

THIRTIETH ANNUAL REPORT
Year Ending 31st December 2022



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Board Chair Report David Mason

It is my pleasure to be able to present the 2022 annual report.

2022 was an incredibly productive and engaging year for ANZCCART. At the start of the year we were still battling and coming to terms with managing under the effects of COVID-19 progressing to our highly successful conference in July, the continued development of the ComPass (Competency Passport) program and Openness Agreement. 2022 has been a busy and successful year for ANZCCART.

I write this as the immediate past chair of ANZCCART, having stepped down from the role late in 2022. This was a difficult personal decision but ANZCCART has come a long way in the 3.5 years I've been in the role, and has delivered a number of key projects and outcomes. I have been incredibly fortunate to work with a very collaborative and active board throughout my tenure as chair. Their support and willingness to step up and support the organisation has been wonderful. The board is actively recruiting for a new chair and is currently supported by Cathy Pitkin, our deputy chair.

The highlight of the year for me was our **2022 ANZCCART Conference**, one of the first opportunities for many colleagues to meet face to face, after being kept physically isolated on Zoom/ Teams meetings. The Rendezvous hotel in Melbourne proved to be very popular with both speakers and attendees. It was an engaging and compelling program with a diverse group of speakers from across Australia and New Zealand and covering a wonderful breadth of content and speakers.

The ANZCCART Competency Passport (ComPass) certification process is entering the last of the planned stages of development with content for all 4 phases of the course now available free of charge for users. Each week we see an increasing number of individuals completing the course and helping ensure that those involved in animal research and teaching activities are using a consistent framework to understand their obligations and support improvements in their activities. Professor Gail Anderson has done an amazing job to produce and drive this project to its current successful state.

The Openness Agreement, led by Dr Malcolm France, is a collaborative project that is continuing to engage and help provide a framework for institutions involved in animal research through supporting an increase in transparency and accountability. We've seen engagement from those involved in animal research and teaching which has been incredibly pleasing.

ANZCCART provided a response to the NSW parliamentary inquiry into the use of primates and other animals in medical research. This included both a written and in person representation and enabled ANZCCART to assert its position as a neutral organisation who can support evidenced based public discussion regarding the use of animals in research and teaching.

Chris Wadey has once again continued to provide amazing support, leadership and guidance to the ANZCCART Board and all those involved and interacting with the organisation. Personally, I wish to thank Chris for her continued engagement, commitment and support of ANZCCART.



The year ahead is looking incredibly promising with the ANZCCART conference planned for Adelaide in early August 2023 and the

continued support and growth of both ComPass and Openness projects.

Who we are and what we stand for.

Vision:

To be the leading source of information and advice concerning the ethical and scientific use of animals in research and teaching.

Mission:

To achieve its Vision, ANZCCART will promote: Excellence in the care of animals supplied for or used in research and teaching:

- Responsible scientific use of animals.
- The 3Rs policy of Replacement, Reduction and Refinement as they apply to the use of animals for scientific purposes.
- Informed discussion and debate within the community regarding these matters.
- Strategic partnerships to contribute to the education and training of scientists, students and the broader community

ANZCCART seeks to achieve these objectives, first by providing an ongoing focus to the social, ethical and scientific issues involved, second by providing a forum for discussion of these issues and third by facilitating access to relevant specialist advice and resources. Further, through its publications and activities ANZCCART is a source of information for the general public about how animals are used in research and teaching in Australia and New Zealand.





Values:

- Openness

- HonestyRespectProgressive
- > Excellence



ANZCCART Strategic Pillars

Leadership

Leading and advising all those involved in research and teaching that utilizes animals

- Advice
- Direct feedback & support
- 3Rs
- Development of an Openness agreement and supporting organisations to understand the value of being signatories.

Training

- **⇒** Conferences
- **⇒** Training
- □ Direct Training

Publications

- Proceedings
- Newsletters
- Website platform

Financial & Governance Responsibility

ANZCCART needs a solid financial positioning to ensure that we are able to continue our projects and key activities. We also need to ensure that our organisational governance is well structured an upheld.

We have developed a financial model and business plan for 2022 and beyond.



PREPARE



Some of the key documents that ANZCCART refers to and endorses.

These documents provide a strong framework around which our organisation is able to achieve its vision and mission.





Openness Agreement

Openness agreements are a form of public pledge that institutions may sign to demonstrate commitment to greater transparency and public understanding of animal research. The concept was pioneered in the UK with its 2014 Concordat on Openness on Animal Research. This has since formed the basis of similar initiatives in nine other countries including New Zealand which launched the first openness agreement outside Europe in 2021.

An openness agreement for Australia has been progressing under the guidance of a working group convened by ANZCCART. A draft agreement and annual reporting template were released for full public consultation during 2022 and feedback collated into updated versions for further consultation with the research community.

Endorsement for the openness agreement was evident from both the research sector and the animal protection community in submissions to an inquiry into animal research by the upper house of the NSW parliament conducted during 2022. This culminated in a recommendation in support of the agreement in the inquiry's report released in October 2022.

It is expected that the Australian Openness Agreement will be launched at the ANZCCART conference in August 2023.

2022 also saw the first anniversary since ANZCCART launched the New Zealand Openness Agreement. The number of signatories to this agreement has grown steadily to the current total of 28 organisations, and the first annual report will be released in early 2023.





ComPass Animal Welfare Training Course



ComPass turned 2 last December and user numbers have started to run away! The total number of ComPass users is now 8511 (as of

April 11th, 2023) with an overall completion rate for the Core modules of 80% and 76% across all modules with completion certificates.

As might be expected, the laboratory animal focussed modules garner the most interest with the Minimally Invasive Procedures module attracting 444 users with an 82% completion rate. The new Wildlife module has attracted 58 users already after only a few months. The second wildlife module is currently under review by the

ComPass team and will be available shortly – hopefully by mid-May.

The Phase 3 training materials are being used by 165 trainers and trainees and the Phase 4 Veterinary/Welfare Officer training materials have seen 78 users.

The origins of the users vary across a broad spectrum from the expected university-based users to small institutions and research charities. Government agency and international university – based users can be recognised by their email addresses. We have some from the United Arab Emirates, Sweden, Samoa, France and of course New Zealand. User numbers from New Zealand are still relatively small but I will be making a presentation to the New Zealand Animal Ethics Advisory Committee (NAEAC) soon to hopefully increase New Zealand awareness of the materials and emphasise the fact that they are not specific

to Australian needs or legislative frameworks but have been designed with New Zealand users very much front and centre.

The next phase of the ComPass work will be to start a "refresh" of the materials to ensure that all the web links are good and make any updates for new references as indicated. Work on the Core modules will start soon and these revised modules will replace those currently offered serially over the next months starting with the Core modules.

Again, thanks to the ANZCCART ComPass team for their ongoing support in what has proved to be a very useful exercise - enhancing animal welfare by providing resources to improve the education and hopefully the competence of animal users.

Kind Regards,
Gail Anderson
ComPass team leader





Board Members:

Board Members at the end of 2022

Name	Member type	Tenure	Role
Dr David Mason BVSc MANZCVSc GAICD MBA	Lay Member	To November 2022 From December 2022	Chair Member
Ms Cathy Pitkin BA(Hum), BBus(Comm) MIntComDev, Certificate in Executive Management, Leadership and Development	CSIRO Representative	To November 2022 From December 2022	Deputy Chair Interim Chair
Dr Mandy Paterson BVSc (Hons) MEd PhD	RSPCA Representative	Continuing	Welfare organisational representative
Emeritus Professor Pat Cragg BSc (Hons) PhD (Brist)	RSNZ Representative	Continuing	
Dr Malcolm France BVSc PhD MANZCVS (Pathology)	Private Member	Continuing	Scientific communicator
Professor Al <mark>an Tilbrook</mark> BSc (Agric) Hon PhD	Universities Australia Representative	Continuing	
Ms Chris Wadey	ANZCCART Staff	Continuing	Company Secretary

Honorary Life Members

Warwick Anderson AM, BSc (Hons), PhD
David Bayvel QSO, BVMS, DTVM, MACVSc, MPP (Dec)
Elizabeth Grant AM, PhC, MPS
David Mellor ONZM, Hon Assoc RCVS, BSc (Hons), PhD
Michael Rickard BVSc (Hons), PhD, DVSc, FTSE (Dec)
Margaret Rose BVSc, PhD
John Strachan LLB



Board meeting attendance for 2022

	1 March	15 March	19 April	17 May	21 June	17 August	20 September	18 October	15 November	5 December
David Mason	√	√	√	√	\checkmark	✓	√	\checkmark	√	✓
Cathy Pitkin	√	✓	✓	✓	✓	√	✓	√	✓	\checkmark
Pat Cragg	\checkmark	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	√	√	✓	√
Mandy Paterson	\checkmark	√	-	√	-	√	√	\checkmark	-	√
Alan Tilbrook	-	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	-	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark
Malcolm France	\checkmark	√	\checkmark	√	-	\checkmark	√	√	√	\checkmark
Chris Wadey	\checkmark	√								

Directors Benefits

Since 31 December 2018, no Director has received or become entitled to receive any benefit by reason of a contract made by the Economic Entity or a related corporation with the Director or with a firm of which he/she is a member, or with a Company in which he/she has a substantial financial interest.

Information on current Directors:

Dr David Mason BVSc MANZCVSc GAICD MBA

ANZCCART Chair since May 2019. David is a veterinarian with 20 years of clinic experience and has been a company director of a large Australian veterinary group of 19 clinics and also state president of the Australian Veterinary Association (AVA). He is also a current convenor of the AVA Hospitals of Excellence accreditation program. He obtained his membership of the Institute of company directors in 2015 and his Masters of Business Administration in 2019.

<u>Ms Cathy Pitkin</u> BA(Hum), BBus(Comm), MIntComDev, Certificate in Executive Management, Leadership and Development

Cathy has over 25 years experience working in leadership roles across private, government, NGO and research organisations and she is a member of the AICD. Cathy is currently Executive Manager Social Responsibility and Ethics at CSIRO with responsibility for the organisation's research ethics and integrity function. This includes oversight of animal ethics and welfare within the organisation's research practice.

Professor Alan Tilbrook BSc (Agric) Hon PhD

Professor Alan Tilbrook has over 30 years of experience in leading scientific research on the welfare of animals. predominant research discipline neuroendocrinology. He has also established and leads The Animal Welfare Collaborative a national initiative to improve the welfare of animals that is led by The University of Queensland, The University of Western Australia, The University of Adelaide and The University of Newcastle. He is Chair and Research Champion of the National Animal Welfare Research, Development and Extension Strategy and was a founder and Deputy Director of the Animal Welfare Science Centre. For a number of years Professor Tilbrook chaired the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee of South Australia, which advises the South Australian Government on animal welfare, and from 2013 to 2017 he was the chair of the Primary Industries and Regions South Australia Animal Ethics Committee.

Emeritus Professor Pat Cragg BSc(Hons) PhD(Brist)

Chair of the ANZCCART New Zealand Board since April 2020. Pat is a physiologist, and from undergraduate training, a zoologist; her research area covered cardiorespiratory function and control in health and disease; her breadth of teaching is typified as a coeditor of a long-standing physiology textbook. Prior to retirement in May 2018, she held appointments at the University of Otago, for instance as Head of Department of Physiology, Associate Dean Academic Health Sciences and Acting Dean of School of Biomedical Sciences. Pat was on the University's Animal Ethics Committee for 27 years and on the ANZCCART New Zealand Board for 18 years, with 4 years as Deputy Chair, as well as 7 years as the NZ representative on the ANZCCART Australian Board. For many years Pat was Secretary of the Physiological Society of NZ and Chair of the Scientific Committee of the Otago Medical Research Foundation (OMRF): she now Chairs the OMRF Council. From mid-April 2019 to end of January 2022 she returned from retirement to be the Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic at the University of Otago.

Dr Mandy Paterson BVSc (Hons), MEd, PhD

Mandy has worked as the Principal Scientist for RSPCA Qld for 12 years. She worked as a clinical veterinarian for over 20 years and then moved into research. Her areas of interest include animal welfare policy and research, shelter management and practice, and wildlife policy and management. Mandy represents the RSPCA on several Government and industry committees and working groups.

Dr Malcolm France BVSc PhD MANZCVS (Pathology)

Malcolm France is a consultant veterinarian working in the care and management of laboratory animals. He has a PhD in veterinary pathology and has served as the director of animal facilities at two of Australia's Group of Eight universities. Other appointments have included chair of two Animal Ethics Committees, reviewer for the international journal Laboratory Animals, ad hoc site visitor for AAALAC International, inaugural President, Registrar and Public Officer of ANZLAA, member of the ICLAS regional committee, and secretary of the ANZCVS laboratory animal chapter.

ANZCCART Board and Council¹ throughout 2022

Chair:

Dr David Mason BVSc, MANZCVSc,	Lay Member
GAICD, MBA	

Members:

Dr Andrew Brennan BA, PhD	Lay Member
Dr Robert Cassidy BVSc (Hons), BSc (Hons), DipEd, Grad Cert Anim Welfare	Biosecurity Queensland Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
Emeritus Professor Pat Cragg BSc(Hons) PhD(Brist)	RSNZ
Dr Toni Dalziel	SA Department for Environment and Water
Dr Kevin Doyle AM, BVSc, DVSc hc, MANZCVSc, Grad Cert Man, MASM	Australian Veterinary Association
Dr Malcolm France BVSc, PhD, MANZCVS (Pathology)	Consultant
Ms Erika Vally	From May 2022, Director of Agriculture Regulatory Assurance, Animal Welfare Victoria
Dr Sue Martin BVSc	Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment – Tasmania
Dr Dani Maver BVSc (Hons), MANZCVS	Bureau of Animal Welfare, Victoria - resigned May 2022
Dr Mandy Paterson BVSc (Hons), MEd, PhD	RSPCA
Ms Cathy Pitkin BA(Hum),BBus(Comm), MIntComDev, Certificate in Executive Management, Leadership and Development	CSIRO
Mr John Strachan LLB	Animal Welfare Member
Professor Alan Tilbrook BSc (Agric) Hon PhD	Universities Australia

¹ See Appendix for a list of acronyms and their meanings.



ANZCCART New Zealand Board and Staff

ANZCCART in New Zealand operates as a Standing Committee of the Royal Society Te Apārangi, and subject to its <u>General Rules</u> pursuant to s32 of the <u>Royal Society of New Zealand Act 1997</u>. All appointments to the Committee, except for deputy chair, are ratified by the Chief Executive of the Royal Society Te Apārangi. The Royal Society Te Apārangi has a seat on the Board of ANZCCART Australia.

ANZCCART NEW ZEALAND BOARD 2022

Pat Cragg BSc (Hons), PhD Appointed by the Royal Society Te Apārangi

Deputy Chair

	SPCA New Zealand
Arnja Dale, BSc, GDHE, MSc (Hons), PhD	(Associate member nominee)

Members

Massey University (Universities New Zealand nominee)
University of Auckland (Appointed by Royal Society Te Apārangi)
AgResearch (AgResearch nominee)
University of Auckland (Appointed by Royal Society Te Apārangi)
University of Otago
(Appointed by Royal Society Te Apārangi)
Ministry for Primary Industries
(Associate member nominee)
University of Auckland
(Co-opted member)
Malaghan Institute
(Appointed by Royal Society Te Apārangi)



ANZCCART Fellow

(An observer position for postgraduates within 8 years of completion of their degree on the NZ Board)

Essie Van Zuylen BSc, PGDipSci,PhD from 19/4/21)

University of Canterbury (Appointed by Royal Society Te Apārangi)

Executive Officer (part-time)

Marc Rands BSc (Hons), DPhil, FRGS

Full members of ANZCCART New Zealand

AgResearch
Landcare Research
Royal Society Te Apārangi
Universities New Zealand

Associate members of ANZCCART New Zealand

Department of Conservation
Ministry for Primary Industries
National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research Ltd (NIWA)
New Zealand Veterinary Association
Royal New Zealand Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
SoleTech
Unitec Institute of Technology - Dept Natural Sciences



ANZCCART New Zealand Board Report 2022

ANZCCART (NZ)

ANZCCART New Zealand Board held two in-person meetings and three video conference meetings during 2022, as well as a video conference with ANZCCART Australia on 9 February. Representatives of the Board also attended the 2022 Melbourne ANZCCART conference where an in-person/zoom meeting with the Australian Board was held on 28 July and the 30th anniversary of New Zealand joining ANZCCART was celebrated. During 2022, the Board also established its Terms of Reference and Conflict of Interest Register and the Chair of the ANZCCART (NZ) Board, Pat Cragg, represented New Zealand on the ANZCCART Board in Australia.

Priority 1: To promote continuous improvement in the care of animals supplied or used in research, testing and teaching including the deployment of the Three Rs of replacement, reduction and refinement

Recognising the application of the Three Rs in New Zealand.

The 2022 National Animal Ethics Advisory Committee (NAEAC) Aotearoa New Zealand John Schofield Three Rs implementation award, funded by ANZCCART NZ, was won by Massey University Tissue Sharing Facility.

Animal Care Award

The 2022 ANZCCART New Zealand Animal Care Award to recognise the significant contribution made by individual New Zealand-based technicians and research assistants to the welfare of the animals was made to Aaron Malthus, Farm Senior Technical, AgResearch Ruakura, for his individual-based care of animals at the Animal Containment Facility, 24/7.

New Zealand AEC Member of the Year Award

The 2022 New Zealand AEC Member of the Year Award, to recognise the excellent service offered to Animal Ethics Committees by their members in New Zealand, was made to Dr Bruce Dobbs, University of Otago, Christchurch AEC member, for the quality of his engagement and input on the AEC and overseeing the movement of the animal facility post-Christchurch earthquake.

Develop new Three Rs booklet

A Three Rs booklet was produced on Oil emulsified gels, focusing on the work of Dr Benjamin Albert and his colleagues from the Liggins Institute who have incorporated oils, containing nutritional supplements or drugs, into edible gels for rats as an alternative to the oral gavage administration which has traditionally been the most physiologically appropriate method used in small laboratory rodents.

Priority 2: To promote informed discussion and debate in the broader community and with scientists and students on the responsible use of animals in research, testing and teaching

Openness Agreement on Animal Research and Teaching in New Zealand

Three new organisations joined the New Zealand Openness Agreement (AbacusBio, Cawthron Institute and SoleTech) making a total of 27 signatories. All signatories were surveyed for the first time in accordance with Commitment five which is to report annually on progress and share experiences.



A guidance document was produced to help signatories better understand how to meet the Agreement's objectives.

Redesign of the ANZCCART NZ website and creation of an ANZCCART NZ LinkedIn page
The ANZCCART NZ website was refreshed and moved to a new hosting platform, and an ANZCCART
NZ LinkedIn page was created.

Engagement with New Zealand Anti-Vivisection Society (NZAVS)

ANZCCART (NZ) provided feedback on a NZAVS consultation on a petition to Government to see the New Zealand Government develop a comprehensive action plan to help end unnecessary animal experimentation, embrace better technologies, and to help drive change.

Animal Use Statistics 2020

ANZCCART (NZ) produced a press release related to the Ministry for Primary Industries release of statistics about the use of animals in research and teaching in 2020.

ANZCCART Secondary Student Essay Competition

The 2022 ANZCCART Secondary Student Essay Competition, to inspire students to think critically about the role animal research plays in today's society and to engage with the difficulties that surround animal use, was won by Oshadha Perera (Southland Boys' High School, Invercargill).

Priority 3: To promote education and training in the responsible use of animals

Develop educational resources around Māori perspectives of animals in science

The project received ethical approval from Auckland University of Technology, and work in 2022 included literature reviews; identifying appropriate experts for interview; and undertaking interviews.

Support Animal Welfare Officer Training

ANZCCART supported an Animal Welfare Officer Training session at the Royal Society Te Apārangi on Friday 11 November 2022, with support from the *International Council for Laboratory Animal Science* (ICLAS) to cover participants travel costs.

Support Schools and School Science Fairs

ANZCCART (NZ) support for school science fair prizes, for projects with the correct animal ethics approval application, and that demonstrated the importance of ethics approval, were given to: Aurora Otago Science & Technology Fair; National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research (NIWA) Canterbury-Westland School Science and Technology Fair; and NIWA Wellington Regional Science Fair. Requests for ANZCCART NZ curriculum resources were made by: Dargaville High School, East Otago High School, Greymouth High School, Rotorua Boy's High School, and Te Aroha College.

Priority 4: To assert a role as a monitor of the care of animals supplied for or used in research, testing and teaching, including the effectiveness of statutory agencies and their processes.

Interaction with national and international bodies

A joint zoom meeting with NAEAC was held on 15 July and ANZCCART (NZ) Board members attended the NAEAC/NAWAC workshop on insect sentience. ANZCCART NZ was represented on the following organisations:

- AAALAC (Dr Jim Webster)
- International Council for Laboratory Animal Science (ICLAS) (Dr Jim Webster)



- Ministry for Primary Industries National Animal Ethics Advisory Committee (NAEAC) (Arnja Dale, Mike King)
- Ministry for Primary Industries National Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (NAWAC) (Arnja Dale)
- Animal Welfare Network Aotearoa (Mike King, Vanessa Borman)
- Australian and New Zealand Laboratory Animal Association (ANZLAA) (Ian Saldana, Jodi Salinsky)

Responses to Government consultations

The NZ Board responded to the Ministry for Primary Industries consultation on "Experimental Animal Requirements under the Animal Products Notice: Production, Supply and Processing (July 2022)".







2022 ANZCCART Conference

26 – 28 July 2022

Melbourne, Australia

The 2022 annual conference was held in Melbourne at the Rendezvous Hotel on Flinders Street. The historic hotel, built in 1913, has been recently beautifully refurbished but still maintains some of its previous features. The accommodation was amazing and so modern that this conference participant had trouble working out how to turn some lights on and off! It is well located for those participants who wished to explore Melbourne but for others, including myself, it was comfortable enough to stay inside because of the rain.

One of the themes covered in the conference was new ideas and new ways of conducting research. For example, we heard how animal models previously used to study schizophrenia could be replaced by direct study on humans suffering from this debilitating disease which results in a more nuanced understanding of the disease process and new, more targeted treatments.

Similarly, animal models currently used to research wound healing can be replaced by 3D tissue models. These new models reduce experimental variability seen when using animals and of course reduce animal suffering. Kidney organoids can be grown from human tissue to study kidney diseases with strong genetic components, and animal behaviour can be studied using video footage and still photographs.

In a somewhat similar theme, we heard about research into alcohol use disorder (AUD) which involves post-mortem examination of human brains, comparing brains of alcoholics with non-alcoholics. And we learnt about the invitro technology, lung-on-a-chip, which can replace the currently popular 'forced' (nose only or whole body) method of exposing animals to inhaled toxic substances.

We were also given a talk about how dogs have been used for centuries to advance science, ending with a consideration of their current role. The presentation contained some horrendous photographs from the archives featuring the (mis)use of dogs in the past. Dogs are still being used by researchers, and the impact on their welfare is an on-going concern for most dog lovers.

An interesting talk presented how citizen science and new low-impact technologies are changing the way wildlife research is occurring. These new methodologies allow collection of data with little or no impact on the animals being studied. One researcher is looking for ways



to prepare released native Australian animals to detect predators such as dogs, cats and foxes.

Another major theme of the conference was ethical concerns, what they are and how we can deal with them. The Australian code for the care and use of animals for scientific purposes was introduced as a helpful tool for AECs to make ethical decisions with respect to projects submitted for their approval. One ethical challenge discussed was the use of rodent models to study post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). Seemingly, rodents are similarly susceptible to traumatic events as humans and therefore are useful for the study of changes in the brain following such events. However, there are significant ethical issues from causing such trauma to animals.

We also heard about ethical decision making from a category D member and about research looking at what the general public think about research using animals.

To improve the ethical standing of research activities requires a great performance measuring program and one such program was presented for consideration. Also, we heard how researchers working with animal advocates can reduce the 'us and them' feelings and lead to the recognition of mutual interests and encourage cooperation.

One outcome for research animals gaining in popularity across the world is rehoming. Where possible, this is an outcome that is good for everyone, including the animals. There are now groups in Australia dedicated to help achieve this outcome.

Yet another theme was research refinement, that is, how research can be done differently to reduce the stress on animals undergoing a possibly aversive treatment. We heard about how emulsified gels could be prepared containing a treatment dose of a medicine mixed with an enriching treat such as gelatin and raspberry flavoured jelly crystals that mice enjoy.

Having great welfare indicators can inform decision-making and we heard from a student developing such indicators for cetaceans at stranding events. We heard why we should consider decapod crustaceans sentient and whether the use of drones in research should be considered as an ethical issue.

Our ethical sessions ended with breakout sessions looking at specific ethical challenges.

We also had sessions on compassion fatigue – what it is, why it occurs – as well as practical strategies that can be used to increase resilience.

The conference ended with a panel discussion on legislative changes across the states, the Openness agreements in NZ and Australia, an update on the ComPass project and finally the conference for 2023.

Dr Mandy Paterson
ANZCCART Board Member



Office Activities for 2022

Looking back on 2022, the year began with a sense of positivity and enthusiasm as life had slowly started returning to a sense of normality, with the challenges of COVID-19 being put behind us. It was going to be a busy year for ANZCCCART with much to plan and implement.

One of the highlights of the year was the successful planning and implementation of the ANZCCART Conference in Melbourne. This was a particularly significant achievement as it was the first hybrid event for ANZCCART Australia offering in-person and virtual registrations for delegates and presenters. The conference was attended by 210 delegates, with 70 of them attending virtually. The response was extremely positive, with attendees praising the seamless organization and the quality of presentations. We are pleased to have been able to adapt to the changing circumstances and deliver a successful event that exceeded expectations. Another new initiative for the Conference was the focus on sustainability and which we have made considerable improvements. On-line registrations available, which were processed through an efficient third party, thereby reducing the need for paper-based processing. We also provided delegates with easy electronic access to conference programs, proceedings, and surveys through QR codes, limiting the need for printed Some promotional items were materials. eliminated, which further reduced transport implications, and the feedback we received from attendees suggests that this approach was widely appreciated. The planning and implementation of these changes brought challenges, which were overcome with the planning and support of the ANZCCART Organising Committee and team. The success of the Conference was a testament to their efforts and commitment. As we continue to move forward, we are confident that these changes will enhance future conferences.

At the Conference, the latest ANZCCART initiative, the Survey on Australian Attitudes to Animal Research was launched. The survey was commissioned to increase our understanding of how the Australian public views the use of animals in scientific research and to provide a baseline for future qualitative research as well as repeated surveys in the future.

ComPass continues to grow under the direction of Gail Anderson and the ComPass Team. The first wildlife module has been completed and is now uploaded and fully functional. Toward the end of 2022, the total number of people who were using ComPass was 6,735 with 1747 of those registrants using more than one module. This confirms that ComPass is meeting an enormous need, nationally and internationally. The second wildlife module is currently underway and by the end of June 2023, there will be 22 modules.

The Australian Openness Agreement is progressing well with Malcolm France heading the Working Group. A public consultation process commenced early 2022 and a draft of the agreement was circulated to organisations and individuals seeking feedback with the results the Conference. The presented at consultation process, planned for early 2023, is to be circulated to the research community. It is anticipated that the Australian Openness Agreement will be launched at the 2023 ANZCCART Conference.

The new-look online ANZCCART Newsletter is now in its fifth year with readers totalling 500. It continues to be an important and major conduit for the dissemination of information relevant to the research and teaching areas.



In November 2022, David Mason stepped down as the ANZCCART Chair. David took on the role of Chair in May 2019 when the organisation was going through significant changes, and he helped manage the organisation through this. There has been enormous progress since then and it has been extraordinary what ANZCCART has achieved under his chairmanship. David has remained on the Board as a general member. Cathy Pitkin was appointed as Interim Chair until a new Board Chair is elected in 2023. It has been great working under your chairmanship David over the last few years and thank you for your guidance and support.

The 2023 Conference will be held in Adelaide in August, and this will be the first time a Conference has been in Adelaide, home to the ANZCCART Office. With conference planning and preparations underway, with the continuous growth of ComPass and the proposed launch of the Openness Agreement, 2023 will be another busy and fulfilling year for the Office.

Chris Wadey Administrative Manager Australian and New Zealand Council for the Care of Animals in Research and Teaching (ANZCCART) Limited.

A.C.N. 063 383 522

Contact Address Details:

Courier Address:Mail Address:Room G8, Hannaford BuildingC/o The University of AdelaideGate 3, Waite Road,Urrbrae AustraliaSouth Australia, 5064South Australia 5005

Tel: +61-8-8313 7585 Fax: +61-8-8313 7587

e-mail: anzccart@adelaide.edu.au website: https://anzccart.adelaide.edu.au

New Zealand:

PO Box 598 Wellington 6140 New Zealand

Tel: +64-4-472 7421 Fax: +64-4-473 1841

e-mail: anzccart@royalsociety.org.nz website: http://www.anzccart.org.nz

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FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND AUDITOR'S REPORT 2022

AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND COUNCIL FOR THE CARE OF ANIMALS IN RESEARCH AND TEACHING LTD

ACN: 063 383 522

Financial and Statutory Information For the Year Ended 31 December 2022

Council Particulars

DIRECTORS IN OFFICE AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

- David Mason, Chairperson
- Mandy Paterson
- Patricia Cragg
- Catherine Pitkin
- Alan Tilbrook
- Malcolm France

COMPANY SECRETARY

• Christine Wadey

REGISTERED OFFICE IN AUSTRALIA

Room G8, Hannaford Building Gate 3, Waite Rd., Urrbrae, 5064 South Australia

Ph: (08) 8313 7585

AUDITORS

UHY Sothertons Chartered Accountants 80 Flinders Street Adelaide SA 5000

Directors Report

The Directors present their report together with the financial report of the ANZCCART ("the Council") for the year ended 31 December 2022 and the auditor's report thereon.

Directors

The directors of the Council at any time during or since the end of the financial year were:

Catherine Pitkin BA(Hum), BBus(Comm), MIntComDev Director since 2018

Dr Mandy Paterson B.V.Sc. (Hons), M.Ed., Ph.D. Director since 2011

Dr Malcolm France BVSc, PhD, MANZCVS (Pathology) Director since 2019

Professor Alan Tilbrook BSc (Hons), PhD Director since 2019

Dr David Mason BVSc, MANZCVSc, GAICD, MBA Director since 2019

Professor Patricia Cragg BSc (Hons), PhD (Brist) Director since 2020

Principal Activities

The principal activities of the Council during the course of the financial year was to provide leadership in developing community consensus on ethical, social, and scientific issues relating to the use of animals in research and teaching.

Result and Review of Operations

The operating surplus/(deficit) for the year ended 31 December 2022 was \$32,421 compared with \$(44,216) in 2021.

State of Affairs

No significant change in the state of affairs of the Council occurred during the financial year under review that is not otherwise disclosed in this Report or accounts.

Likely Developments

The Council will continue its normal activities and the Directors are not aware of any likely developments which would significantly affect the results of the Council in subsequent financial years.

DIRECTORS' REPORT (Continued)

Significant Changes in the State of Affairs

In the opinion of the Directors, there were no significant changes in the state of affairs that occurred during 2022. In saying this however, we remain conscious of the financial pressures on all of our major sponsors and note that the loss of any one of our major sponsors could jeopardise the long-term viability of ANZCCART.

Meetings of Directors

The number of directors' meetings and the number attended by each of the directors of the Council during the financial year are contained in the body of the annual report.

Insurance of Officers

The Council has a policy in relation to Directors' and Officers' Liability Legal Expenses Insurance. The Directors have not included details of the nature of the liabilities covered or the amount of the premium paid in respect of the directors' and officers' liability, as such disclosure is not permissible under the terms of the contract.

Events Subsequent to the End of Balance Date

There has not arisen in the interval between the end of the financial year and the date of this report any item, transaction or event of a material and unusual nature likely, in the opinion of the directors, to affect significantly the operations of the Council, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the Council, in future financial years.

Auditor's Independence Declaration

The auditor's independence declaration is set out on page 25 and forms part of the directors' report for the financial year ended 31 December 2022.

This report is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors and is signed for on behalf of the Directors.

Signed at Adelaide 18 April 2023

David Mason Board Chair

Auditors Independence Declaration

Under Section 307C of the Corporations Act 2001

To the Directors of the Australia New Zealand Council for the Care of Animals in Research and Teaching Ltd:

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, in relation to the audit for the financial year ended 31 December 2022 there has been:

- no contravention of the auditor independence requirements as set out in the Corporations Act 2001 in relation to the audit; and,
- no contravention of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

UHY Sothertons Adelaide Partnership 16 April 2023 Alex Reade Partner

Income Statement

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Note	2022 \$	2021 \$
Income		·	·
Revenue	2	154,430	150,883
Conference income		114,403	-
Total Income		268,833	195,099
Less: Expenses			
Salaries and payroll expenses	3	101,664	147,179
Other expenses		69,853	43,799
Conferences expenses		64,895	4,122
Total Expenses		236,412	195,099
Surplus/(Deficit) before income tax		32,421	(44,216)
Income tax expense	1(c)	-	-
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	11	32,421	(44,216)

The above income statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement Of Recognised Income And Expense

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Note	2022 \$	2021 \$
Surplus/(Deficit) for the period		32,421	(44,216)
Total recognised income and expense for the period		32,421	(44,216)
Attributable to: Equity holder Total recognised income and expense for the period	11	32,421 32,421	(44,216) (44,216)

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Balance Sheet

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Note	2022 \$	2021 \$
Current Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	6	303,530	315,610
Receivables and prepayments		10,246	8,489
Total current assets		313,776	324,099
Non Current Assets			
Property, plant and equipment		5,887	5,887
Accumulated depreciation		(5,887)	(5,887)
Total non-current assets			-
Total assets		313,776	324,099
Current Liabilities			
Trade and other payables	8	4,631	2,446
Income in advance	5	50,000	100,000
Employee benefits	9	50,300	45,228
Total current liabilities		104,931	147,674
Total liabilities		104,931	147,674
Net assets		208,845	176,425
Equity			
Retained earnings	11	208,845	176,425
Total equity		208,845	176,425

The above balance sheet should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement Of Cash Flows

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Note	2022 \$	2021 \$
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash receipts in the course of operations Cash paid to suppliers and employees Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	10	183,471 195,551 (12,080)	220,883 155,902 64,981
Cash flows used in investing activities			
Acquisition of property, plant and equipment Net cash used in investing activities			<u>-</u>
Net increase / (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January		(12,080) 315,610	64,981 250,629
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December	6	303,530	315,610

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

Notes To The Financial Statements

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

1 Significant accounting policies

(a) Statement of compliance

The financial report is a special purpose financial report. The financial statements and notes collectively constitute a special purpose financial report prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards applicable to a non-reporting entity for which there are no users dependent on general purpose financial statements.

The following is a summary of the material accounting policies adopted by the entity in the preparation of the financial report. The accounting policies have been consistently applied, unless otherwise stated.

(b) Basis of preparation

The financial report is presented in Australian dollars. The Council is domiciled in Australia.

The financial report has been prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historic costs and does not take into account changing money values or, except where stated, current valuations of non-current assets. Cost is based on the fair values of the consideration given in exchange for assets.

The preparation of financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of accounting policies and the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, income and expenses. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised and in any future periods affected.

(c) Taxation

ANZCCART is exempt from the payment of income tax under the provisions of sub-section 50-5 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997 as it qualifies as a public benevolent institution. The effect of income tax is therefore not included in the accounts.

(d) Property, plant and equipment

(i) Owned assets

Items of property, plant and equipment are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation (see below) and impairment losses (see accounting policy (h)).

Where parts of an item of property, plant and equipment have different useful lives, they are accounted for as separate items of property, plant and equipment.

(ii) Subsequent costs

The Council recognises in the carrying amount of an item of property, plant and equipment the cost of replacing part of such an item when that cost is incurred if it is probable that the future economic benefits embodied with the item will flow to the Council and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. All other costs are recognised in the income statement as an expense as incurred.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

(iii) Depreciation

Depreciation is charged to the income statement on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of each part of an item of property, plant and equipment. The estimated useful lives in the current and comparative periods are as follows:

• Computer Equipment - 5 years

(e) Trade and other receivables

Trade and other receivables are stated at their cost less impairment losses (see accounting policy (g)).

(f) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash balances and call deposits.

(g) Impairment

The carrying amounts of the Council's assets are reviewed at each balance sheet date to determine whether there is any indication of impairment. If any such indication exists, the asset's recoverable amount is estimated.

An impairment loss is recognised whenever the carrying amount of an asset or its cash-generating unit exceeds its recoverable amount. Impairment losses are recognised in the income statement, unless an asset has previously been revalued, in which case the impairment loss is recognised as a reversal to the extent of that previous revaluation with any excess recognised through profit or loss.

(h) Calculation of recoverable amount

(i) The recoverable amount of the Council's receivables carried at amortised cost is calculated as the present value of estimated future cash flows, discounted at the original effective interest rate (ie. the effective interest rate computed at initial recognition of these financial assets). Receivables with a short duration are not discounted.

The recoverable amount of other assets is the greater of their net selling price and value in use. In assessing value in use, the estimated future cash flows are discounted to their present value using a pre-tax discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset. For an asset that does not generate largely independent cash inflows, the recoverable amount is determined for the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs.

(ii) Reversals of impairment

An impairment loss in respect of receivables carried at amortised cost is reversed if the subsequent increase in recoverable amount can be related objectively to an event occurring after the impairment loss was recognised.

In respect of other assets, an impairment loss is reversed if there has been a change in estimates used to determine the recoverable amount.

An impairment loss is reversed only to the extent that the asset's carrying amount does not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined, net of depreciation or amortisation, if no impairment loss had been recognised.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

(j) Employee benefits

(i) Long-term service benefits

The Council's net obligation in respect of long-term service benefits, other than pension plans, is the amount of future benefit that employees have earned in return for their service in the current and prior periods. The obligation is calculated using the projected unit credit method and is discounted to its present value and the fair value of any related assets is deducted. The discount rate is the yield at the balance sheet date on government bonds that have maturity dates approximating to the terms of the Council's obligations.

(ii) Wages, salaries and annual leave

Liabilities for wages, salaries and annual leave that are expected to be settled within 12 months of reporting date, represent present obligations resulting from employee's services provided to reporting date, are measured as the undiscounted amounts based on remuneration wage and salary rates that the Council expects to pay as at reporting date including related on-costs.

(k) Provisions

A provision is recognised in the balance sheet when the Council has a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of a past event, and it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation. If the effect is material, provisions are determined by discounting the expected future cash flows at a pre-tax rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and, where appropriate, the risks specific to the liability.

(l) Trade and other payables

Trade and other payables are stated at cost.

(m) Revenue

(i) Sales revenue

Sales revenue comprises revenue earned from the sale of publications and the provision of membership entitlements. Revenue is recognised when the member joins the Council.

(ii) Funding

Funding monies are received from supporters and are brought to account on a cash received basis.

(n) Goods and services tax

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

Receivables and payables are stated with the amount of GST included. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included as a current asset or liability in the statement of financial position.

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

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

		2022 \$	2021 \$
2	Revenue		
	Funding	124,066	120,715
	In kind contribution	30,000	30,000
	Publications sales & other income	364	168
	Total revenue	154,430	150,883
3	Salaries, wages and related on costs		
	CEO	-	_
	Administrative assistant	67,846	81,154
	Project Coordinator	33,818	66,025
	·	101,664	147,179
4	Auditors' remuneration		
	Auditing the financial report	2,100	2,300
	Assisting with the financial report presentation	900	300
	Assisting with the infancial report presentation	3,000	2,600
5	Income in advance		
	Funding received to 2023	50,000	100,000
6	Cash and cash equivalents		
	Cash at Bank	303,530	315,610
	Balance as per statement of cash flows	303,530	315,610

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

7	Property, plant and equipment	2021 \$	2021 \$
	Cost		
	Balance at beginning of year	5,887	5,887
	Acquisitions	-	-
	Disposals	<u> </u>	-
	Balance at end of year	5,887	5,887
	Depreciation and impairment losses		
	Balance at beginning of year	5,887	5,887
	Depreciation for the year		
	Balance at end of year	5,887	5,887
	Carrying amounts		
	At end of year		
		2022	2021
		\$	\$
8	Trade and other payables		
	Trade creditors & accruals	1,566	-
	GST payable	(235)	(414)
	Audit fee accrual	3,300	2,860
		4,631	2,446
9	Employee benefits		
,	Current		
	Liability for annual leave	19,460	16,639
	Liability for long service leave	30,840	<u>28,589</u>
	Diability for folig service leave	50,300	45,228
			+5,440

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

		2022 \$	2021 \$
10	Reconciliation of cash flows from operating activities		
	Cash flows from operating activities		
	Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	32,421	(44,216)
	Depreciation	-	-
	Adjusted Surplus/(Deficit) before changes in working capital and provisions	34,421	(44,216)
	(Increase)/decrease in prepayments	(1,757)	502
	Increase/(decrease) in trade and payables	2,185	(3,008)
	Increase/(decrease) in income in advance	(50,000)	100,000
	Increase/(decrease) in employee benefits	5,072	11,703
	Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	(12,080)	64,981
11	Retained Earnings		
	Balance at beginning of year	176,425	220,641
	Net Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	32,421	(44,216)
	Balance at end of year	208,845	176,425
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		,

12 Key management personnel disclosures

Transactions with key management personnel

The key management personnel compensation included in "salary, wages and on-costs" (see note 3) is as follows:

Short term employment benefits	-	-
Post employment benefits	-	-
	-	-
Comprising:		
Chief Executive Officer	-	
	-	

The non-executive Directors have not received any remuneration during the year.

Non key management personnel disclosures

Identity of related parties

The Council has a related party relationship with its Directors. The Directors are employees of the organisations which are members of the Council and contribute funding. All transactions between those organisations and the Council are conducted on ordinary commercial terms.

14 Subsequent events

There have been no events subsequent to balance date.

Directors' Declaration

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

In the opinion of the directors of the Australia New Zealand Council for the Care of Animals in Research and Training Limited ("the Council"):

- (a) The financial statements and notes, as set out on pages 23 to 37:
 - (i) are prepared in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001 and comply with Australian Accounting Standards in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements;
 - (ii) give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Council as at 31 December 2022 and of its performance for the year ended on that date; and,
- (b) there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Council will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

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

David Mason Board Chair

Dated at Adelaide 18 April 2023

Acronyms

AAALAC Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care

AEC Animal Ethics Committee

AICD Australian Institute of Company Directors

ANZLAA Australian and New Zealand Laboratory Animal Association
ANZCVS Australian and New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists

ARRIVE Animal Research: Reporting of In Vivo Experiments

AVA Australian Veterinary Association

CSIRO Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation

DPI Department of Primary Industries
EARA European Animal Research Association

ICLAS International Council for Laboratory Animal Science
MPI Ministry of Primary Industries (New Zealand)

NAEAC National Animal Ethics Advisory Committee (New Zealand)
NCEA National Certificate of Educational Achievement (New Zealand)

NHMRC National Health and Medical Research Council

NIWA National Institute of Water & Atmospheric Research (New Zealand)

NZQA New Zealand Qualifications Authority NZVA New Zealand Veterinary Association

PREPARE Planning Research & Experimental Procedures on Animals: Recommendations for

Excellence

RSNZ Royal Society of New Zealand

RSPCA Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals SPCA Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals

UAR Understanding Animal Research



Level 5 | 80 Flinders Street | Adelaide | SA | 5000 GPO Box 2193 | Adelaide | SA | 5001 t: 08 8223 7311 info@uhysothadl.com.au www.uhysothadl.com.au

IndependentAud o sReport

To Australian And New Zealand Council For The Care
Of Animals In Research And Teaching Limited

Report On The Audit Of The Financial Report

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Australian And New Zealand Council For The Care Of Animals In Research And Teaching Limited which comprises the income statement, statement of recognised income and expense, balance sheet, statement of cash flows, accompanying notes to the financial statements, and the directors' declaration.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of Australian And New Zealand Council For The Care Of Animals In Research And Teaching Limited:

- a) gives a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 31 December 2022 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and,
- b) complies with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 1.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities* for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the company in accordance with the auditor independence requirements and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

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

Emphasis of Matter - Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report which describe the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the company's financial reporting responsibilities. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.



Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation.



Responsibilities of the Directors for the Financial Report

The directors of Australian And New Zealand Council For The Care Of Animals In Research And Teaching Limited are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and have determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 1 to the financial report is appropriate to meet the requirements of the company. The directors' responsibility also includes such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the directors.



- Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

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

UHY SOTHERTONS

Utly Sothertons

Adelaide Partnership

ALEX READE

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Partner

80 Flinders Street. ADELAIDE

Dated 5 May, 2023