AND DEVELOPMENT

Leadership Wimmera offered opportunities for community leaders to upskill and support themselves and others during the pandemic.

Leadership Wimmera engaged Kate Burke of Think Agri to run the webinar, *Weathering the Storm: Using personal power to steer yourself and your community through uncertain times* in April - as the world as we knew it rapidly responded to the Coronavirus pandemic. The webinar aimed to build resilience and give people tools to navigate the changing environment and uncertainty of the time – and, indeed, the many months ahead.

A series of lunchtime forums during June targeted community leaders seeking insight into the role of a community leader, effective collaboration, and change management. Christine Kotur lead the discussions. Chris provides expert professional services in the fields of strategy, governance, leadership development, complex inquiries, reviews and facilitation.

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WSM REC WATER VALUES SUMMARY

COVERING THE 2019-20 SUMMER SEASON, WIMMERA DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION WITH PROJECT PARTNERS WIMMERA CMA, GWMWATER AND THE WIMMERA SOUTHERN MALLEE COUNCILS COMPLETED THE FINAL YEAR OF A FOUR-YEAR STUDY FOCUSING ON THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC VALUES OF RECREATIONAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL WATER TO THE REGION.

Key findings from the report estimate that in 2019-20, more than 280,000 people are estimated to have visited the 27 waterways included in the study, including more than 175,000 visitor nights down 14 per cent from the last survey.

Visitation to the sites included in this year's study was made up of 41.5 per cent Wimmera Southern Mallee residents, 33.6 per cent other Victorian Country, 14.7 per cent Melbourne and 6.7 per cent from South Australia, and a high rate of both active and passive local participation.

RECREATIONAL WATER FACILITY VISITATION AND USAGE

Estimated recreational water users in 2019-20 at the selected facilities are:

- Overnight visitors: 46,869
- Visit nights: 175,367
- Local active participation - people using the water facility as a day trip destination for fishing, swimming, boating, picnicking on the banks: 63,038
- Local passive participation - people engaged in an activity using the foreshore or trails around the water facility due to its amenity, such as walking, cycling, jogging: 172,240
- Total recreational water participation: 282,148
- Change on 2018-19: -14.03 per cent
- Estimated number of people involved: 67,051

Activities and amenity provided at the Wimmera Southern Mallee water facilities are clearly suited to residents and visitors 'for a lifetime', with good levels of participation across all age ranges. Family groups and retirees dominate overnight visitor users. Older participants, including 'grey nomad' style overnight visitors, were most prevalent at the water facilities in Yarriambiack and Hindmarsh shires.

A large majority of visitors to the recreational water facilities are residents of the Wimmera Southern Mallee and other parts of regional Victoria.

Most towns servicing the Wimmera Southern Mallee recreational water facilities have high levels of socio-economic disadvantage. In fact, most are within the most disadvantaged 30 per cent of all 'suburbs' in Victoria (of 2676 suburbs in total). This suggests the local towns and their residents are likely to achieve greater than average benefits from the economic and social benefits accruing from the regional recreational water facilities.

ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION

The total estimated regional economic contribution from the selected sites is \$28.491 million in 2019-20 - a 15.41 per cent decrease on the contribution measured in 2018-19.

The 2020 results reflect the impact of lower water levels at many of the locations and increased blue green algae outbreaks significantly impacting visitation. Additionally, COVID-19 impacts were starting to be realised with many event across the region being cancelled impacting visitation.



COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL CONTRIBUTION

The value of Wimmera Southern Mallee recreational water users' health contribution has been estimated based on the prevention of chronic diseases such as breast cancer, coronary heart disease, diabetes, bowel cancer and stroke. The mental health benefits are derived from the prevention of anxiety and depression.

The estimated total health benefits from Wimmera Southern Mallee residents and all country Victorians participating at Wimmera Southern Mallee recreational water facilities in 2019-20 include:

| | <i>WSM Resident Participants</i> | <i>Country Victorian Participants</i> |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| • Physical: Annual benefit: | \$1,424,360 | \$2,266,319 |
| • Mental benefit: | \$171,106 | \$295,375 |
| • Total annual health benefit | \$1,595,466 | \$2,561,694 |
| • Last year 2018-19: | \$1,556,926 | \$3,708,007 |

This study has given stakeholders an enhanced understanding of the economic and social contribution of these facilities and the important role they play in regional communities. Many groups involved have used these reports to assist with grant submissions for infrastructure development. Key regional agencies have used these reports for future planning of water usage and support to local communities.

This year's study will be followed by an additional report showing comparisons across the four-year studies and highlight water quality events, impacts of new events and additional opportunities for infrastructure development and events at key locations.

Wimmera Development Association has worked with Wayne Street of Street Ryan and Associates to deliver this project engaging with committees of management, sporting clubs and others likely to have an involvement in recreational water activity. The majority of the funding for the project has been made available by the Victorian Government's Water for Victoria program via the Wimmera CMA.

The complete reports for the 2017-20 surveys can be accessed at www.wda.org.au



WIMMERA SOUTHERN MALLEE TOURISM COLLABORATION AND DESTINATION MANAGEMENT PLAN

PURPOSE OF THE PROJECT

The Wimmera Southern Mallee Tourism Collaboration and Destination Management Plan Project aims to strengthen and enhance the tourism sector in this region. The project has two key components – development of a governance model/framework and the development of a destination management plan for the Wimmera Southern Mallee.

KEY FINDINGS

Governance framework

The project found that the most viable and realistic option for tourism governance in the broader Wimmera Southern Mallee region is for the two existing tourism organisations – Grampians Tourism and Wimmera Mallee Tourism to remain as separate organisations, but that Wimmera Mallee Tourism requires increased funding to appoint an executive officer.

A Memorandum of Understanding has been finalised between Wimmera Mallee Tourism, Grampians Tourism and Visit Victoria to enable Wimmera Mallee Tourism to directly apply to Visit Victoria for relevant tourism grants.

Destination Management Plan

A Destination Management Plan (DMP) has been developed for the area covered by Wimmera Mallee Tourism. The vision identified in the DMP is:

- The Wimmera Southern Mallee region will be known for its vast and diverse landscapes and nature-based experiences - from deserts and sand dunes to pink lakes, wetlands and night skies.
- It will be home to the world's largest Outdoor Art Gallery, with bespoke silo art extending across the region, supported by unique and contemporary product and experiences that showcase the history and people of the region.

Priority projects identified in the DMP are:

- World's largest outdoor gallery: Leveraging the Silo Art Trail
- Lake Tyrrell and Sea Lake Tourism Investment Master Plan
- Wimmera River Discovery Trail
- Wimmera and Mallee Parks Master Plan
- Wimmera Mallee Touring Route– Great Southern Touring Route and Murray River Region Links
- West Wimmera: Keeper of Indigenous Cricket

Aside from the priority projects listed above, a set of seven strategic development themes were developed for the region in response to the key issues and opportunities identified for the region, with each including a range of product, infrastructure, experience and strategy-based projects and initiatives.

- Arts, culture and heritage
- Nature-based and water
- Touring
- Indigenous
- Food and agritourism
- Infrastructure and accommodation
- Strategic positioning, industry capacity development and tourism governance.

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

A number of small projects were delivered during the implementation phase with the project steering committee working with Wimmera Mallee Tourism.

Implementation Components include:

- **Great Southern Touring Route (GSTR)**
Wimmera Mallee Tourism has joined as a member of GSTR to link to additional tourism regions.

- **Visitor Servicing report**

The Visitor Servicing Analysis and Investment Strategy for Wimmera Mallee Tourism will provide vision and direction for the delivery of physical and digital visitor information across the Wimmera Southern Mallee region and the shires of Buloke, Yarriambiack, Hindmarsh and West Wimmera. Tourism is a key growing industry in the Wimmera Southern Mallee and there is significant opportunity to grow domestic and international visitation, supported by effective visitor servicing both during and pre trip. This project responds to the need to reinvigorate and redesign the region’s existing visitor services offering, to support ongoing product and experience development, and align with changing consumer trends, needs and expectations.

The purpose of the project is to deliver research, analysis and strategic planning of visitor servicing within the Wimmera Mallee Tourism region, including recommendations for servicing visitors across both physical and digital platforms.

- **Tourism Guide design and development and Unearth Amazing branding licence**

The Unearth Amazing Touring Guide has been developed, highlighting a number of touring routes and attractions across the Wimmera Mallee Tourism region.

Touring routes have created links to the Wimmera Mallee Tourism region with the Grampians, Murray River and Limestone Coast.

- **Visiting Friend and Family Campaign**

As the initial COVID-19 lockdown period was coming to an end, Wimmera Mallee Tourism undertook a promotional campaign on television and social media to encourage people in the Ballarat and Bendigo markets to visit family and friends in the Wimmera Mallee Tourism region.

The Unearth Amazing marketing campaign encouraged people to travel and spend ‘locally’ in the Wimmera and Mallee.

Launching in mid-June after a challenging period of restrictions, the campaign aimed to encourage regional Victorians to visit and ‘Unearth Amazing’ experiences in the Wimmera and Mallee and experience the diversity and uniqueness of our region.

The advertising directed interested travellers to the Wimmera Mallee Tourism website www.visitwimmeramallee.com.au that highlights road trip itineraries to encourage planning and forward booking.

- **Augmented Reality**

Augmented reality delivery for an additional five silos on the Silo Art Trail.

- **Painting of the Albacutya silo**

Kitt Bennet has been engaged to complete the artwork at Albacutya Silo once restrictions ease. This silo will create a link between the Yarriambiack and West Wimmera sections of the Silo Art Trail.

The Wimmera Southern Mallee Regional Partnership Collaboration and Destination Management Plan Project has developed a suite of guiding documents for Wimmera Mallee Tourism which will assist future developments in the region, including:

- Wimmera Southern Mallee Tourism Collaboration Plan;
- Wimmera Mallee Tourism Destination Management Plan;
- Geographia Economic Impact Study of the Silo Art Trail;
- Wimmera Mallee Tourism Visitor Servicing report recently completed; and
- Three promotion videos promoting the Wimmera Southern Mallee Region.

Three short promotional videos have also been produced for television and social media which can be found on the Visit Wimmera Mallee YouTube page.

If you would like to find out more about this project, contact WDA on 5381 6500. Details of the project and project updates can be found at www.wda.org.au



Independent Auditor's Report

To the Board of Wimmera Development Association Incorporated

Opinion I have audited the financial report of Wimmera Development Association Incorporated (the association) which comprises the:

- statement of financial position as at 30 June 2020
- statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income for the year then ended
- statement of changes in equity for the year then ended
- statement of cash flows for the year then ended
- notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies
- certification of the financial statements.

In my opinion the financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the association as at 30 June 2020 and their financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the financial reporting requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012* and applicable Australian Accounting Standards.

Basis for Opinion I have conducted my audit in accordance with the *Audit Act 1994* which incorporates the Australian Auditing Standards. I further describe my responsibilities under that Act and those standards in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of my report.

My independence is established by the *Constitution Act 1975*. My staff and I are independent of the association in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to my audit of the financial report in Victoria. My staff and I have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Board's responsibilities for the financial report The Board of the association is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012*, and for such internal control as the Board determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the Board is responsible for assessing the association'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 it is inappropriate to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report

As required by the *Audit Act 1994*, my responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on the audit. My objectives for the audit 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 my 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, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I 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 my 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 association's internal control
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Board
- conclude on the appropriateness of the Board's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the association's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the association 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.

I communicate with the Board regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

MELBOURNE
21 October 2020



Sanchu Chummar

as delegate for the Auditor-General of Victoria

WIMMERA DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED
ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020

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**CERTIFICATION OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020**

In my opinion, the accompanying financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 (the Act)*, *applicable Accounting Standards* and other mandatory professional reporting requirements.




.....
Principal Accounting Officer
Mr Graeme Harrison
Wimmera Development Association Incorporated

8 October, 2020

In our opinion the accompanying financial statements present fairly the financial transactions of the Wimmera Development Association Incorporated (the Association) for the year ended 30 June 2020 and the financial position of the Association as at that date.

As at the date of signing, we are not aware of any circumstance which would render any particulars in the financial statements to be misleading or inaccurate.

We have been authorised by the Wimmera Development Association Incorporated Board to certify the financial statements in their final form.



.....
Chairperson
Cr Kevin Erwin
Wimmera Development Association Incorporated

8 October, 2020



.....
Board Member
Mr Sunil Bhalla
Wimmera Development Association Incorporated

8 October, 2020



.....
Executive Director
Mr Chris Sounness
Wimmera Development Association Incorporated

8 October, 2020

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**STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020**

| | Notes | 2020 \$ | 2019 \$ |
|----------------------------------------------------|-------|---------------|-----------------|
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| INCOME | | | |
| Council contributions | 2.1 | 430,981 | 423,223 |
| Grants - operating | 2.2 | 644,254 | 413,152 |
| Other income | 2.4 | 113,047 | 268,982 |
| Net gain/(loss) on disposal of plant and equipment | 2.3 | - | 7,091 |
| | | ----- | ----- |
| Total income | | 1,188,282 | 1,112,448 |
| | | ===== | ===== |
| EXPENSES | | | |
| Employee costs | 3.1 | 444,972 | 332,804 |
| Materials and services | 3.2 | 587,084 | 705,729 |
| Depreciation | 3.3 | 7,932 | 6,009 |
| Other expenditure | 3.4 | 115,137 | 105,814 |
| | | ----- | ----- |
| Total expenses | | 1,155,125 | 1,150,356 |
| | | ===== | ===== |
| Surplus/(deficit) for the year | | 33,157 | (37,908) |
| | | ===== | ===== |
| Other comprehensive income | | - | - |
| | | ----- | ----- |
| Total comprehensive income for the year | | 33,157 | (37,908) |
| | | ===== | ===== |

The above statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT 30 JUNE 2020**

| | Notes | 2020 \$ | 2019 \$ |
|---------------------------------------------|---------|----------------|----------------|
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| ASSETS | | | |
| Current assets | | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 4.1 (a) | 391,910 | 942,727 |
| Trade and other receivables | 4.1 (c) | 22,527 | 58,850 |
| Other financial assets | 4.1 (b) | 600,000 | - |
| Other assets | 4.2 | 5,399 | 6,113 |
| | | ----- | ----- |
| Total current assets | | 1,019,836 | 1,007,690 |
| | | ===== | ===== |
| Non-current assets | | | |
| Plant and equipment, furniture and fittings | 5.1 | 48,608 | 5,639 |
| | | ----- | ----- |
| Total non-current assets | | 48,608 | 5,639 |
| | | ===== | ===== |
| TOTAL ASSETS | | 1,068,444 | 1,013,329 |
| | | ===== | ===== |
| LIABILITIES | | | |
| Current liabilities | | | |
| Trade and other payables | 4.3 | 34,823 | 42,703 |
| Provisions | 4.4 | 33,946 | 19,355 |
| | | ----- | ----- |
| Total current liabilities | | 68,769 | 62,058 |
| | | ===== | ===== |
| Non-current liabilities | | | |
| Provisions | 4.4 | 22,110 | 6,863 |
| | | ----- | ----- |
| Total non-current liabilities | | 22,110 | 6,863 |
| | | ===== | ===== |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES | | 90,879 | 68,921 |
| | | ===== | ===== |
| NET ASSETS | | 977,565 | 944,408 |
| | | ===== | ===== |
| EQUITY | | | |
| Accumulated surplus | | 463,025 | 497,887 |
| Reserves | 8.1 | 514,540 | 446,521 |
| | | ----- | ----- |
| TOTAL EQUITY | | 977,565 | 944,408 |
| | | ===== | ===== |

The above statement of financial position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020**

| 2020 | Notes | TOTAL \$ | Accumulated Surplus (Deficit) \$ | Asset Replacement Reserves \$ |
|---------------------------------------------|-------|----------------|-------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| Balance at beginning of the financial year | | 944,408 | 497,887 | 32,509 |
| Surplus/(deficit) for the year | | 33,157 | 33,157 | - |
| Other comprehensive income | | - | - | - |
| Transfers to other reserves | 8.1 | - | (123,250) | 123,250 |
| Transfers from other reserves | 8.1 | - | 55,231 | (55,231) |
| | | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| Balance at end of the financial year | | 977,565 | 463,025 | 100,528 |
| | | ===== | ===== | ===== |

| 2019 | Notes | TOTAL \$ | Accumulated Surplus (Deficit) \$ | Asset Replacement Reserves \$ |
|---------------------------------------------|-------|----------------|-------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| Balance at beginning of the financial year | | 982,316 | 693,436 | 288,880 |
| Surplus/(deficit) for the year | | (37,908) | (37,908) | - |
| Other comprehensive income | | - | - | - |
| Transfers to reserves | 8.1 | - | (189,016) | 189,016 |
| Transfers from reserves | 8.1 | - | 31,375 | (31,375) |
| | | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| Balance at end of the financial year | | 944,408 | 497,887 | 446,521 |
| | | ===== | ===== | ===== |

The above statement of changes in equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes

**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020**

| | Notes | 2020 Inflows/ (Outflows) \$ | 2019 Inflows/ (Outflows) \$ |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| Cash flows from operating activities | | | |
| Council contributions | | 474,079 | 465,545 |
| Grants - operating | | 697,959 | 428,281 |
| Interest received | | 5,878 | 16,353 |
| Other receipts | | 129,598 | 284,522 |
| Employee costs | | (416,485) | (380,637) |
| Materials & services & other | | (754,281) | (881,545) |
| Net GST payment | | (36,664) | (22,371) |
| | | ----- | ----- |
| Net cash provided by operating activities | 8.2 | 100,084 | (89,852) |
| | | ===== | ===== |
| Cash flows from investing activities | | | |
| Payments for investments | 4.1 | (600,000) | - |
| Payments for plant and equipment, furniture and fittings | 5.1 | (50,901) | - |
| Proceeds from sale of plant and equipment, furniture and fittings | 2.3 | - | 19,091 |
| | | ----- | ----- |
| Net cash used in investing activities | | (650,901) | 19,091 |
| | | ===== | ===== |
| Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents | | (550,817) | (70,761) |
| Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year | | 942,727 | 1,013,488 |
| | | ----- | ----- |
| Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year | 4.1 | 391,910 | 942,727 |
| | | ===== | ===== |

The above statement of cash flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020**

OVERVIEW

Introduction

The Wimmera Development Association Incorporated (the Association) is an incorporated body under the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012*.

The Association is administered and auspiced by the Horsham Rural City Council on behalf of the member councils. The Association is funded by conditional grants from the state government, for developing industry and commerce, and contributions from each of the member councils based on population.

The Association was established in 1990 with the aim of promoting the development of industry and commerce within the Wimmera Southern-Mallee Region.

Statement of Compliance

These financial statements of the Wimmera Development Association Incorporated are general purpose financial report that consists of a Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income, Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Changes in Equity, Statement of Cash Flows, and notes accompanying these financial statements. The general purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012* and Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations of the Australian Accounting Standards Board.

Note 1 Significant accounting policies

(a) Basis of accounting

The accrual basis of accounting has been used in the preparation of these financial statements, whereby assets, liabilities, equity, income and expenses are recognised in the reporting period to which they relate, regardless of when cash is received or paid.

Judgements, estimates and assumptions are required to be made about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated judgements are based on professional judgement derived from historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised and also in future periods that are affected by the revision. Judgements and assumptions made by management in the application of AAS's that have significant effects on the financial statements and estimates relate to:

- the fair value of plant and equipment (refer to note 5.1)
- the determination of depreciation for plant and equipment (refer to note 5.1)
- the determination of employee provisions (refer to note 4.4)
- the determination of whether performance obligations are sufficiently specific so as to determine whether an arrangement is within the scope of AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers or AASB 1058 Income of Not-for-Profit Entities
- other areas requiring judgements

Unless otherwise stated, all accounting policies are consistent with those applied in the prior year. Where appropriate, comparative figures have been amended to accord with current presentation (except where transitional requirements of AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers, AASB 16 Leases and AASB 1058 Income of Not-for-Profit Entities do not require restatement of comparatives under the modified retrospective approach adopted by the Association and disclosure has been made of any material changes to comparatives.

The Association is a not-for-profit organisation and is exempt from income tax under section 50-45 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*.

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of an asset or as part of an item of expense. Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of GST.

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020**

Note 2 Funding for the delivery of our services

| 2.1 Council contributions | 2020 | 2019 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|---------|---------|
| | \$ | \$ |
| Contributions were received from the following Council's: | ----- | ----- |
| Horsham Rural City Council | 207,483 | 203,748 |
| Hindmarsh Shire Council | 44,573 | 43,771 |
| Yarriambiack Shire Council | 58,541 | 57,487 |
| West Wimmera Shire Council | 33,445 | 32,843 |
| Northern Grampians Shire Council | 86,939 | 85,374 |
| | ----- | ----- |
| Total contributions | 430,981 | 423,223 |
| | ===== | ===== |

Council contributions are recognised when the Association obtains control of the contribution. This is normally obtained upon their receipt.

2.2 Funding from other levels of government

Grants were received in respect of the following:

Summary of Grants

| | | |
|----------------------------|---------|---------|
| Commonwealth Funded Grants | 202,982 | 95,716 |
| State Funded Grants | 441,272 | 317,436 |
| | ----- | ----- |
| Total grants received | 644,254 | 413,152 |
| | ===== | ===== |

(a) Operating Grants

Non-recurrent - Commonwealth Government

| | | |
|------------------------------------|--------|--------|
| Wimmera Settlement Program | - | 25,040 |
| Settlement Engagement & Transition | 85,732 | 70,676 |
| COVID-19 Cash Flow Boost | 62,500 | - |
| COVID-19 Job Keeper | 54,750 | - |

Non-recurrent - State Government

| | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|---------|
| Leadership Wimmera | 178,572 | 160,645 |
| Grampians Region Cycling & Trails Infrastructure Master Plan | - | 32,471 |
| Wimmera Southern Mallee Recreational Water Values Project | 43,800 | 43,800 |
| Evolve Partnership | 12,000 | 24,000 |
| Wimmera Southern Mallee Partnerships Tourism Project | 125,000 | - |
| Oasis | 1,900 | 1,900 |
| Capacity Building & Participation | 20,000 | 20,000 |
| Homework Club | 15,000 | 9,620 |
| Wimmera Southern Mallee Workforce Recruitment Attraction & Retention | - | 25,000 |
| Victorian Multicultural Commission Cultural Diversity Week | 6,000 | - |
| Embedding Climate Change Adaption | 5,000 | - |
| COVID-19 Multicultural Community Connections | 4,000 | - |
| COVID-19 Business Support Fund | 10,000 | - |
| COVID-19 Promotion of Economic Survival Package Initiatives | 20,000 | - |

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------|---------|
| Total non-recurrent operating grants | 644,254 | 413,152 |
| | ----- | ----- |
| Total grants | 644,254 | 413,152 |
| | ===== | ===== |

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020**

Note 2 Funding for the delivery of our services (Cont.)

| 2.2 Funding from other levels of government (Cont.) | 2020 | 2019 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| | \$ | \$ |
| (b) Unspent grants received on condition that they be spent in a specific manner | ----- | ----- |
| Operating | | |
| Balance at start of year | 313,148 | 493,328 |
| Received during the financial year and remained unspent at balance date | 243,914 | 226,729 |
| Received in prior years and spent during the financial year | (310,145) | (406,909) |
| | ----- | ----- |
| Balance at year end | 246,917 | 313,148 |
| | ===== | ===== |

Grant income is recognised at the point in time when the Association satisfies its performance obligations as specified in the underlying agreement.

2.3 Net gain/(loss) on disposals of plant and equipment

| | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------|-------|----------|
| Plant and equipment | | |
| Proceeds from sale of assets | - | 19,091 |
| Written down value of assets sold | - | (12,000) |
| | ----- | ----- |
| Net gain/(loss) on disposal of plant and equipment | - | 7,091 |
| | ===== | ===== |
| Summary | | |
| Proceeds from sale of assets | - | 19,091 |
| Written down value of assets sold | - | (12,000) |
| | ----- | ----- |
| Total net gain/(loss) on disposal of plant and equipment | - | 7,091 |
| | ===== | ===== |

The profit or loss on sale of an asset is determined when control of the asset has passed to the buyer.

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020**

Note 2 Funding for the delivery of our services (Cont.)

| 2.4 Other income | 2020 | 2019 |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|----------|
| | \$ | \$ |
| Interest | 10,657 | 16,058 |
| Regional Certifying Body Income | 9,500 | 8,000 |
| Wimmera Business Achievement Awards | - | 46,435 |
| GWMWater Affiliation | 20,000 | 20,000 |
| Project management fees | 5,000 | 12,390 |
| Promotions contributions | 327 | - |
| Leadership Wimmera Contributions | 53,713 | 62,428 |
| Leadership Wimmera sponsorships | 5,850 | 23,549 |
| Wimmera Southern Mallee Recreational Water Values Project | 8,000 | 49,000 |
| Migration Projects | - | 9,122 |
| Wimmera Southern Mallee Workforce Recruitment Attraction & Retention | - | 20,000 |
| Evolve Partnership | - | 2,000 |
| Total other income | 113,047 | 268,982 |
| | ===== | ===== |
| Unspent other income received on condition that they be spent in a specific manner | | |
| Balance at start of year | 84,616 | 83,857 |
| Received during the financial year and remained unspent at balance date | 8,000 | 78,122 |
| Received in prior years and spent during the financial year | (13,458) | (77,363) |
| Balance at year end | 79,158 | 84,616 |
| | ===== | ===== |

Interest is recognised as it is earned.

Other income is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable and is recognised when the Association gains control over the right to receive the income.

Note 3 The cost of delivering services

3.1 (a) Employee costs

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------|---------|
| Wages, salaries and oncosts | 354,556 | 286,432 |
| Workcover | 2,055 | 1,973 |
| Annual leave and long service leave | 47,979 | 7,377 |
| Superannuation | 36,187 | 30,320 |
| Fringe benefits tax | 4,195 | 6,702 |
| Total employee costs | 444,972 | 332,804 |
| | ===== | ===== |

(b) Superannuation

Association made contributions to the following funds

Accumulation funds

Employer contributions to Local Authorities

Superannuation Fund (Vision Super)

Employer contributions - other funds

| | |
|--------|--------|
| 15,303 | 16,157 |
| 20,884 | 14,164 |
| 36,187 | 30,321 |
| ===== | ===== |

Employer contributions payable at reporting date

| | |
|-------|-------|
| 5,825 | 2,475 |
|-------|-------|

Refer to note 8.3 for further information relating to Association's superannuation obligations.

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020**

Note 3 The cost of delivering services (Cont.)

| 3.2 Materials and services | 2020 | 2019 |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|---------|
| | \$ | \$ |
| | ----- | ----- |
| Wimmera Business Achievement Awards | 4,055 | 53,414 |
| Leadership Wimmera | 188,128 | 188,697 |
| Victorian Multicultural Commission | - | 12,238 |
| FRRR Homework Club | - | 5,667 |
| Grampians Region Cycling & Trails Infrastructure Master Plan | - | 58,743 |
| Wimmera Southern Mallee Recreational Water Values Project | 79,750 | 70,248 |
| Evolve Partnership | 11,473 | 14,717 |
| Agricultural Projects | 2,722 | 4,812 |
| Wimmera Southern Mallee Networked Grains Centre of Excellence | - | 60,469 |
| Wimmera Southern Mallee Partnerships Tourism Project | 208,204 | 216,044 |
| Settlement Engagement & Transition | 14,911 | 12,056 |
| Oasis | 1,855 | 150 |
| Capacity Building & Participation | 15,740 | 7,292 |
| Homework Club | 8,674 | 1,182 |
| Migration Projects | 634 | - |
| Wimmera Southern Mallee Workforce Recruitment Attraction & Retention | 25,000 | - |
| Victorian Multicultural Commission Cultural Diversity Week | 730 | - |
| COVID-19 Business Support | 22,808 | - |
| Rainbow Radar Evaluation | 2,400 | - |
| | ----- | ----- |
| Total materials and services | 587,084 | 705,729 |
| | ===== | ===== |

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020**

Note 3 The cost of delivering services (Cont.)

| 3.3 Depreciation | 2020 | 2019 |
|-------------------------|-------|-------|
| | \$ | \$ |
| | ----- | ----- |
| Plant and equipment | 4,512 | 4,062 |
| Furniture and fittings | 3,420 | 1,947 |
| | ----- | ----- |
| Total depreciation | 7,932 | 6,009 |
| | ===== | ===== |

Refer to note 5.1 for a more detailed breakdown of depreciation charges and accounting policy.

3.4 Other expenses

| | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|---------|
| Auditor's remuneration - VAGO - audit of the financial statements | 6,000 | 6,000 |
| Training | 862 | 1,318 |
| Office rent | 10,543 | 8,618 |
| Finance administration HRCC | 8,900 | 8,700 |
| Trainee | 9,149 | 4,820 |
| Office furniture & equipment maintenance | 446 | 1,083 |
| Postage | 116 | 26 |
| Computer operation & maintenance | 5,799 | 1,696 |
| Telephone | 11,673 | 9,100 |
| Insurance | 1,158 | 1,351 |
| Travel | 1,910 | - |
| Car expenses | 3,443 | 5,474 |
| Accommodation | 125 | 156 |
| Cleaning | 466 | 213 |
| Electricity | 375 | 374 |
| Bank charges | 421 | 623 |
| Board operation | 5,132 | 4,253 |
| Printing & stationery | 2,296 | 1,982 |
| Subscriptions | 1,812 | 429 |
| Committee meetings & functions | 64 | 90 |
| Promotions | 237 | - |
| Recruitment Costs | 12,998 | 19,286 |
| Web Licence Fees | 1,115 | 594 |
| Remplan Economy | 8,182 | 8,182 |
| Localised Business Network | 20,000 | 20,000 |
| Miscellaneous | 1,915 | 1,446 |
| | ----- | ----- |
| Total other expenses | 115,137 | 105,814 |
| | ===== | ===== |

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020**

Note 4 Our financial position

| 4.1 Financial assets | 2020 | 2019 |
|--------------------------------------|---------|---------|
| | \$ | \$ |
| (a) Cash and cash equivalents | ----- | ----- |
| Cash at bank | 7,510 | (173) |
| Cash on hand | 400 | 400 |
| Overnight cash | 384,000 | 92,500 |
| Short term deposits | - | 850,000 |
| | ----- | ----- |
| Total cash and cash equivalents | 391,910 | 942,727 |
| | ===== | ===== |
| (b) Other financial assets | | |
| Term deposits - current | 600,000 | - |
| | ----- | ----- |
| Total other financial assets | 600,000 | - |
| | ===== | ===== |

The Association's cash and cash equivalents are subject to a number of internal and external restrictions that limit amounts available for discretionary or future use. These include:

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------|---------|
| - Unexpended grants (Note 2.2) | 246,917 | 313,148 |
| - Unexpended other income (Note 2.4) | 79,158 | 84,616 |
| | ----- | ----- |
| Total restricted funds | 326,075 | 397,764 |
| | ===== | ===== |
| Total unrestricted funds | 65,835 | 544,963 |
| | ===== | ===== |

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits at call, and other highly liquid investments with original maturities of 3 months or less, net of outstanding bank overdrafts.

Term deposits are measured at original cost. Any unrealised gains and losses on holdings at balance date are recognised as either a revenue or expense.

(c) Trade and other receivables**Current**

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------|--------|
| Other debtors | 22,527 | 58,850 |
| | ----- | ----- |
| Total trade and other receivables | 22,527 | 58,850 |
| | ===== | ===== |

Short term receivables are carried at invoice amount. A provision for doubtful debts is recognised when there is objective evidence that an impairment has occurred. Long term receivables are carried at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method. Given our analysis and review, there is no material impact of AASB 9 on the transactions and balances recognised in the financial statements.

(d) Ageing of receivables

The ageing of the Association's trade & other receivables (excluding statutory receivables) that are not impaired was:

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------|--------|
| Current (not yet overdue) | 21,757 | 58,850 |
| Past due between 31 and 180 days | 770 | - |
| | ----- | ----- |
| Total trade and other receivables | 22,527 | 58,850 |
| | ===== | ===== |

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020**

Note 4 Our financial position (Cont.)

| 4.2 Non-financial assets | 2020 | 2019 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|--------|
| | \$ | \$ |
| Other assets | ----- | ----- |
| Accrued Income | 5,399 | 3,955 |
| Prepayments | - | 2,158 |
| | ----- | ----- |
| Total other assets | 5,399 | 6,113 |
| | ===== | ===== |
| 4.3 Payables | | |
| Trade and other payables | | |
| Trade payables | 39,658 | 33,415 |
| PAYG creditor | 4,366 | 6,140 |
| Net GST payable/(receivable) | (9,201) | 3,148 |
| | ----- | ----- |
| Total trade and other payables | 34,823 | 42,703 |
| | ===== | ===== |
| 4.4 Provisions | | |
| Employee provisions | | |
| Current provisions expected to be wholly settled within 12 months | | |
| Annual leave | 24,000 | 15,000 |
| | ----- | ----- |
| | 24,000 | 15,000 |
| | ===== | ===== |
| Current provisions expected to be wholly settled after 12 months | | |
| Annual leave | 9,946 | 4,355 |
| | ----- | ----- |
| | 9,946 | 4,355 |
| | ===== | ===== |
| Total current employee provisions | 33,946 | 19,355 |
| | ===== | ===== |
| Non-current | | |
| Long service leave | 22,110 | 6,863 |
| | ----- | ----- |
| Total non-current employee provisions | 22,110 | 6,863 |
| | ===== | ===== |
| Aggregate carrying amount of employee provisions: | | |
| Current | 33,946 | 19,355 |
| Non-current | 22,110 | 6,863 |
| | ----- | ----- |
| Total aggregate carrying amount of employee provisions | 56,056 | 26,218 |
| | ===== | ===== |

The calculation of employee costs and benefits includes all relevant on-costs and are calculated as follows at reporting date.

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020**

Note 4 Our financial position (Cont.)

4.4 Provisions (Cont.)

Wages and salaries, and annual leave

Liabilities for wages and salaries, including non-monetary benefits, annual leave and accumulated sick leave expected to be wholly settled within 12 months of the reporting date are recognised in the provision for employee benefits in respect of the employee services up to the reporting date, classified as current liabilities and measured at their nominal values.

Liabilities that are not expected to be wholly settled within 12 months of the reporting date are recognised in the provision for employee benefits as current liabilities, measured at present value of the amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled using the remuneration rate expected to apply at the time of settlement.

Long Service Leave

Liability for long service leave (LSL) is recognised in the provision for employee benefits. LSL is measured at present value. Unconditional LSL is disclosed as a current liability. Conditional LSL that has been accrued, where an employee is yet to reach a qualifying term of employment is disclosed as a non-current liability.

Key assumptions:

| | 2020 | 2019 |
|------------------|--------|--------|
| - inflation rate | 4.250% | 4.313% |

Discount rates depend on years of service and are based on the rates released by the Department of Treasury and Finance. Probabilities of staff meeting their entitlement periods are based on history over the last four years.

4.5 Commitments

The Association did not have any commitments at 30 June 2020 (2018/19, nil).

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020**

Note 5 Assets we manage**5.1 Plant and equipment, furniture and fittings****Summary of plant and equipment, furniture and fittings**

| | At Fair Value 30 June 2019 \$ | Acquisitions \$ | Depreciation \$ | At Fair Value 30 June 2020 \$ |
|----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| Plant and equipment | - | 39,631 | (4,512) | 35,119 |
| Furniture and fittings | 5,639 | 11,270 | (3,420) | 13,489 |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| | 5,639 | 50,901 | (7,932) | 48,608 |
| | ===== | ===== | ===== | ===== |
| | | Plant and Equipment | Furniture and Fittings | Total plant and equipment, furniture and fittings |
| 2020 | | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| At fair value 1 July 2019 | | - | 20,036 | 20,036 |
| Accumulated depreciation at 1 July 2019 | | - | (14,397) | (14,397) |
| | | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| | | - | 5,639 | 5,639 |
| | | ===== | ===== | ===== |
| Movements in fair value | | | | |
| Additions | | 39,631 | 11,270 | 50,901 |
| | | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| | | 39,631 | 11,270 | 50,901 |
| | | ===== | ===== | ===== |
| Movements in accumulated depreciation | | | | |
| Depreciation | | (4,512) | (3,420) | (7,932) |
| | | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| | | (4,512) | (3,420) | (7,932) |
| | | ===== | ===== | ===== |
| At fair value 30 June 2020 | | 39,631 | 31,306 | 70,937 |
| Accumulated depreciation at 30 June 2020 | | (4,512) | (17,817) | (22,329) |
| | | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| | | 35,119 | 13,489 | 48,608 |
| | | ===== | ===== | ===== |

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020**

Note 5 Assets we manage (Cont.)**5.1 Plant and equipment, furniture and fittings (Cont.)**

| | Plant and Equipment | Furniture and Fittings | Total plant and equipment, furniture and fittings |
|----------------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2019 | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| At fair value 1 July 2018 | 37,632 | 20,036 | 57,668 |
| Accumulated depreciation at 1 July 2018 | (21,570) | (12,450) | (34,020) |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| | 16,062 | 7,586 | 23,648 |
| | ===== | ===== | ===== |
| Movements in fair value | | | |
| Disposal | (37,632) | - | (37,632) |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| | (37,632) | - | (37,632) |
| | ===== | ===== | ===== |
| Movements in accumulated depreciation | | | |
| Depreciation | (4,062) | (1,947) | (6,009) |
| Accumulated depreciation of disposals | 25,632 | - | 25,632 |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| | 21,570 | (1,947) | 19,623 |
| | ===== | ===== | ===== |
| At fair value 1 July 2019 | - | 20,036 | 20,036 |
| Accumulated depreciation at 1 July 2019 | - | (14,397) | (14,397) |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| | - | 5,639 | 5,639 |
| | ===== | ===== | ===== |

Acquisition

The purchase method of accounting is used for all acquisitions of assets, being the fair value of assets provided as consideration at the date of acquisition plus any incidental costs attributable to the acquisition. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset (or paid to transfer a liability) in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date.

Where assets are constructed by the Association, cost includes all materials used in construction, direct labour on the project and an appropriate share of directly attributable variable and fixed overheads.

In accordance with the Association's policy, the threshold limits have applied when recognising assets within an applicable asset class and unless otherwise stated are consistent with the prior year:

| <i>Asset recognition thresholds and depreciation periods</i> | Depreciation Period | Threshold Limit \$ |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Plant and equipment | 3 years | 5,000 |
| Furniture and fittings | 3 - 10 years | 1,000 |

Depreciation

All assets having a limited useful life are systematically depreciated over their useful lives to the Association in a manner which reflects the consumption of the service potential embodied in those assets. Estimates of remaining useful lives and residual values are made on a regular basis with major asset classes reassessed annually. Depreciation rates and methods are reviewed annually. Depreciation periods used are listed above and are consistent with the prior year unless otherwise stated.

Repairs and maintenance

Routine maintenance, repair costs and minor renewal costs are expensed as incurred. When the repair relates to the replacement of a component of an asset and the cost exceeds the capitalisation threshold the cost is capitalised and depreciated. The carrying value of the replaced asset is expensed.

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020**

Note 6 People and relationships

6.1 Board and key management remuneration

(a) Related Parties

Parent Entity
Wimmera Development Association is the parent entity.

Subsidiaries and associates
Nil.

(b) Key management personnel

Names of persons holding the position of key management personnel at any time during the year are:

| | | |
|---------------------------|-------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Acting Executive Director | M.Fletcher | Acting Executive Director 28/2/19 to 18/8/19 |
| Executive Director | C. Sounness | Executive Director 19/8/19 to current |

Board Members

| | | |
|-----------|-------------|--------------------------|
| Treasurer | A. Murphy | Member 9/2/16 to 24/4/20 |
| | G. Harrison | Member 9/6/20 to current |

Council Positions

| | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------|----------------------------|
| Hindmarsh Shire Council | Cr R. Gersch | Member 1/7/05 to current |
| | Cr D. Nelson | Member 10/11/15 to current |
| Horsham Rural City Council | Cr J. Koenig | Member 15/11/16 to current |
| West Wimmera Shire Council | H. Mulraney-Roll | Member 9/8/16 to current |
| | Cr T. Domaschenz | Member 15/11/16 to current |
| Yarriambiack Shire Council | Cr H. Ballentine | Member 15/11/16 to current |
| | Cr T. Hamilton | Member 11/12/18 to current |
| Northern Grampians Shire Council | Cr K. Erwin | Member 13/11/12 to current |
| | Cr M. Emmerson | Member 15/11/16 to current |

Co Opt Positions

| | |
|-------------|----------------------------|
| M. Williams | Member 14/2/12 to current |
| G. Lord | Member 17/4/12 to current |
| M. Bailey | Member 9/8/16 to 10/8/19 |
| C. Tischler | Member 12/2/19 to current |
| D. Leahy | Member 6/2/16 to current |
| G. Wood | Member 13/9/16 to current |
| C. Kemp | Member 14/11/17 to current |
| S. Bhalla | Member 11/4/18 to current |
| J. Holmes | Member 14/8/18 to current |
| L. Thompson | Member 25/11/19 to current |
| S. Briggs | Proxy |

Sectional Interest Group Positions

| | |
|-------------|-----------------------------|
| S. Price | Member 21/3/07 to current |
| A. Saunders | Member 10/11/09 to 12/11/19 |
| D. Webster | Member 13/11/12 to current |
| E. Sudholz | Member 13/11/13 to current |
| D. Drage | Member 20/11/16 to current |
| S. Dalton | Member 14/11/17 to current |
| B. George | Member 14/11/17 to 12/11/19 |

No remuneration was paid for the reporting period to the board members listed above.

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020**

Note 6 People and relationships (Cont.)

| | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|---------|
| 6.1 Board and key management remuneration (Cont.) | 2020 | 2019 |
| | \$ | \$ |
| (c) Remuneration of Key Management Personnel | ----- | ----- |
| Total remuneration of key management personnel was as follows: | | |
| Short-term benefits | 146,887 | 144,312 |
| Post-employment benefits | 14,015 | 13,301 |
| Long-term benefits | 3,652 | 3,486 |
| | ----- | ----- |
| | 164,554 | 161,099 |
| | ===== | ===== |
| The number of key management personnel, whose total remuneration from the Association and any related entities, falls within the following bands: | | |
| | No. | No. |
| \$0 - \$9,999 | 29 | 30 |
| \$10,000 - \$19,999 | 1 | - |
| \$40,000 - \$49,999 | - | 1 |
| \$120,000 - \$129,999 | - | 1 |
| \$140,000 - \$149,999 | 1 | - |
| | ----- | ----- |
| | 31 | 32 |
| | ===== | ===== |

(d) Senior officer remuneration

A Senior Officer is an officer of the Association, other than Key Management Personnel, who:

- has management responsibilities and reports directly to the Executive Director;
- whose total annual remuneration exceeds \$151,000

There were no other senior officers whose remuneration exceeded \$151,000 in 2019/20 (2018/19, nil).

6.2 Related Party Disclosure

(a) Transactions with related parties

The Association received the following amounts during the year from other related parties to fund its operations.

| | | |
|----------------------------------|---------|---------|
| | 2020 | 2019 |
| | \$ | \$ |
| Hindmarsh Shire Council | 44,573 | 43,771 |
| Horsham Rural City Council | 207,483 | 203,748 |
| West Wimmera Shire Council | 33,445 | 32,843 |
| Yarriambiack Shire Council | 58,541 | 57,487 |
| Northern Grampians Shire Council | 86,939 | 85,374 |

The Association paid \$8,900 to Horsham Rural City Council during the year for administrative services provided to the Association by Horsham Rural City Council. The amount paid by the Association is based on the cost to Horsham Rural City Council of the services provided to the Association on arm's length terms. (2018/19, \$8,700)

There were no other transactions with other related parties during the year.

(b) Outstanding balances with related parties

No balances are outstanding at the end of the reporting period in relation to transactions with related parties (2018/19, nil).

(c) Loans to/from related parties

No loans were in existence at balance date that had been made, guaranteed or secured by the Association to a related party (2018/19, nil).

(d) Commitments to/from related parties

No Commitments were in existence at balance date that had been made, guaranteed or secured by the Association to a related party (2018/19, nil).

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020****Note 7 Managing uncertainties****7.1 Contingent assets and liabilities**

Contingent assets and contingent liabilities are not recognised in the Balance Sheet, but are disclosed and, if quantifiable, are measured at nominal value. Contingent assets and liabilities are presented inclusive of GST receivable or payable respectively.

Liability Mutual Insurance

The Association is a participant of the MAV Liability Mutual Insurance (LMI) Scheme. The LMI scheme provides public Liability and professional indemnity insurance cover. The LMI scheme states that each participant will remain liable to make further contributions to the scheme in respect of any insurance year in which it was a participant to the extent of its participant's share of any shortfall in the provision set aside in respect of that insurance year, and such liability will continue whether or not the participant remains a participant in future insurance years.

MAV Workcare

The Association is a participant of the MAV WorkCare Scheme. The MAV WorkCare scheme provides workers compensation insurance. The MAV WorkCare Scheme states that each participant will remain liable to make further contributions to the scheme in respect of any insurance year in which it was a participant to the extent of its participant's share of any shortfall in the provision set aside in respect of that insurance year, and such liability will continue whether or not the participant remains a participant in future insurance years.

Cashflow Boost

The Association received cashflow boost of \$62,500 during 2019/20 (2018/19, nil). The Association determined that it is eligible to receive this funding and recognised it as income on receipt during 2019/20 on the basis that the Association is an Incorporated Association with members including entities outside local government sector. As at the date of signing this report there is no indication that WDA is not an intended recipient of this Federal Government funding. However, if there is a change in eligibility criteria by ATO, there is a possibility that this amount may need to be refunded to ATO at a future date.

7.2 Change in accounting standards

The following new AASB'S have been issued that are not mandatory for the 30 June 2020 reporting period. The Association has assessed these pending standards and has identified the following potential impacts will flow from the application of these standards in future reporting periods.

AASB 1059 Service Concession Arrangements: Grantors (AASB 1059) (applies 2020/21)

AASB 1059 addresses the accounting for a service concession arrangement by a grantor that is a public sector entity by prescribing the accounting for the arrangement from the grantor's perspective. Based on the Association's current assessment, there is expected to be no impact on the transitions and balances recognised in the financial statements as the Association is not a grantor in a service concession arrangement.

AASB 2018-7 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - Definition of Material (applies 2020/21)

The Standard principally amends AASB 101 Presentation of Financial Statements and AASB 108 Accounting Policies. Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors. The amendments refine the definition of material in AASB 101. The amendments clarify the definition of material and its application by improving the wording and aligning the definition across AASB Standards and other publications. The impacts on the Association are expected to be minimal.

AASB 2019-1 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - References to the Conceptual Framework (applies 2020/21)

This Standard sets out amendments to Australian Accounting Standards, Interpretation and other pronouncements to reflect the issuance of Conceptual Framework for Financial Reporting (Conceptual Framework) by the AASB. The impacts on the Association are expected to be minimal.

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020****Note 7 Managing uncertainties (Cont.)****7.3 Financial instruments****(a) Objectives and policies**

The Association's principal financial instruments comprise cash assets, term deposits, receivables, and payables. Details of the significant accounting policies and methods adopted, including the criteria for recognition, the basis of measurement and the basis on which income and expenses are recognised, in respect of each class of financial asset, financial liability and equity instrument is disclosed in the notes of the financial statements. Risk management is carried out by senior management under policies approved by the Association. These policies include identification and analysis of the risk exposure to the Association and appropriate procedures, controls and risk minimisation.

(b) Market risk

Market risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of the Association's financial instruments will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. The Association's exposures to market risk are primarily through interest rate risk with only insignificant exposure to other price risks and no exposure to foreign currency risk. Components of market risk to which we are exposed are discussed below.

Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk refers to the risk that the value of a financial instrument or cash flows associated with the instrument will fluctuate due to changes in market interest rates. The Association does not hold any interest bearing financial instruments that are measured at fair value, and therefore has no exposure to fair value interest rate risk. Cash flow interest rate risk is the risk that the future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates. The Association has minimal exposure to cash flow interest rate risk through its cash and deposits that are at floating rates.

The Association manage interest rate risk, of investment of surplus funds, by ensuring:

- diversification of investment product,
- monitoring of return on investment,
- benchmarking of returns and comparison with budget.

There has been no significant change in the Association's exposure, or its objectives, policies and processes for managing interest rate risk or the methods used to measure this risk from the previous reporting period.

Interest rate movements have not been sufficiently significant during the year to have an impact on the Association's year end result.

(c) Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that a contracting entity will not complete its obligations under a financial instrument and cause the Association to make a financial loss. The Association have exposure to credit risk on some financial assets included in the balance sheet. To help manage this risk:

- the Association may require collateral where appropriate; and
- the Association only invest surplus funds with financial institutions that conform with State and Federal regulations and standards.

Trade and other receivables consist of a small number of customers, spread across consumer and government sectors. Credit risk associated with the Association's financial assets is minimal because the main debtor is Local Government. Apart from Local Government the Association does not have any significant credit risk exposure to a single customer or groups of customers. Ongoing credit evaluation is performed on the financial condition of our customers.

There are no material financial assets which are individually determined to be impaired.

The maximum exposure to credit risk at the reporting 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 Association does not hold any collateral.

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020**

Note 7 Managing uncertainties (Cont.)

7.3 Financial instruments (Cont.)

(d) Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk includes the risk that, as a result of the Association's operational liquidity requirements it will not have sufficient funds to settle a transaction when required, or will be forced to sell a financial asset at below value or may be unable to settle or recover a financial asset.

To help reduce these risks the Association:

- have readily accessible standby facilities and other funding arrangements in place;
- have a liquidity portfolio structure that requires surplus funds to be invested within various bands of liquid instruments; and
- monitor budget to actual performance on a regular basis.

The Association's maximum exposure to liquidity risk is the carrying amounts of financial liabilities as disclosed on the face of the balance sheet and is deemed insignificant based on prior periods' data and current assessment of risk.

There has been no significant change in the Association's exposure, to its objectives, policies and processes for managing liquidity risk or the methods used to measure this risk from the previous reporting period.

All financial liabilities are expected to be settled within normal terms of trade.

Unless otherwise stated, the carrying amounts of financial instruments reflect their fair value.

(e) Sensitivity disclosure analysis

Taking into account past performance, future expectations, economic forecasts, and management's knowledge and experience of the financial markets, the Association believes the following movements are 'reasonably possible' over the next 12 months.

- A parallel shift of +0.25% and -0.25% in market interest rates (AUD) from year end rates of 1.67%.

These movements will not have a material impact on the valuation of the Association's financial assets and liabilities, nor will they have a material impact on the results of Association's operations.

7.4 Fair value measurement

Fair value hierarchy

The Association's financial assets and liabilities are not valued in accordance with the fair value hierarchy, the Association's financial assets and liabilities are measured at amortised cost.

The Association measures certain assets and liabilities at fair value where required or permitted by Australian Accounting Standards. AASB 13 Fair value measurement, aims to improve consistency and reduce complexity by providing a definition of fair value and a single source of fair value measurement and disclosure requirements for use across Australian Accounting Standards.

AASB 13 defines fair value as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. Fair value under AASB 13 is an exit price regardless of whether that price is directly observable or estimated using another valuation technique.

All assets and liabilities for which fair value is measured or disclosed in the financial statements are categorised within a fair value hierarchy, described as follows, based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement as a whole.

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020**

Note 7 Managing uncertainties (Cont.)

7.4 Fair value measurement (Cont.)

All assets and liabilities for which fair value is measured or disclosed in the financial statements are categorised within a fair value hierarchy, described as follows, based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement as a whole:

Level 1 - Quoted (unadjusted) market prices in active markets for identical assets and liabilities.

Level 2 - Valuation techniques for which the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement is directly or indirectly observable and

Level 3 - Valuation techniques for which the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement is unobservable.

For the purpose of fair value disclosures, the Association has determined classes of assets and liabilities on the basis of the nature, characteristics and risks of the asset or liability and the level of the fair value hierarchy as explained above.

In addition, the Association determines whether transfers have occurred between levels in the hierarchy by re-assessing categorisation (based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement as a whole) at the end of each reporting period.

7.5 Events occurring after balance date

To assist in containing Covid-19, the Victorian Government enacted a State of Emergency from 16th August 2020 through to 11th October 2020.

Regional Victoria including the Wimmera Development Association was required to enter a Stage 3 Lockdown on 5th August 2020. The lockdown has forced the closure the Association's office to customers during this period. The Association has however worked closely with local government partners to provide support to the municipal communities. To also ensure the best chance of avoiding the severe impacts of Covid-19, the Association has worked closely with regional health care providers, supported businesses through restrictions set by the State Government and kept the community informed about updates and safety measures.

Note 8 Other matters

8.1 Reserves

| | Balance at beginning of reporting period \$ | Transfer to accumulated surplus \$ | Transfer from accumulated surplus \$ | Balance at end of reporting period \$ |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| (a) Asset Replacement Reserves | | | | |
| 2020 | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| Vehicle replacement reserve | 32,509 | 32,509 | - | - |
| Total asset replacement reserves | 32,509 | 32,509 | - | - |
| | ===== | ===== | ===== | ===== |
| 2019 | | | | |
| Vehicle replacement reserve | 6,600 | - | 25,909 | 32,509 |
| Total asset replacement reserves | 6,600 | - | 25,909 | 32,509 |
| | ===== | ===== | ===== | ===== |

The above transfers represent an appropriation of funds for the future replacement of assets.

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020**

Note 8 Other matters (Cont.)

| 8.1 Reserves (Cont.) | Balance at beginning of reporting period | Transfer to accumulated surplus | Transfer from accumulated surplus | Balance at end of reporting period |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| (b) Other Reserves | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| 2020 | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| Special projects reserve | 414,012 | 22,722 | 123,250 | 514,540 |
| Total other reserves | 414,012 | 22,722 | 123,250 | 514,540 |
| | ===== | ===== | ===== | ===== |
| 2019 | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| Special projects reserve | 282,280 | 31,375 | 163,107 | 414,012 |
| Total other reserves | 282,280 | 31,375 | 163,107 | 414,012 |
| | ===== | ===== | ===== | ===== |

The above transfers represent an appropriation of funds for the future funding of special projects.

| 8.2 Reconciliation of cash flows from operating activities to surplus | 2020 | 2019 |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|----------|
| | \$ | \$ |
| Surplus/(deficit) for the year | 33,157 | (37,908) |
| Depreciation expense | 7,932 | 6,009 |
| Net (gain) on disposal of plant and equipment, furniture and fittings | - | (7,091) |
| Change in assets and liabilities | | |
| Decrease/(Increase) in trade and other receivables | 36,323 | (8,329) |
| Decrease/(Increase) in accrued income | (1,444) | (3,040) |
| Decrease/(Increase) in prepayments | 2,158 | (2,158) |
| Increase/(Decrease) in trade and other payables | (7,880) | (6,985) |
| Increase/(Decrease) in employee provisions | 29,838 | (30,350) |
| Net cash provided by operating activities | 100,084 | (89,852) |
| | ===== | ===== |

8.3 Superannuation

Wimmera Development Association Incorporated makes all of its employer superannuation contributions in respect of its employees to the Local Authorities Superannuation Fund (the Fund). This Fund has two categories of membership, accumulation and defined benefit, each of which is funded differently. The Association make contributions to the Fund's accumulation category only. Obligations for contributions to the Fund are recognised as an expense in the Comprehensive Income Statement when they are made or due.

Accumulation

The Fund's accumulation category, Vision My Super/Vision Super Saver, receives both employer and employee contributions on a progressive basis. Employer contributions are normally based on a fixed percentage of employee earnings, for the year ended 30 June 2020, this was 9.5% required under Superannuation Guarantee (SG) Legislation.

Superannuation contributions

Contributions by Wimmera Development Association to the above superannuation plan for the financial year ended 30 June are detailed below:

| Scheme | Type of Scheme | Rate | 2020 | 2019 |
|------------------------------|--------------------|------|--------|--------|
| Vision Super and other funds | Accumulation funds | 9.5% | 36,187 | 30,321 |

There were \$5,825 contributions outstanding and no loans issued from or to the above scheme as at 30 June 2020.

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020**

Note 9 Change in accounting policy

The Association has adopted AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers, AASB 16 Leases and AASB 1058 Income of Not-for-Profit Entities, from 1 July 2019. This has resulted in changes in accounting policies, however, no adjustments to the amounts recognised in the financial statements are required.

Due to the transition methods chosen by the Association in applying these standards, comparative information throughout these financial statements has not been restated to reflect the requirements of the new standards except in relation to contracts that were not complete at 1 July 2019. There has been no transitional impact.

(a) AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers - Impact of Adoption

AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers applies to revenue transactions where the Association provides services or goods under contractual arrangements.

The Association adopted AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts using the modified (cumulative catch up) method. Revenue for 2019 as reported under AASB 118 Revenue is not adjusted, because the new standard is only applied from the date of initial application.

AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers requires revenue from contracts with customers to be recognised as the Association satisfies the performance obligations under the contract.

(b) AASB 16 Leases

AASB 16 Leases requires right of use assets and related liabilities for all lease agreements to be recognised on the balance sheet. The Statement of Comprehensive Income is to separately recognise the amortisation of the right of use asset, and the finance costs relating to the lease. The Association does not currently have any leases.

(c) AASB 1058 Income of Not-For-Profit Entities

AASB 1058 Income of Not-for-Profit Entities applies to income received where no contract is in place. This includes statutory charges (such as rates) as well as most grant agreements. The Association adopted AASB 1058 Income of Not-for-Profit Entities using the modified (cumulative catch up) method. Income for 2019 is not adjusted, because the new standard is only applied from the date of initial application.

AASB 1058 Income of Not-for-Profit Entities requires income to be recognised as the Association satisfies the performance obligations under the contract.

(d) Transition Impacts

There have been no transitional impacts.

BOARD MEMBERS 2019/2020

| BOARD MEMBERS | NAME | POSSIBLE MEETINGS | MEETINGS ATTENDED | MEMBERSHIP |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| Chief Executive Officer | Mr Sunil Bhalla | 11 | 4 | Member 11/4/18 to current |
| Wimmera Development Association Executive Director | Mr Chris Sounness | 9 | 9 | Member 1/9/19 to current |
| Wimmera Development Association Acting Executive Director | Mr Mark Fletcher | 2 | 2 | Member 1/7/19 to 30/8/19 |
| Treasurer | Ms Angela Murphy | 8 | 5 | Member 9/2/2016 to 24/4/20 |
| Proxy | Mr Stephen Pykett | | 1 | |
| Proxy | Mr Joel Hastings | | 4 | |
| Hindmarsh Shire Council | Cr Rob Gersch | 11 | 11 | Member 1/7/05 to current |
| Hindmarsh Shire Council | Cr Deb Nelson | 11 | 9 | Member 10/11/15 to current |
| Horsham Rural City Council | Cr Josh. Koenig | 11 | 3 | Member 15/11/16 to current |
| Northern Grampians Shire Council | Cr Kevin Erwin | 11 | 10 | Member 13/11/12 to current |
| Northern Grampians Shire Council | Cr Murray Emmerson | 11 | 6 | Member 15/11/16 to current |
| West Wimmera Shire Council | Cr Trevor Domaschenz | 11 | 9 | Member 15/11/16 to current |
| West Wimmera Shire Council | Ms Helen Mulraney-Roll | 11 | 8 | Member 9/08/16 to current |
| Yarriambiack Shire Council | Cr Tom Hamilton | 11 | 7 | Member 11/12/18 to current |
| Yarriambiack Shire Council | Cr Helen Ballentine | 11 | 3 | Member 15/11/16 to current |
| Co Opt Positions - Hindmarsh Shire Council | Mr Greg Wood | 11 | 7 | Member 13/9/16 to current |
| Co Opt Positions - Horsham Rural City Council | Ms Cathy Tischler | 11 | 8 | Member 12/2/2019 to current |
| Co Opt Positions - Northern Grampians Shire Council | Mr Michael Bailey | 2 | 1 | Member 9/8/16 to 10/8/19 |
| Co Opt Positions - Northern Grampians Shire Council | Ms Liana Thompson | 6 | 4 | Member 25/11/19 to current |
| Proxy | Mr Vaughan Williams | | 1 | |
| Co Opt Positions - West Wimmera Shire Council | Mr David Leahy | 11 | 8 | Member 6/2/16 to current |
| Co Opt Positions - Yarriambiack Shire Council | Ms Jessie Holmes | 11 | 4 | Member 14/8/18 to current |
| Co Opt Positions - GWMWater | Mr Mark Williams | 11 | 1 | Member 14/2/12 to current |
| Proxy | Mr Steve Briggs | | 8 | |
| Co Opt Positions - Federation University | Mr Geoff Lord | 11 | 9 | Member 17/4/12 to current |
| Co Opt Positions - Regional Development Victoria | Mr Colin Kemp | 11 | 10 | Member 14/11/17 to current |
| Sectional Interest - Health & Wellbeing | Ms Simone Dalton | 11 | 10 | Member 14/11/17 to current |
| Sectional Interest - Sustainable Agriculture | Mr David Drage | 11 | 7 | Member 20/11/16 to current |
| Sectional Interest - Tourism & Recreation | Mr Steve Price | 11 | 7 | Member 21/3/07 to current |
| Sectional Interest - Manufacturing | VACANT | 0 | 0 | |
| Sectional Interest - Commerce & Industry Development | Mr Darren Webster | 11 | 6 | Member 13/11/12 to current |
| Sectional Interest - Conservation & Environment | Ms Emelia Sudholz | 11 | 8 | Member 13/11/13 to current |
| Sectional Interest - Education & Training | VACANT | 0 | 0 | |
| Sectional Interest - Wimmera Mallee Sustainability Alliance | VACANT | 0 | 0 | |



62 Darlot St, Horsham Victoria 3400
Ph: (03) 5381 6500

info@wda.org.au
www.wda.org.au

MEMBER MUNICIPALITIES



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