YORTA YORTA

TRADITIONAL OWNER LAND MANAGEMENT BOARD

Annual Report 2015–2016

VICTORIA State Government | Environment, Land, Water and Planning

© The State of Victoria Department of Environment, Land, Water & Planning 2016
This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International licence. You are free to re-use the work under that licence, on the condition that you credit the State of Victoria as author. The licence does not apply to any images, photographs or branding, including the Victorian Coat of Arms, the Victorian Government logo and the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) logo. To view a copy of this licence, visit http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/

Graphic Design by Mazart Design Studio | Supplied Nation certified.
www.mazartdesignstudio.com

Printed by Postscript Printers – Eltham.

ISBN 2205-5002

Disclaimer

This publication may be of assistance to you but the State of Victoria and its employees do not guarantee that the publication is without flaw of any kind or is wholly appropriate for your particular purposes and therefore disclaims all liability for any error, loss or other consequence which may arise from you relying on any information in this publication.

Accessibility

If you would like to receive this publication in an alternative format, please telephone the DELWP Customer Service Centre on 136186, email customer.service@delwp.vic.gov.au, or via the National Relay Service on 133 677 www.relayservice.com.au. This document is also available on the internet at www.delwp.vic.gov.au

YORTA YORTA

TRADITIONAL OWNER LAND MANAGEMENT BOARD

Annual Report 2015–2016

CONTENTS

7 Chairperson's Report

11 Year in Review

23 The Yorta Yorta Traditional Owner Land Management Board

31 Other Information

35 Financial Statements

61 Accountable Officer's Declaration

62 Independent Auditor's Report

65 Appendix 1 – Disclosure Index

YORTA YORTA
TRADITIONAL OWNER LAND MANAGEMENT BOARD

Yorta Yorta Traditional Owner Land Management Board (YYTOLMB)
127 Welsford St, Shepparton, Vic. 3630
P: 03 5869 3498

Yorta Yorta Traditional Owner Land Management Board

PO BOX 1363
Shepparton VIC 3630
Tel: 03 5761 1666

October 14th, 2016

The Hon Lily D'Ambrosio MP
Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change
PO Box 500
EAST MELBOURNE VIC 3002

Dear Minister,

RE: YORTA YORTA TRADITIONAL OWNER LAND MANAGEMENT BOARD
2015-16 ANNUAL REPORT

In accordance with the *Financial Management Act 1994*, I am pleased to present the third Annual Report of the Yorta Yorta Traditional Owner Land Management Board (the YYTOLMB) for the period ending 30 June 2016.

The 2015-16 Yorta Yorta Traditional Owner Land Management Board Annual Report outlines the progress the YYTOLMB has made over the last 12 months of operation, including continuing to develop and implement governance processes and working towards producing a Joint Management Plan for Barmah National Park.

I present this report to you as a record of our achievements and compliance.

Yours sincerely

P.Ferguson

Peter Ferguson
Chairperson
Yorta Yorta Traditional Owner Land Management Board

...The YYTOLMB looks forward to working with the Yorta Yorta people, our partners and the broader community in 2016-17...

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

As a proud Yorta Yorta man it is my privilege to present to you the Yorta Yorta Traditional Owner Land Management Board's (YYTOLMB) Annual Report for the financial year 2015-2016.

It has been a busy year as we position ourselves to complete the Joint Management Plan by August 2017. The YYTOLMB has faced staffing changes, established strong organisational partnerships and prepared ourselves for the wider community consultation phase of joint management planning.

A key highlight for the year was a well attended planning workshop between the YYTOLMB and other key partners including Yorta Yorta Nation Aboriginal Corporation, Parks Victoria, Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning and the Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority. The workshop was held in December 2015 at Morning Glory Resort on the Murray River near Cummeragunja. This is a significant site for Yorta Yorta people as it is where our ancestors were removed to as they were taken from their homelands.

The workshop was seen by the YYTOLMB and our partners as an important planning milestone in developing the way forward for the consultative and writing phases of the Joint Management Plan. During this workshop key milestones were highlighted and methods developed that will ultimately lay the foundations for this work to be completed and presented to the Minister within the suggested timeframe.

The significant commitments and good will that came from our partners at the planning workshop was picked up by our two new employees as they established their roles and worked to further the development of the Joint Management Plan. The YYTOLMB recruited a new Secretariat Officer, Lena Charles, and Senior Planning Officer, Dr Liam Neame, during the first half of 2016.

The role of the Senior Planning Officer is to write the Joint Management Plan on behalf of the YYTOLMB. This involves coordinating input from Yorta Yorta People, our partners and the wider community. The Senior Planning Officer was closely supported by the Stakeholder Engagement and Communications Committee.

Parks Victoria's held two 'Open House' planning events on Yorta Yorta country in Echuca and Shepparton that were attended by several of the YYTOLMB Directors and were well received by the community generally. Parks Victoria was conducting consultations about River Red Gum National Park Management planning for Parks along the Murray and invited the YYTOLMB to host a table about the Barmah National Park. This was a wonderful opportunity for the public and invited the community organisations to make comment on what they saw as important in the development of a Joint Management Plan for Barmah National Park. The YYTOLMB valued the diversity of opinions that different sectors of the wider community have for the Barmah National Park and look forward to further engaging in 2016-17.

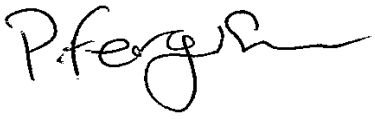
It is the intention of the YYTOLMB to build on this level of consultation and seek broader community involvement and endorsement of the Joint Management Plan that we are about to develop. Indications that this will be accomplished are good and we look forward to the work ahead with all of our partners as well as the many stakeholder groups with an interest in Barmah National Park.

Finally I would like to acknowledge the departure of our inaugural Secretariat Officer – Tracey Kearns – who had been

with the Yorta Yorta Traditional Owner Land Management YYTOLMB for a little over 12 months. During this time Tracey made significant contributions to the work of the YYTOLMB. A big thank you is extended to Tracey on behalf of the YYTOLMB.

It is also worth noting the roles that both of our key partners have played in the development of the YYTOLMB and its future directions. It is imperative that our work is considered and consistent with the clear aims established for us by the Traditional Owner Land Management Agreement signed in 2010 by the State of Victoria and the Yorta Yorta Nation Aboriginal Corporation.

The YYTOLMB looks forward to working with the Yorta Yorta people, our partners and the broader community in 2016-17, we are set for an exciting year ahead of consulting, writing and refining our Joint Management Plan for the Barmah National Park.



Peter Ferguson
Chairperson
Yorta Yorta Traditional Owner Land Management Board

HISTORY

The YYTOLMB acknowledges the Yorta Yorta people as the Traditional Owners of the Barmah National Park and we pay our respects to the Yorta Yorta Elders, both past and present.

"The life source and spirit of Yorta Yorta people centres on the land along the Murray River (which they know as *Dunghala*) in the Murray Goulburn region. The Yorta Yorta Nation, the second most populous Indigenous language group in Australia, can trace their origins and history back in time to this unique part of northern Victoria and southern New South Wales".

The establishment of the Yorta Yorta Traditional Owner Land Management Board (YYTOLMB) has been "the accumulation of a total of 17 separate attempts by Yorta Yorta people to have a say in the management of their traditional land. In 1984 a claim was prepared by the Yorta Yorta Tribal Council, for the return of Barmah Forest to its traditional owners and prior to that an unsuccessful claim to the same area, including the Moira Forest in NSW was made to the Victorian government in 1975 by the Aborigines Advancement League".

"The 1984 claim and all other claims have had the same intent. The Yorta Yorta people have exercised their natural rights as the Indigenous occupants and owners of the forest. Furthermore, the Yorta Yorta have shown through oral, documentary and material evidence that their social, spiritual, economic and cultural links with the area have not been broken since time immemorial. In other words, they can clearly demonstrate that their relationship with the area has been long and continuous", Dr. Wayne Atkinson, Yorta Yorta Elder & Academic.

The establishment of the Yorta Yorta Traditional Owner Land Management Board has delivered management to its rightful owners to jointly manage and support the aspirations of Yorta Yorta Elders and community to once again care for country.

The YYTOLMB also acknowledges the connections to the Barmah National Park and the Murray River for a wide range of local and broader communities – neighbouring landholders and local communities, parks users and many others. For all of these people, the Barmah National Park holds a particular significance, both as an important area in its own right, and also as a key element of wider ecological and community systems of the Murray River.

The Victorian government agrees that Yorta Yorta connections to country can and does facilitate improved decisions that can address specific and complex environmental issues and problems. It is also agreed that the process of integrating diverse forms of knowledge can lead to and result in enhanced skills and aspirations for Yorta Yorta people.

ABOUT THE YORTA YORTA TRADITIONAL OWNER LAND MANAGEMENT BOARD

The Board

On 29 October 2010, the Yorta Yorta Nation Aboriginal Corporation (YYNAC) entered into a Traditional Owner Land Management Agreement, (TOLMA 2010) with the state of Victoria for the joint management of Barmah National Park. The TOLMA enabled the establishment of the YYTOLMB for Barmah National Park under the *Conservation, Forests and Lands Act 1987*. The TOLMA sets out the governance framework around the YYTOLMB and the YYTOLMB's initial role, land and principles for the YYTOLMB. The YYTOLMB members were appointed by determination published in the *Victoria Government Gazette* on 11 July 2013 for an initial twelve month term until 11 July 2014. Nine of eleven board members were appointed for an interim period between 29 August 2014 and 17 October 2014. The interim period and multiple appointment processes impacted the YYTOLMB's ability to deliver its functions during this time. On 17 October 2014, the full eleven members YYTOLMB was re-appointed for a further two years. This extended the initial twelve month appointment and allows the YYTOLMB to plan more effectively for a Joint Management Plan. The re-appointments saw two new Yorta Yorta members added to the YYTOLMB, Neville Atkinson and Ray Ahmat due to resignation of Robynne Nelson and Rob Walker.

The responsible Minister for the period from 1 July 2015 to 22 May 2016 was the Hon Lisa Neville MP, Minister for Environment, Climate Change & Water. Since 23 May 2016, the Hon Lily D'Ambrosio MP, Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change has been the responsible Minister.

The key role of the YYTOLMB, as set out in the TOLMA (2010) is:

"To enable the knowledge and culture of the Yorta Yorta people to be recognised and incorporated into the management of Barmah National Park through the carrying out by the Board of its functions, powers and duties."

YEAR IN REVIEW

Over the last year, the YYTOLMB has continued to develop and implement the required governance processes, develop and define its approach to preparation of the Joint Management Plan (JMP), as well as be actively engaged in a range of events and activities as part of its process of engagement and consultation with community, including both Yorta Yorta and the wider communities.

In July 2015, the YYTOLMB attended the event held at the Dharnya Centre during NAIDOC week. The day included a range of activities such as art stalls, bush food and camper ovens as well as a number of outstanding performances. Funding was contributed by the YYTOLMB as part of its process of community participation and information exchange, and the YYTOLMB operated a stall with information and promotional material. The event was well attended with over 400 people making an appearance.

A highlight for 2015-16 was the planning workshop between the YYTOLMB and Yorta Yorta Nations Aboriginal Corporation (YYNAC) and other key partners of the Barmah National Park including Parks Victoria (PV) and the Department of Environment, Land Water and Planning (DELWP). Other stakeholders included the Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority. This workshop was held over two days at Morning Glory Resort, Barmah, in December 2015 and facilitated by Pinnacle Consulting. The workshop covered key guiding principles and content areas for the JMP, partner contributions and plans for the next step. The engagement and outcomes from workshop displayed the commitment from all partners to the Joint Management Plan. The workshop was also a great opportunity to hear and learn from others including Damien Bell, Chief Executive Officer, Gunditj Mirring Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation, who led the Ngootyoong Gunditj Ngootyoong Mara South West Management Plan 2015.

This past year has also seen the appointment of a Senior Planning Officer to assist preparing and writing a JMP for Barmah National Park (BNP). YYTOLMB members developed the job description and conducted the interview process in conjunction with DELWP and YYNAC. From this, the YYTOLMB has been able to employ Dr. Liam Neame as the Senior Planning Officer. Dr. Liam Neame has worked supporting Yorta Yorta aspirations for land since he was a teenager and recently completed his PhD on history, colonialism and memory in the Barmah forest. Under direction of the YYTOLMB, Dr. Liam plans to produce a carefully constructed and organised Joint Management Plan for Barmah National Park. The YYTOLMB is very excited to have Dr. Liam Neame join the team and to work effectively with him over the next year.

In March 2016, the then Land, Fire and Environment Group within DELWP held a Portfolio Forum with representatives from the 23 agencies that fall under Group's responsibilities. The event was attended by the former Minister for Environment Climate Change and Water and the Chairperson of the YYTOLMB. The objective of the forum was to identify shared priorities and facilitate collaboration in achieving shared outcomes/ goals and a range of topics were explored including Aboriginal inclusion. The Chair of the YYTOLMB expressed his view that this was a fantastic day for all participants and everyone walked away feeling really positive.

In April, Parks Victoria hosted public consultations across Victoria as part of their planning for the River Red Gum National Park Management Plan. Parks Victoria invited the YYTOLMB to participate in their Open House consultations in Shepparton and Echuca on 20 and 21 April. This was a great opportunity for the YYTOLMB and our Senior Planning Officer to start public consultations and to work with Parks Victoria and the public to discuss ideas, concerns and passions about the National Park.

Other highlights throughout the year included: having the former Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water visit the Dharnya Centre; the YYTOLMB Chair meeting with Parks Victoria and DELWP to discuss issues relating to management of the Barmah National Park; commence the development of the Joint Management Plan; and dinner with Parks Victoria Chief Executive, Bradley Fauteux, and Regional Director-Northern Victoria, Craig Stubbings, where they explored Steamer Plains at the Barmah National Park.

During this year the YYTOLMB appointed Mr. Sam Claringbold, of Jeffrey Thomas Partners, as Chief Finance and Accounting Officer for the YYTOLMB.

Overall, the YYTOLMB has had an eventful year and looks forward to pursuing substantial development of the Joint Management Plan, community engagement processes and further governance improvements.

VISION

To create a healthy environment in the Barmah National Park for the benefit and enjoyment of all people and country whilst incorporating, recognising and reflecting the cultural beliefs, values and the traditional land management practices of people of the Yorta Yorta Nation, the Traditional Owners of this part of the Murray River (Dunghala) which creates prosperity for our people.

The YYTOLMB will do this by developing a Joint Management Plan for the Barmah National Park to ensure the cultural values and knowledge of the Yorta Yorta people are incorporated into park management practices.

GOALS

- Establish an equitable partnership between the State and the Yorta Yorta People to ensure innovation and excellence in joint management.
- Benefit the Yorta Yorta People by recognising, valuing, promoting and incorporating their culture, knowledge, skills and decision-making processes.
- To identify opportunities for involvement of the Yorta Yorta People in the management of the Barmah National Park.
- To benefit the community needs of all Victorians and visitors for public education and enjoyment through quality experiences, services and information.
- To conserve, protect and enhance natural and cultural values.
- To enjoy widespread community support.
- To ensure the well-being of country and the well-being of people.

VALUES

- Recognition and incorporation of Yorta Yorta Peoples' knowledge and culture in all land management decisions within the Barmah National Park.
- Valuing YYNAC's principal objectives and status as a Registered Aboriginal Party.
- Valuing the Declaration of Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
- Research will include representatives of Yorta Yorta People as active research partners where they should be vertically integrated throughout all research projects.
- Maintaining confidentiality of issues raised by all stakeholders.
- Ensuring that the values of stakeholders in the wider community are taken into consideration in all decision-making processes.
- Incorporating environmental, social and cultural values and financially sustainable actions into all land management practices that occur within the park.
- Ensuring HeBODY TEXTAppcompliance with all jurisdictional responsibilities and all Acts under which the YYTOLMB operates.

CONSTITUTION OF THE YYTOLMB

Members of the YYTOLMB are appointed under the TOLMA (2010), with six members being Yorta Yorta people as nominated by Yorta Yorta Nation Aboriginal Corporation and five general members, including a nominee of the Secretary of the Department of Environment, Land, and Water & Planning (DELWP).

The Chairperson is nominated by the Yorta Yorta Nation Aboriginal Corporation, and the Deputy Chairperson appointed from among the members of the YYTOLMB by the Minister. The YYTOLMB is supported by a Secretariat Officer.

Under section 82D of the Act, the Public Administration Act 2004 (Vic) applies to the Board as if the Board were a public entity (but not a small entity) within the meaning of that Act.

As a public entity the key legislation for the board includes:

- *Conservation, Forests and Land Acts 1987 (Vic)*
- *National Parks Act and Regulations 1975 (NP Act)*
- *Public Administration Act 2004*
- *Financial Management Act 1994*
- *Audit Act 1994*
- *Freedom of Information Act 1982*
- *The Information Privacy Act 2000*

OTHER APPLICABLE DOCUMENTS

- Recognition of Traditional Owner Group for Barmah National Park Determination published in the Victoria Government Gazette (26 October 2010)
- Board establishment Determination published in the Victoria Government Gazette (13 June 2013)
- Barmah Forest Ramsar Site Strategic Management Plan
- Barmah State Park and Forest Management Plan
- River Red Gum Forests Investigation Final Report (July 2008) – Victorian Environmental Assessment Council
- Victorian Government response to Victorian Government Environmental Assessment Council's River Red Gum Forests Investigation (March 2009).
- The Victorian Department of Treasury and Finance, Standing Directions of the Minister of Finance under the *Financial Management Act 1994*
- *Wildlife Act 1975*.

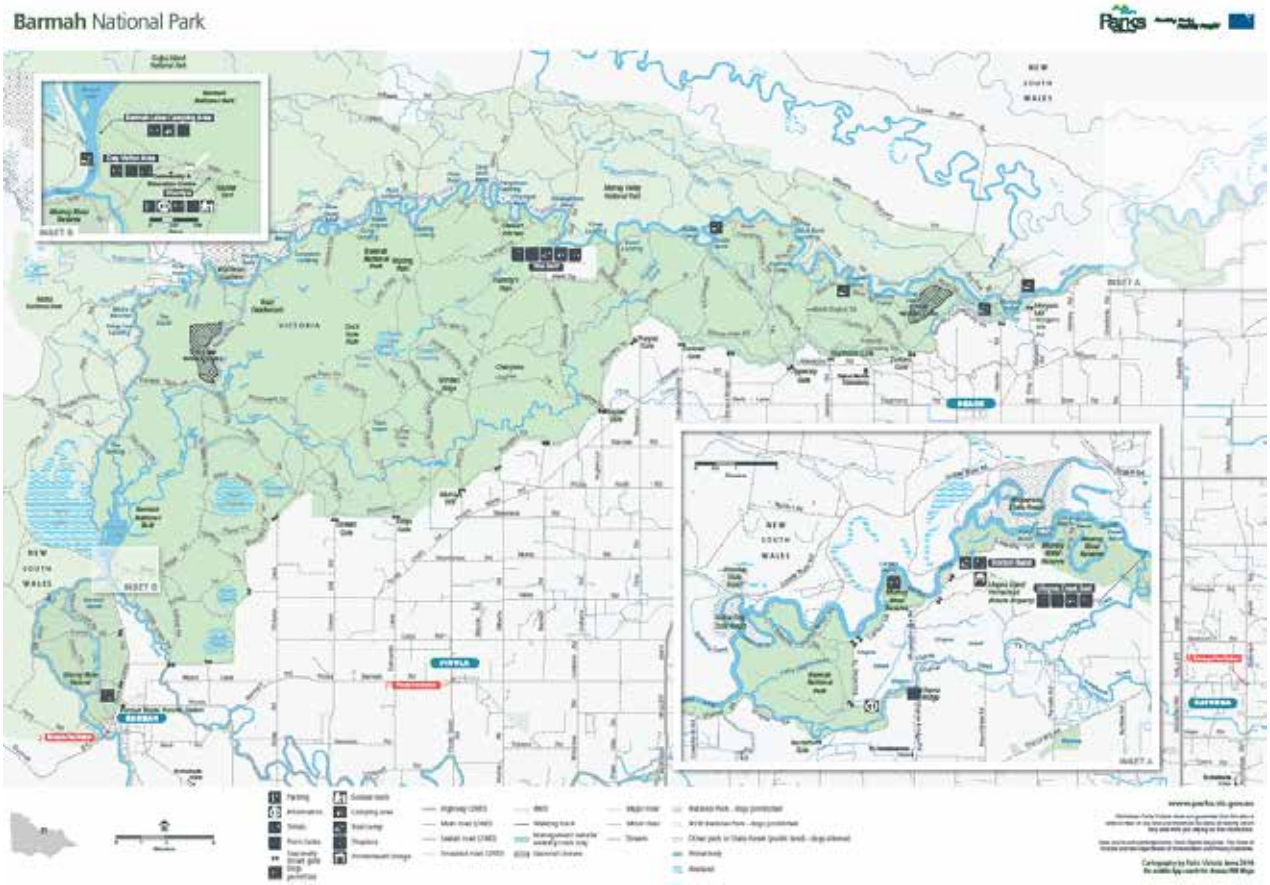
APPOINTED LAND

The 28,500 hectare Barmah National Park (The BNP) is on Yorta Yorta's traditional lands located on the Murray River approximately 220 kilometers north of Melbourne and includes the largest River Red Gum Forest in the world and internationally recognised wetlands.

The Park is on Yorta Yorta land and represents strong cultural ties and unique environmental interests to the Yorta Yorta People. There is continuing evidence of Yorta Yorta occupation within the Park and waterways that make up a culturally and environmentally diverse landscape such as middens and burial sites.

The Yorta Yorta People continues to exercise their ownership and identity across Yorta Yorta Country. Yorta Yorta's ancestral knowledge and understanding of the Barmah National Park now has an opportunity to be incorporated into the joint management. This knowledge can provide and guide partnerships to better develop culturally and environmentally appropriate policies and plans. This will enhance the benefits culturally, socially and economically in the protection of BNP assets.

The Victoria Government declared the Barmah Forest a National Park in 2010. The BNP is listed under the Ramsar Convention as a wetland of international importance and the BNP is part of the Japan-Australia and the China-Australia Migratory Bird Agreements to protect migratory birds.



FUNCTIONS OF THE YYTOLMB

The functions of the YYTOLMB as set out in the TOLMA (2010) are:

a) to prepare a joint management plan for Barmah National Park;

b) to comment or make submissions on management of Barmah National Park;

c) to prepare policies about the Board and its operation and engagement with external parties;

d) to provide advice and make recommendations to the Minister and the Secretary, DELWP in relation to the management of Barmah National Park, or policies that affect the management of the park; and

e) to monitor and encourage compliance with the Joint Management Plan.

POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE YYTOLMB

Under the TOLMA (2010), the powers of the Board include the power to:

- Employ staff including an executive officer to be responsible to the board for implementing Board decisions and for carrying out its functions and duties;
- Delegate any of its functions, powers or duties to a member of the Board or an employee of the Board;
- Enter into arrangements or agreements with any other person or body for the carrying out of its functions and duties;
- Carry out works on the Appointed Land if required by one of the functions of the Board;
- Act as delegate or agent of a person or body who has management functions, powers or duties in relation to the appointed land when so appointed by that person or body.

In the TOLMA (2010), the Secretary of DELWP, may also enter into a management agreement with the YYTOLMB. Provisions of section 16 of the *NP Act* ensure powers; duties and functions cannot be shared. This provision in the *NP Act* provides for a clear demarcation of management responsibilities and risks for Parks Victoria and the YYTOLMB.

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES 2015-2016

Since the YYTOLMB began operations in August 2013, its members have established governance processes and developed frameworks to establish a clear direction ahead for the YYTOLMB. A summary of activities in 2015-16 are listed below:

- Visits to Barmah National Park;
- Ongoing work of YYTOLMB committees to progress activities outside YYTOLMB meetings;
- Establishment and review of new & current policies and procedures;
- Two day Barmah National Park Joint Management Plan workshop ;
- Attendance at Yorta Yorta NAIDOC Family Fun Day at Dharnya;
- Continued to develop and improve understanding and working relationships with the key partners, through regular engagement with YYNAC, DELWP and PV;
- Risk Management Training;
- Stakeholder mapping and development of the YYTOLMB's stakeholder engagement phase;
- Appointment of a Senior Planning Officer;
- Appointment of a Secretariat Officer;
- Continued development of the Joint Management Plan consultation and preparation arrangements;
- Working towards YYTOLMB compliance with various legislations.

...The YYTOLMB have visited, established, attended, worked and continued to develop and improve...

FIVE YEAR FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Five year financial summary [i]	2015-16	2014-15	2013-14
Government grants	300,000	300,000	161,384
Total income from transactions	300,000	303,385	163,884
Total expenses from transactions	(203,716)	(272,770)	(167,323)
Net result from transactions	96,284	30,615	3,439
Net result for the period	96,284	30,598	(3,463)
Net cash flow from operating activities	97,474	11,623	15,674
Total assets	162,664	42,250	20,139
Total liabilities	39,245	15,115	23,602

Notes:
(i) The Board was appointed in July 2013 and has only been operating for three years, not five.

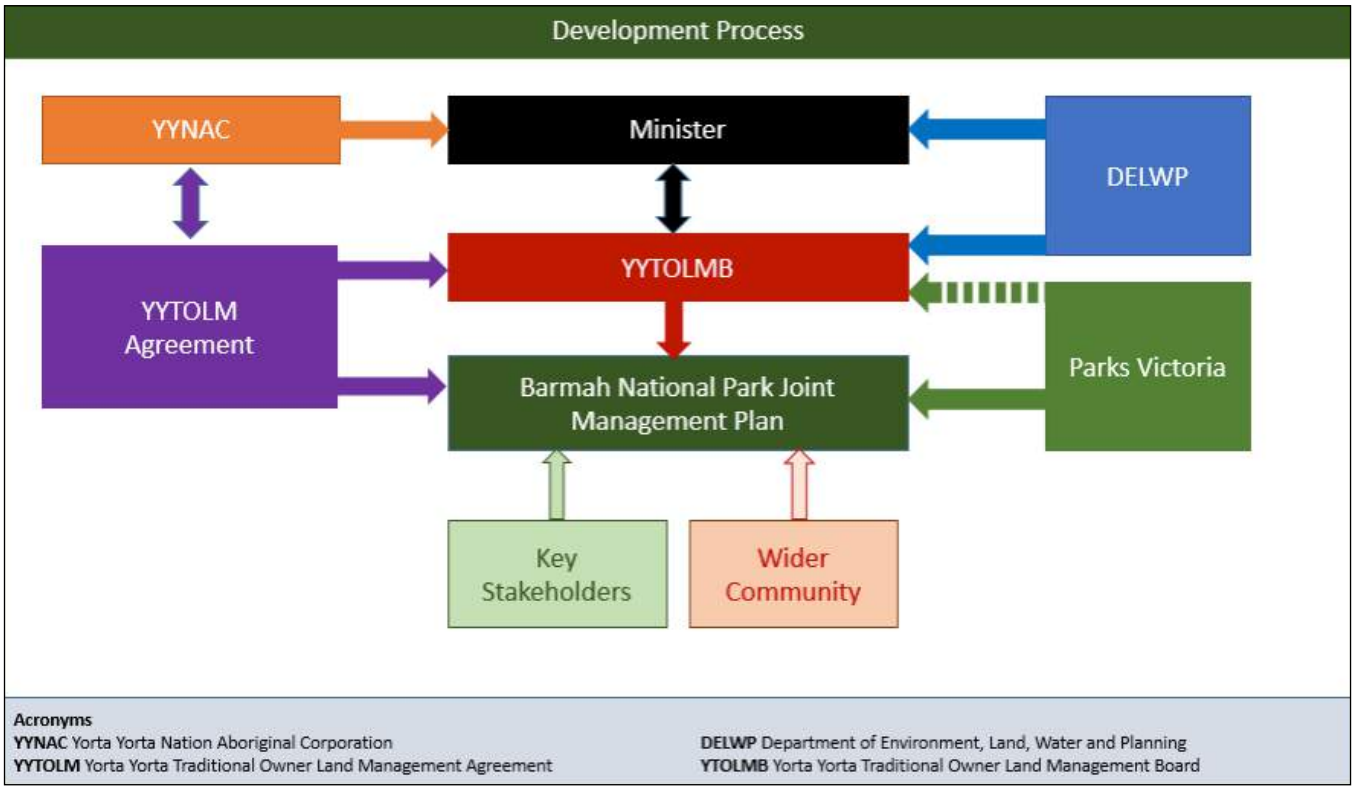
CURRENT YEAR FINANCIAL SUMMARY

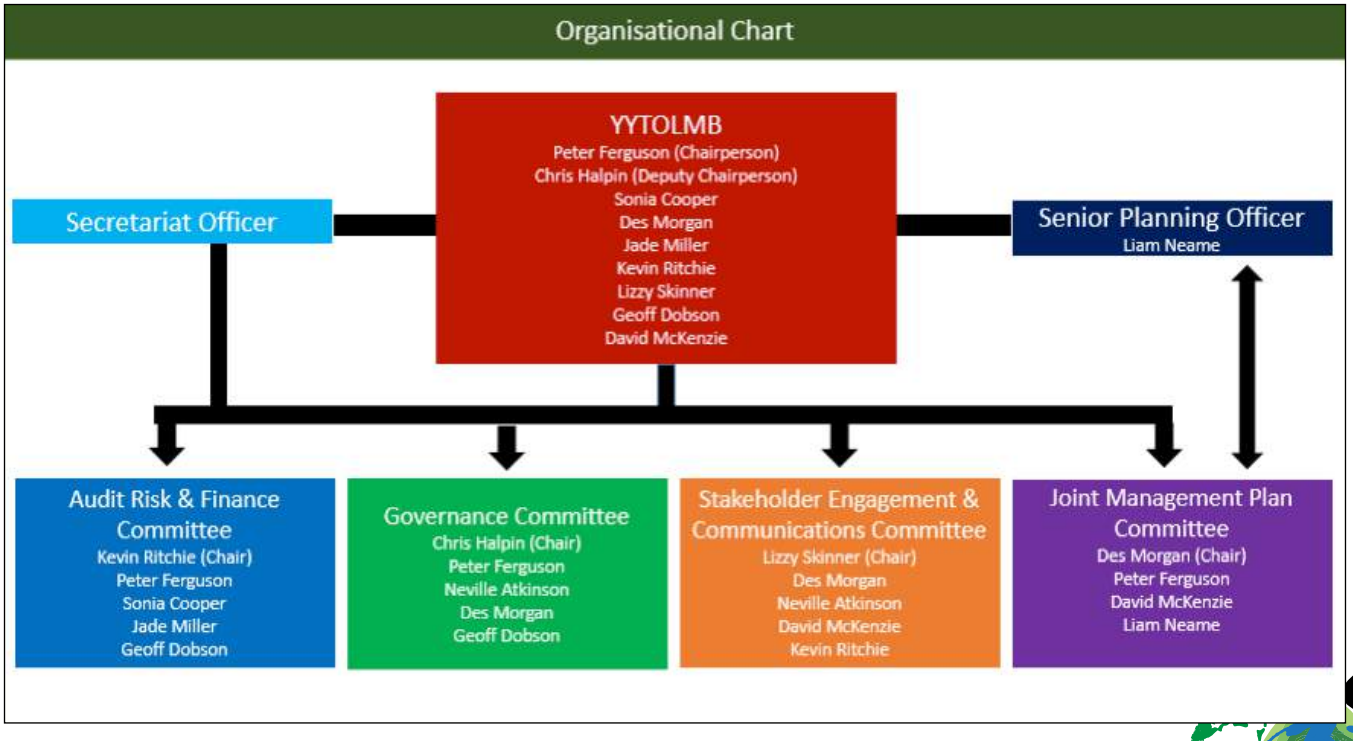
The Board is funded through the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning as part of the Victorian Government's Traditional Owner Land Management Agreement dated 20 October 2010. For the financial year 2015-16 the Board's funding was administered by DELWP.

There were no significant changes in our financial position during the year. There were no significant changes or factors which affected our performance.

There were no events occurring after balance date which may significantly affect the YYTOLMB's operations in subsequent reporting periods. The YYTOLMB does not manage any capital projects.

RELATIONSHIP STRUCTURE





YYTOLMB MEMBERS

From the appointment of the YYTOLMB members by the Minister on 17 October 2014, the YYTOLMB membership in 2015-16 consisted of:

Mr Peter Ferguson (Chairperson)

Peter Ferguson is a proud Yorta Yorta man born in Mooroopna and who has worked in excess of 35 years locally in education and cultural heritage. Peter started in education at Shepparton South Technical School as a Koori Educator in 1980 before moving to the Victorian Archeological Survey in Albert Park, Melbourne a couple of years later. Peter returned to study as a mature aged student gaining a Bachelor of Arts (Education) in 1992 before finally completing a Masters in Business Management in 2010. Peter has been employed since 2010 as a lecturer in Indigenous Rural Health Studies, Strategic Development and Research at the Department of Rural Health, University of Melbourne's Shepparton campus. He has served on the Board of Directors at YYNAC in almost all capacities since 2002 through to December 2014 and is currently the Chair of YYNAC. Peter was also a member of the inaugural Yorta Yorta Joint Body and is the current Chair of the the National Executive of the Aboriginal Staff Alliance of the Australian Rural Health Education Network.

Ms Sonia Cooper

Sonia Cooper is a Yorta Yorta woman raised by her Nan on Cummeragunja. Representing Yorta Yorta, Sonia was a former Director of the Murray Lower Darling River's Indigenous Nation. She was also a former Secretary of the New South Wales Local Aboriginal Education Consultative Group in Sydney and President of Ngalaya Aboriginal Corporation (barristers and law students). Sonia has a background in copyright and trademarks. She has a strong interest in culture, the environment, science, policy, law, contracts and geopolitics. She was an Aboriginal Ambassador for the University of New South Wales (UNSW) and is currently completing a Law degree at Macquarie University.

Mr Desmond Morgan

Des Morgan is a local Yorta Yorta man who has a very deep love for Barmah having grown up and working there. He has worked in various roles in community and government departments such as a Cultural Heritage Coordinator, Drug and Alcohol Support Worker and being the Coordinator of the Dharnya Centre.

Des is a current member of the Yorta Yorta Elders Council, Yorta Yorta Nation Aboriginal Corporation Board, Chair of the Victorian Aboriginal Legal Service and Chair of the Victorian Aboriginal Community Services Association Ltd.

Some of the previous boards Des has served on include the Aborigines Advancement League Incorporated, and the Victorian Aboriginal Education Association Incorporated. He has also served a six year period as an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission Regional Councillor and has been Chairperson of Njernda Cooperative (Echuca).

Des has gained formal qualifications in Land Management Protection and Drug and Alcohol support.

Mr Jade Miller

Jade Miller is a Yorta Yorta man. He is an experienced and innovative entrepreneur, executive, publisher, author, media producer and broker. As an original signatory to the TOLMA which established one of Victoria's first jointly managed parks with the Yorta Yorta Traditional Owners, he brings with him a wealth of natural resource management knowledge and skills. He believes in the power and strength of all people working together to achieve a common goal.

Mr Neville Atkinson

Neville is a Yorta Yorta man who is passionate about spending time with his family. He currently works as part of the Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority and has held past positions with the GAMBINA Employment Agency and Rumbalara Aboriginal Co-operative over many years. Neville was also the past Chairperson of Yorta Yorta Nation Aboriginal Corporation.

Past projects have included Victoria's first co-operative management agreement, outside Native Title, allowing Yorta Yorta people to be formally involved in the management of traditional lands and waters, the Yorta Yorta Business Incubator model for the park ranger program and a $30M Residential Aged Care development. Neville looks forward to continuing to advocate for regional governance for Yorta Yorta Traditional Owners and contributing to the proud heritage of the collective achievements of Yorta Yorta peoples.

GENERAL MEMBERS

Mr Christopher Halpin (Deputy Chairperson)

Chris Halpin is currently Deputy Chair of the Yorta Yorta Traditional Owner Land Management Board. Chris' early career was in agricultural science and he has a background in agriculture and public land management over 35 years with the Victorian Government. He retired as Regional Director North West for the former Victorian Department of Sustainability and Environment in 2007. He then served four years as Executive Officer with Assisi Aid Projects Inc, an AUSAid accredited non-government organisation supporting community development projects in India, Cambodia and East Timor until 2011.

Chris has aspirations and interests in community development, social justice and sustainable land management. He is also a keen canoeist and bushwalker and maintains a close attachment to Victoria's river red gum forests and passion for preserving cultural heritage.

Mr Geoff Dobson

Geoff Dobson sits on a number of Boards, spanning Aged Care, Waste Management, Charitable Foundations and Disability Services Foundation in addition to his YYTOLMB membership. Geoff also works on a number of community projects, most prominently the redevelopment of the Goulburn River backwater in Shepparton. Geoff is a former real estate agent and sat on the State Board of the real estate industry for 9 years, including a year as state president. He is also a former city councillor and mayor of Greater Shepparton City Council. Geoff is a passionate supporter of the Barmah National Park, in particular, the proper recognition that needs to be afforded to the Yorta Yorta Peoples.

Mr Kevin Ritchie (DELWP Secretary's Nominee)

Kevin Ritchie has extensive experience in government programs and understanding of the legislation, policies and management priorities for Victoria's public land estate. Kevin's background is in management of public land and resources in a regional context, and he completed nine years as the former Victorian Department of Sustainability and Environment Regional Director North East. He was a previous member of the Yorta Yorta Joint Body and has strong continuing interests in natural resource and land management, community development, community engagement in resource management, organisational management and corporate governance.

Mr David McKenzie

David McKenzie was raised on the edge of the Barmah National Park at Picola where he farmed for fifty years as well as working in the forestry industry. David was a local councilor and mayor and has a good understanding of governance. David has been actively involved in water and waste management, and has a good understanding of the environmental issues involved in the management of the Barmah National Park. Having grown up with and attended school alongside the Yorta Yorta People, he has an ongoing social and working relationship with Yorta Yorta People.

Ms Lizzy Skinner

Lizzy Skinner has a background in environmental engineering and botany and has previously worked in a number of organisations including Melbourne Water, The Desert Research Foundation of Namibia and the Northern Territory Government. Through this work Lizzy has gained extensive experience in collaborating with community, government and stakeholder organisations in order to make technical policy decisions.

Lizzy has a strong personal commitment to reconciliation and in 2007 joined Engineers without Borders (EWB) to establish and manage their Engineering on Country Program. Her passions and commitments can also be demonstrated in her current employment as a Reconciliation Officer for the City of Melbourne. Lizzy began her work with YYNAC through facilitating a partnership with EWB.

Secretariat Officer – Lena Charles

As a young Yorta Yorta woman from Mooroopna, Lena had such a valuable experience serving as the YYTOLMB's secretariat officer since April 2016. In 2013 Lena completed a Bachelor of Arts through Melbourne University's Indigenous Extended program with a major in Sociology. Afterwards, she went on and graduated with a Masters in Public Health specialising in Aboriginal health also at the University of Melbourne. Her passions in Aboriginal health are focused around sexual and maternal health. However, she has also shared passions around Yorta Yorta land management which she experienced during on Country learning practices in Barmah National Park with Uncle Wayne Atkinson.

Since graduating in 2015 and living in Melbourne for the past six years Lena has moved back home to be more engaged with her local community. As a Yorta Yorta woman, having the opportunity to work with the YYTOLMB has been a rewarding experience. Not only has it equipped Lena with various skills for future career aspirations, it has also allowed her to witness all the amazing things yet to come for Yorta Yorta people and the wider community in relation to Barmah National Park.

Lena believes it has been great to work with people who share such inspiring passions for the connection of land and culture. And although Lena's time with the YYTOLMB has been very brief, she hopes to stay connected and see the success of the YYTOLMB continue to grow.

Senior Planning Officer – Dr. Liam Neame

Liam Neame is a Doctor of Philosophy graduate whose research focused on history, memory and colonialism in the Barmah forest, with a focus on Yorta Yorta people's aspirations for land. He graduated with First Class Honours in Australian Indigenous Studies and has worked at a number of universities as a Research Assistant, Teacher's Assistant and lecturer. He has significant experience in community organisations and community organising. Liam has been engaged as the Senior Planning Officer for the Yorta Yorta Traditional Owner Land Management Board. For the next twelve months he will be heavily focused on community consultations and stakeholder engagement in preparation for the delivery of the Joint Management Plan to the Minister in August 2017.

YYTOLMB MEETINGS

YYTOLMB meetings were held during the 2015 – 2016 financial year. These were held in the Shepparton region.

Minutes of all YYTOLMB meetings were recorded and distributed.

Attendance at YYTOLMB meetings by YYTOLMB members from 24 July 2015 to 24 June 2016 are as follows:

Member	Attendance
Peter Ferguson	11 of 11
Sonia Cooper	10 of 11
Geoffrey Dobson	9 of 11
Neville Atkinson*	8 of 11
Christopher Halpin	9 of 11
David McKenzie	11 of 11
Jade Miller	8 of 11
Desmond Morgan	8 of 11
Kevin Ritchie	10 of 11
Lizzy Skinner	10 of 11

*Neville Atkinson resigned on 24 June 2016.

COMMITTEES

The YYTOLMB committees are a fundamental part of the YYTOLMB in order to progress work outside of the monthly YYTOLMB meetings. The committees meet quarterly or as necessary and assist the YYTOLMB in carrying out its duties by providing independent and objective reviews, advice and assistance in developing YYTOLMB policy and monitoring organisational activity with the scope of its remit, and making recommendations to the YYTOLMB for resolution. The committees are not a policy making body, nor do they have substantive executive function in their own right.

During the reporting period the following YYTOLMB committees were functioning:

Audit, Risk & Finance Committee

The Audit, Risk & Finance Committee operates under a charter approved by the YYTOLMB.

Priorities for the committee during this year have been review and implementation of actions arising from the Victorian Auditor-General's Office (VAGO) report from the previous year's audit; oversight of the Board end-of-year audit strategy for 2015-16; continuing the process for development of the YYTOLMB's risk management processes, and in particular, development of the YYTOLMB's Risk Register; oversight of employment of the YYTOLMB's Chief Finance and Accounting Officer, and integration of that officer into the YYTOLMB and Committee processes; and preparation of the specifications for the YYTOLMB's internal audit function. Liaison has been maintained with the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, the Victorian Managed Insurance Authority, and VAGO in development of these processes.

Current Committee members are: Kevin Ritchie (Chair), Peter Ferguson, Sonia Cooper, Geoff Dobson, and Jade Miller.

Stakeholder Engagement & Communications Committee

The Stakeholder Engagement and Communications committee operates under a charter approved by the YYTOLMB.

The committee oversaw two key engagement events during 2015-16. The first was the planning workshop between the YYTOLMB, YYNAC and other key agency partners of the Barmah National Park. The second event saw the YYTOMB start to engage with the broader community through the public consultation sessions hosted by Parks Victoria as part of their River Red Gum National Park planning.

Most recently the committee has been working closely with the newly appointed Senior Planning Officer to develop a Stakeholder Engagement and Communications Plan, and looking forward to community consultation in 2016-17.

The committee members are: Lizzy Skinner (Chair), Kevin Ritchie, David McKenzie, Des Morgan and Neville Atkinson (resigned June 2016).

Governance Committee

The Governance Committee assists the YYTOLMB in carrying out its duties by providing independent and objective review, advice and assistance in understanding its governance and legislative obligations, and making recommendations to the YYTOLMB by resolution. The committee recommends policy to the YYTOLMB, but does not have a substantive executive function in its own right.

Specific objectives off the committee include that:

- YYTOLMB functions are fulfilled effectively, consistent with its governance framework
- YYTOLMB member's conduct is consistent with the required standards
- YYTOLMB governance policies are regularly reviewed and updated

The Governance Committee consists of at least three members, with the majority being Yorta Yorta. Membership is reviewed annually. Current membership of the committee includes Chris Halpin (Chair), Geoff Dobson, Peter Ferguson, Des Morgan, and Neville Atkinson (resigned June 2016).

Joint Management Plan Committee

With Liam Neame appointed as the Senior Planning Officer, it was decided that there should be a Joint Management Committee that can work alongside Liam and assist him in writing the Joint Management Plan. The Joint Management plan is currently in the stakeholder engagement phase with various community consultations in progress. The current committee members are Des Morgan, (Chair) Peter Ferguson, David McKenzie and Dr. Liam Neame.

RELATIONSHIPS

Yorta Yorta Nation Aboriginal Corporation

During the reporting period, the YYTOLMB entered into a Service Level Agreement with YYNAC for the provision of hosting services related to the YYTOLMB's Secretariat and Senior Planning Officer positions including: provision of workstation & facilities; human resource management; information and communications technology support; and administration services. YYNAC, along with the YYTOLMB members nominated by YYNAC, is the primary contact for YYTOLMB in ensuring that Yorta Yorta aspirations, culture, policies and priorities are actively included in YYTOLMB considerations.

The YYTOLMB understands that developing and maintaining positive relationships with its partners and key stakeholders is paramount to delivering a successful joint management plan. Yorta Yorta Nation Aboriginal Corporation and Parks Victoria is a standing agenda item at the YYTOLMB meetings, with the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) attending where necessary.

Yorta Yorta Nations Aboriginal Corporation provided the following:

- Culturally appropriate and relevant community access point
- Hosting the YYTOLMB's Secretariat Officer
- Hosting the Senior Planning Officer
- Provision of meeting facilities for YYTOLMB's monthly meetings
- Provision of facilities for sub-committee meetings on a needs basis
- Payroll duties
- HR Support
- Access to Yorta Yorta Nation Aboriginal Corporation's Policies and Procedures
- Governance and Business arrangements
- IT support

DELWP provided the following support for all or part of the year:

- Hosting the YYTOLMB's Secretariat Officer (for small part of the year).
- Payroll duties
- Support with compliance related to a public entity
- Guidance and human resource support
- Financial systems
- ICT support
- Governance and Business arrangements
- Access to policies and procedures

Parks Victoria

Whilst Parks Victoria manage and implement the day-to-day operations of Barmah National Park, they report to the YYTOLMB every month on significant activities in the Park.

Workforce Data

The YYTOLMB did not directly employ any staff during the reporting period.

Secretariat Officer Disclosure

The YYTOLMB did not directly employ a Secretariat Officer during the reporting period.

Consultancies

Details of consultancies (valued at $10,000 or greater)

In 2015–16 there was one consultancy where the total fees payable to the consultants were $10,000 or greater. The total expenditure incurred during 2015-16 in relation to these consultancies was $17,020.80 (excl. GST).

Details of individual consultancies are outlined as follows:

Consultant	Pinnacle Group Australia
Purpose of consultancy	Facilitate a 2-day workshop to establish a common understanding of and gain commitment from key partners to collaborate on, the development of the Barmah National Park Joint Management Plan (JMP).
State date	27 November 2015
End date	30 January 2016
Total approved fees (excl. GST)	$17,020.80
Expenditure 2015-16 (excl. GST)	$17,020.80
Future expenditure (excl. GST)	$0

Details of consultancies (valued at less than $10,000)

In 2015-16 the YYTOLMB did not engage any consultancies under $10,000.

Major Contracts

Government policy requires disclosure of all contracts greater than $10 million dollars in value. In 2015-16 the YYTOLMB did not enter into any contracts greater than $10 million during the reporting period.

OTHER INFORMATION

Victorian Industry Participation Policy

In October 2003, the Victorian Parliament passed the Victorian Industry Participation Policy Act 2003 (VIPP) which requires public bodies and departments to report on the implementation of the VIPP. Departments and public sector bodies are required to apply VIPP in all procurement activities valued at $3 million or more in metropolitan Melbourne and for statewide projects, or $1 million or more for procurement activities in regional Victoria. In 2015-16 the YYTOLMB did not have any tenders over $1 million.

Government Advertising Expenditure

Government policy requires disclosure of all Government Advertising Expenditure with a total media buy of $100,000 or greater (exclusive of GST). No Government Advertising Expenditure was incurred by the YYTOLMB during the reporting period.

Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Expenditure

For the 2015-16 reporting period, the YYTOLMB had a total ICT expenditure of $0.

ICT expenditure refers to the YYTOLMB's costs in providing business enabling ICT services.

Freedom of Information

The *Freedom of Information Act 1982* allows the public a right of access to documents held by the YYTOLMB. The YYTOLMB operates in accordance with Freedom of Information (FOI) procedures established through the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning. Requests must be in writing and a fee of $27.90 is payable for applications. In 2015-16 no FOI requests were made to the YYTOLMB.

Making a request

Access to documents may be obtained through written request to the Freedom of Information Manager, as detailed in s17 of the Freedom of Information Act 1982. In summary, the requirements for making a request are:

- it should be in writing;
- it should identify as clearly as possible which document is being requested; and
- it should be accompanied by the appropriate application fee (the fee may be waived in certain circumstances).

Requests for documents in the possession of the YYTOLMB should be addressed to:

FOI Unit
Department of Environment, Land, Water & Planning
PO Box 500
EAST MELBOURNE VIC 8002

FOI.Unit@delwp.vic.gov.au

Requests can also be lodged online at www.foi.vic.gov.au.

Access charges may also apply once documents have been processed and a decision on access is made, for example photocopying and search and retrieval charges.

Further information regarding Freedom of Information can be found at www.foi.vic.gov.au.

Compliance with the Building Act 1993

The YYTOLMB does not own or control any government buildings and consequently is exempt from notifying its compliance with the building and maintenance provisions of the *Building Act 1993*.

National Competition Policy

In 1995, Council of Australian Governments established and implemented the 'National Competition Policy'. The YYTOLMB adheres to the principles of the National Competition Policy to ensure that any business competition with private entities takes place in an environment where the YYTOLMB has no competitive advantages.

Employment and Conduct Principles

The YYTOLMB has developed and follows its own values and principles which encompass the principles in the Code of Conduct for Victorian Public Sector Employees.

Occupational Health and Safety Policy

The YYTOLMB is committed to providing and maintaining a safe and healthy meeting place for all its members. Until the YYTOLMB's own OH&S policy is developed the YYTOLMB abides by the OH&S policy of DELWP and other organisations' OH&S policies where its meeting has convened and ensures YYTOLMB members are aware of their roles and responsibilities towards OH&S. The YYTOLMB has had no reports of hazards or incidents for the reporting period.

Declaration of Private Interests

Annual declarations of pecuniary interests have been completed by all YYTOLMB members. All original Employee Declaration of Private Interests forms are retained and filed by the Secretariat Officer and are available on request to the relevant Ministers, Members of Parliament and the public, subject to the *Freedom of Information Act 1982*.

Compliance with the Protected Disclosure Act 2012 (formerly the Whistleblowers Protection Act 2001)

The *Protected Disclosure Act 2012* commenced operation on 10 February 2013 and replaces the former *Whistleblowers Protection Act 2001*.

The Act provides protection to people who make disclosures in accordance with the Act and establishes a system for the matters disclosed to be investigated and rectifying action to be taken. The YYTOLMB does not tolerate any improper conduct by its YYTOLMB members. The YYTOLMB is committed to ensuring accountability and transparency in its management practices.

Disclosures of improper conduct or detrimental action by the YYTOLMB or any of its members may be made directly to the Independent Broad based Anticorruption Commission (IBAC):

Level 1, North Tower, 459 Collins Street
Melbourne, VIC 3000

Phone: 1300 735 135
Internet: www.ibac.vic.gov.au

The YYTOLMB is not aware of any disclosures made by an individual to IBAC about the YYTOLMB or its members or officer during the period 1 July 2015 - 30 June 2016.

Statement of availability of other Information

Additional information available on request

In compliance with the requirements of the Standing Directions of the Minister for Finance , details in respect of the items listed below have been retained by Yorta Yorta Traditional Owners Land Management Board are available (in full) on request, subject to the provisions of *Freedom of Information Act 1982*:

- Details of publications produced by the YYTOLMB about itself, and how these can be obtained.

The information is available on request from:

Secretariat Officer
YYTOLMB
Care of YYNAC
127 Welsford Street, Shepparton,
Victoria 3630

Phone: (03) 5825 0222

yytolmbeo@yynac.vic.gov.au

Additional information included in the annual report:

- Assessments and measures undertaken to improve the occupational health and safety of employees
- A list of YYTOLMB committees, the purposes of each committee; and the extent to which the purposes have been achieved – please refer to committee section of the annual report for more detail.

Information that is not applicable to the YYTOLMB:

The following information is not relevant to the YYTOLMB for the reasons set out below:

1. A declaration of shares held by senior officers (No shares have been issued in YYTOLMB's name);
2. Details of overseas visits undertaken (No board members or senior executives took overseas work related trips);
3. Details of any major external reviews carried out on the YYTOLMB (no external reviews were carried out);
4. Details of major research and development activities undertaken by the YYTOLMB (no major research and development activities were undertaken);
5. Details of major promotional, public relations and marketing activities undertaken by the YYTOLMB to develop community awareness of the entity and its services (no promotional, public relations and marketing activities were undertaken); and
6. Details of changes in prices, fees, charges, rates and levies charged (no changes in prices, fees, charges, rates and levies were charged by the YYTOLMB).

Gifts, Benefits and Hospitality

The YYTOLMB has a gifts, benefits and hospitality policies and procedures in place that are consistent with the minimum requirements and accountabilities outlined in the *Gifts, Benefits and Hospitality Policy Framework for the Victorian Public Sector (March 2015)*. The policies and procedures apply to all YYTOLMB members and employees (including senior executives and contractors) at all times in the performance of their duties.

Risk Management Compliance Attestation

I, Peter Ferguson certify that the Yorta Yorta Traditional Owner Land Management YYTOLMB has complied with Ministerial Direction 4.5.5, except for formal completion of the risk register and subsequent formal adoption the complete risk management framework.

The Audit, Risk and Finance Committee verifies this assurance and that the risk profile of the YYTOLMB has been critically reviewed within the past 12 months.

P Ferguson

Chairperson and Accountable Officer

Yorta Yorta Traditional Owner Land Management Board

14 October 2016

Compliance with DataVic Access Policy

Consistent with the DataVic Access Policy issued by the Victorian Government in 2012, the information *(model financial statements)* included in this Annual Report will be available at http://www.data.vic.gov.au/ in machine readable format.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Yorta Yorta Traditional Owner Land Management Board

Financial Statements 30 June 2016

Contents	Page
Comprehensive operating statement	2
Balance sheet	3
Statement of changes in equity	4
Cash flow statement	5
Notes to the financial statements	6
Accountable Officer's and Chief Finance and Accounting Officer's declaration	26
Auditor-General's report	27

These financial statements covers the Yorta Yorta Traditional Owner Land Management Board as an individual entity and is presented in the Australian currency.

The Yorta Yorta Traditional Owner Land Management Board is an independent, statutory office of the State of Victoria. Its principal address is:

Yorta Yorta Traditional Owner Land Management Board
Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning
Po Box 1363
Shepparton, Vic 3630

A description of the nature of the Board's operations and its principal activities is included in the Report of Operations. The financial report was authorised for issue by the Chairperson – Peter Ferguson and Chief Financial Accounting Officer – Sam Claringbold on 14 October 2016.

For queries in relation to our financial reporting please call (03) 5869 3498.

Comprehensive operating statement for the financial year ended 30 June 2016

	Notes	2016 $	2015 $
Income from transactions			
Government grants	1(e), 2(a)	300,000	300,000
Fair value of services received free of charge or for nominal consideration	1(e), 2(b)	0	3,385
Total income from transactions		300,000	303,385
Expenses from transactions			
Employee expenses	1(f), 3(a)	(48,564)	(86,413)
Supplies and services	1(f), 3(b)	(155,152)	(183,491)
Other operating expenses	1(f), 3(c)	0	(2,866)
Total expenses from transactions		(203,716)	(272,770)
Net result from transactions (net operating balance)		96,284	30,615
Other economic flows included in net result			
Other gains/(losses) from other economic flows	1(g), 4	0	(17)
Total other economic flows included in net result		0	(17)
Comprehensive result		96,284	30,598

The comprehensive operating statement should be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements.

Balance sheet as at 30 June 2016

	Notes	2016 $	2015 $
Assets			
Financial assets			
Cash and deposits	1(i), 11, 12(a)	**125,271**	27,797
Receivables	1(i), 5, 11	**37,393**	14,453
Total financial assets		**162,664**	42,250
Total assets		**162,664**	42,250
Liabilities			
Payables	1(j), 6, 11	**39,245**	11,256
Provisions	1(j), 7	**0**	3,859
Total liabilities		**39,245**	15,115
Net assets		**123,419**	27,135
Equity			
Accumulated surplus		**123,419**	27,135
Net worth		**123,419**	27,135

Commitments for expenditure	1(k), 9
Contingent assets and contingent liabilities	1(l), 10

The balance sheet should be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements.

Statement of changes in equity for the financial year ended 30 June 2016

	Accumulated surplus/(deficit)	Total
	$	$
Balance at 1 July 2014	**(3,463)**	**(3,463)**
Comprehensive result for the period	30,598	30,598
Balance as at 30 June 2015	**27,135**	**27,135**
Comprehensive result for the period	96,284	96,284
Balance at 30 June 2016	**123,419**	**123,419**

The statement of changes in equity should be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements.

Cash flow statement for the financial year ended 30 June 2016

	Notes	2016 $	2015 $
Cash flows from operating activities			
Receipts			
Receipts from government		**277,061**	290,860
Total receipts		**277,061**	290,860
Payments			
Payments to suppliers and employees		**(179,587)**	(279,237)
Total payments		**(179,587)**	(279,237)
Net cash flows from operating activities	12(b)	**97,474**	11,623
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		**97,474**	11,623
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year		27,797	16,174
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year	12(a)	**125,271**	27,797

Cash movements disclosed in the cash flow statement are those cash transactions completed by the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning on behalf of the Yorta Yorta Traditional Owner Land Management Board.

The cash flow statement should be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2016

Contents **Page**

Note 1. Summary of significant accounting policies 7
Note 2. Income from transactions 15
Note 3. Expenses from transactions 15
Note 4. Other economic flows included in net result 15
Note 5. Receivables 16
Note 6. Payables 16
Note 7. Provisions 17
Note 8. Superannuation 18
Note 9. Commitments for expenditure 18
Note 10. Contingent assets and contingent liabilities 18
Note 11. Financial instruments 19
Note 12. Cash flow information 22
Note 13. Ex-gratia payments 22
Note 14. Responsible persons 22
Note 15. Remuneration to executives and payments to other personnel 23
Note 16. Remuneration of auditors 23
Note 17. Subsequent events 23
Note 18. Glossary of terms and style conventions 24

Note 1. Summary of significant accounting policies

The Yorta Yorta Traditional Owner Land Management Board (the Board) is a public entity of the State of Victoria, established under the *Conservation, Forests and Lands Act 1987* and in accordance with a Traditional Owner Land Management Agreement with the Yorta Yorta Nation Aboriginal Corporation to manage the Barmah National Park.

The former Minister for Environment and Climate Change, the Hon. Ryan Smith MP established the Board by determination on the 11 July 2013.

These annual financial statements represent the audited general purpose financial statements for the Board for the period 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016. The purpose of the report is to provide users with information about the Board's stewardship of resources entrusted to it.

(a) Statement of compliance

These general purpose financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis and in accordance with the *Financial Management Act 1994* (FMA) and applicable Australian Accounting Standards (AAS), which include Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB).

Where appropriate, those AAS paragraphs applicable to not-for-profit entities have been applied.

Accounting policies are selected and applied in a manner which ensures that the resulting financial information satisfies the concepts of relevance and reliability, thereby ensuring that the substance of the underlying transactions or other events is reported.

To gain a better understanding of the terminology used in this report, a glossary of terms and style conventions can be found in Note 18.

These annual financial statements were authorised for issue by the Yorta Yorta Traditional Owner Land Management Board on 14 October 2016.

(b) Basis of accounting preparation and measurement

The accrual basis of accounting has been applied 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 assumptions are based on professional judgements 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 AASs that have significant effects on the financial statements and estimates relate to:

- superannuation expense (refer to Note 1(f)); and
- future salary movements and future discount rates (refer to Note 1(j)).

Consistent with AASB 13 *Fair Value Measurement*, the Board determines the policies and procedures for both recurring fair value measurements such as financial instruments and for non-recurring fair value measurements in accordance with the requirements of AASB 13 and the relevant Financial Reporting Directions.

All assets and liabilities for which fair value is measured or disclosed in the financial statements are categorised within the 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 or liabilities
- Level 2 - Valuation techniques for which the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement is directly or indirectly observable
- 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 Board 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.

These financial statements are presented in Australian dollars and prepared in accordance with historical cost convention.

Note 1. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

(c) Reporting entity

The financial statements cover the Yorta Yorta Traditional Owner Land Management Board as an individual reporting entity.

The entity was established on 11 July 2013 via the *Conservation, Forests and Lands Act 1987.*

Its principal address is:
Yorta Yorta Traditional Owner land Management Board
PO Box 1363
Shepparton, Vic. 3630

Objectives of Yorta Yorta Traditional Owner Land Management Board
The objective of the Board in accordance with a Traditional Owner Land Management Agreement with the Yorta Yorta Nation Aboriginal Corporation is:

- To enable the knowledge and culture of the Yorta Yorta people to be recognised and incorporated into the management of the Barmah National Park, through the carrying out by the Board of its functions powers and duties.

(d) Scope and presentation of financial statements

Comprehensive operating statement
The comprehensive operating statement comprises three components. These are 'net result from transactions (or termed as 'net operating balance'), 'other economic flows included in net result' and 'other economic flows - other comprehensive income'. The sum of the former two, together with the net result from discontinued operations, represents the net result.

The net result is equivalent to profit or loss derived in accordance with AASs.

This classification is consistent with the whole of government reporting format and is allowed under AASB 101 *Presentation of Financial Statements.*

Refer to Note 18 for the definition of 'transactions included in net result', 'other economic flows included in net result' and 'other economic flows other comprehensive income'.

Balance sheet
Assets and liabilities are presented in liquidity order with assets aggregated into financial assets and non-financial assets.

Current and non-current assets and liabilities (non-current being those assets or liabilities expected to be recovered or settled more than 12 months after the reporting period) are disclosed in the notes, where relevant.

Cash flow statement
Cash flows are classified according to whether or not they arise from operating, investing or financing activities. This classification is consistent with requirements under AASB 107 *Statement of Cash Flows.*

Statement of changes in equity
The statement of changes in equity presents reconciliations of each non-owner and owner equity opening balance at the beginning of the reporting period to the closing balance at the end of the reporting period. It also shows separately changes due to amounts recognised in the 'Comprehensive result' and amounts related to 'Transactions with owner in its capacity as owner'.

(e) Income from transactions

Government grants
Grants from third parties (other than contribution by owners) are recognised as income in the reporting period in which the Yorta Yorta Traditional Owner Land Management Board gains control over the assets.

Fair value of services received free of charge or for nominal consideration
Contributions of resources received free of charge or for nominal consideration are recognised at their fair value when control is obtained over them, irrespective of whether these contributions are subject to restrictions or conditions over their use. Contributions in the form of services are only recognised when a fair value can be reliably determined.

(f) Expenses from transactions

Expenses from transactions are recognised as they are incurred, and reported in the financial year to which they relate.

Note 1. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

Employee expenses
These expenses include all costs related to employment (other than superannuation which is accounted for separately) including wages and salaries, leave entitlements, redundancy payment and Workcover premiums.

Refer to the section in Note 1(j) regarding employee benefits.

Superannuation
The amount recognised in the comprehensive operating statement is the employer contributions for members of defined contribution superannuation plans that are paid or payable during the reporting period.

Supplies and services
Supplies and services costs which are recognised as an expense in the reporting period in which they are incurred. This includes the costs of assets that do not meet the entity's capitalisation threshold of $5,000. Refer to Note 3(b) for the types of expenditure.

Other operating expenses
Other operating expenses generally represent the day-to-day running costs incurred in normal operations.

(g) Other economic flows included in net result

Other economic flows measure the change in volume or value of assets or liabilities that do not result from transactions.

Other losses from other economic flows
Other losses from other economic flows include the losses from the revaluation of the present value of long service leave liability due to changes in bond interest rates.

(h) Financial instruments

Financial instruments arise out of contractual agreements that give rise to a financial asset of one entity and a financial liability or equity instrument of another entity. Due to the nature of the entity's activities, certain financial assets and financial liabilities arise under statute rather than contract. Such financial assets and financial liabilities do not meet the definition of financial instruments in AASB 132 *Financial Instruments: Presentation*. For example, statutory receivables arising from taxes, fines and penalties do not meet the definition of financial instruments as they do not arise under contract.

Where relevant, for note disclosure purposes, a distinction is made between those financial assets and financial liabilities that meet the definition of financial instruments in accordance with AASB 132 and those that do not.

The following refers to financial instruments unless otherwise stated.

Categories of non-derivative financial instruments

Loans and receivables

Loans and receivables are financial instrument assets with fixed and determinable payments that are not quoted on an active market. These assets are initially recognised at fair value plus any directly attributable transaction costs. Subsequent to initial measurement, loans and receivables are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any impairment.

Loans and receivables category includes cash and deposits (refer to Note 1(i)), term deposits with maturity date less than three months, trade receivables, but not statutory receivables.

Financial liabilities at amortised cost

Financial instrument liabilities are initially recognised on the date they are originated. They are initially measured at fair value plus any directly attributable transaction costs. Subsequent to initial recognition, these financial instruments are measured at amortised cost with any difference between the initial recognised amount and the redemption value being recognised in profit and loss over the period of the interest-bearing liability, using the difference interest rate method.

Financial instrument liabilities measured at amortised cost include all of the Board's contractual payables and deposits held at fair value through profit and loss.

Note 1. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

(i) Assets

Cash and deposits
Cash and deposits, including cash equivalents, comprise of cash on hand and cash at bank, deposits at call and those highly liquid investments with an original maturity of three months or less, which are held for the purpose of meeting short term cash commitments rather than for investment purposes, and which are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and are subject to significant risk of changes in value.

Receivables
Receivables consist predominantly of amounts owing from the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning. These are classified as non-contractual and are not classified as financial instruments.

A provision for doubtful receivables is made when there is objective evidence that the debts will not be collected and bad debts are written off when identified.

(j) Liabilities

Payables
Payables consist of:

- contractual payables, such as accounts payable and unearned income including deferred income from concession notes. Accounts payable represent liabilities for goods and services provided to the entity prior to the end of the financial year that are unpaid and arise when the entity becomes obliged to make future payments in respect of the purchase of those goods and services; and
- statutory payables, such as goods and services tax and fringe benefits tax payables.

Contractual payables are classified as financial instruments and categorised as financial liabilities at amortised cost (refer to Note 1(h)). Statutory payables are recognised and measured similarly to contractual payables, but are not classified as financial instruments and not included in the category of financial liabilities at amortised cost, as they do not arise from a contract.

Provisions
Provisions are recognised when the entity has a present obligation, the future sacrifice of economic benefits is probable and the amount of the provision can be measured reliably.

The amount recognised as a provision is the best estimate of the consideration required to settle the present obligation at reporting period date, taking into account the risks and uncertainties surrounding the obligation. Where a provision is measured using the cash flows estimated to settle the present obligation, its carrying amount is the present value of those cash flows, using discount rate that reflects the time value of money and risks specific to the provision.

Employee benefits
Provision is made for benefits accruing to employees in respect of wages and salaries, annual leave and long service leave for services rendered to the reporting date.

(i) Wages and salaries and annual leave
Liabilities for wages and salaries, including non-monetary benefits annual leave and accumulating sick leave are all recognised in the provision for employee benefits, as 'current liabilities', as the Board does not have an unconditional right to defer settlements of these liabilities.

Depending on the expectation of the timing of settlement, liabilities for wages and salaries, annual leave and sick leave are measured at:

- nominal value – if the Board expects to wholly settle within 12 months; or
- present value – if the Board does not expect to wholly settle within 12 months.

(ii) Long service leave
Liability for long service leave (LSL) is recognised in the provision for employee benefits.

Unconditional LSL is disclosed in the notes to the financial statements as a current liability, even where the entity does not expect to settle the liability within 12 months, as it will not have the unconditional right to defer the settlement of the entitlement should an employee take leave within 12 months.

The components of this current LSL liability are measured at:

- discounted value –the entity expects to wholly settle within 12 months; and
- present value – if the entity does not expect to wholly settle within 12 months.

Note 1. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

Conditional LSL is disclosed as a non-current liability. There is an unconditional right to defer the settlement of the entitlement until the employee has completed the requisite years of service. This non-current LSL liability is measured at present value.
Any gain or loss following revaluation of the present value of non-current LSL liability is recognised as a transaction, except to the extent that a gain or loss arises due to changes in bond interest rates for which it is then recognised as an other economic flow (refer to Note 1(g)).

Employee benefit on-costs
Provisions for on-costs such as payroll tax, workers compensation and superannuation are recognised separately from provision for employee benefits.

(k) Commitments

Commitments for future expenditure include operating and capital commitments arising from contracts. These commitments are disclosed by way of a note (refer to Note 9) at their nominal value and inclusive of the goods and services tax (GST) payable. In addition, where it is considered appropriate and provides additional relevant information to users, the net present values of significant individual projects are stated. These future expenditure cease to be disclosed as commitments once the related liabilities are recognised in the balance sheet.

(l) Contingent assets and contingent liabilities

Contingent assets and contingent liabilities are not recognised in the balance sheet, but are disclosed by way of a note (refer to Note 10) and if quantifiable, are measured at nominal value. Contingent assets and liabilities are presented inclusive of GST receivable or payable respectively.

(m) Accounting for the goods and services tax (GST)

Income, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of associated GST, except where GST incurred is not recoverable from the taxation authority. In this case, the GST payable is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of the expense.

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from or payable to the taxation authority is included with other receivables or payables in the balance sheet.

Commitments and contingent assets and liabilities are also stated inclusive of GST.

(n) Events after reporting date

Assets, liabilities, income or expenses arise from past transactions or other past events. Where the transactions result from an agreement between the entity and other parties, the transactions are only recognised when the agreement is irrevocable at or before the end of the reporting period. Adjustments are made to amounts recognised in the financial statements for events which occur between the end of the reporting and before the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue, where those events provide information about conditions which existed at the reporting date. Note disclosure is made about events between the end of the reporting period and the date the financial statements are authorised for issue where the events relate to conditions which arose after the end of the reporting period that are considered to be of material interest.

(o) Comparative amounts

Where the presentation or classification of items in the financial statements changes, the comparative amounts are also reclassified unless it is impractical to do so. The nature, amount and reason for the reclassification is also disclosed. If the reclassification affects an item on the balance sheet, a third statement of financial position is also presented.

The Land Management Board has reviewed its financial statements and has made the following revisions:

- split other debtors and receivables from trade receivables to better explain the make-up of receivables. This has been adjusted in Note 5 and Note 11.

(p) Australian Accounting Standards issued that are not yet effective

Certain new AASs have been published that are not mandatory for the 30 June 2016 reporting period. DTF assesses the impact of all these new standards and advises the entity of their applicability and early adoption where applicable.

As at 30 June 2016, the following applicable AASs have been issued by the AASB but not yet effective. They become effective for the first financial statements for reporting periods commencing after the stated operative dates as follows:

Note 1. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

Standard/ Interpretation	Summary	Applicable for annual reporting periods beginning on or after	Impact on public sector entity financial statements
AASB 9 *Financial Instruments*	The key changes include the simplified requirements for the classification and measurement of financial assets, a new hedging accounting model and a revised impairment loss model to recognise impairment losses earlier, as opposed to the current approach that recognises impairment only when incurred.	1 Jan 2018	While the preliminary assessment has not identified any material impact arising from AASB 9, it will continue to be monitored and assessed.
AASB 2010-7 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 9* (December 2010)	The requirements for classifying and measuring financial liabilities were added to AASB 9. The existing requirements for the classification of financial liabilities and the ability to use the fair value option have been retained. However, where the fair value option is used for financial liabilities the change in fair value is accounted for as follows: • The change in fair value attributable to changes in credit risk is presented in other comprehensive income (OCI); and • Other fair value changes are presented in profit and loss. If this approach creates or enlarges an accounting mismatch in the profit or loss, the effect of the changes in credit risk are also presented in profit or loss.	1 Jan 2018	The assessment has indicated that there will be no impact on the entity as its liabilities are measured at amortised cost.
AASB 2014-1 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards [Part E Financial Instruments]*	Amends various AASs to reflect the AASB's decision to defer the mandatory application date of AASB 9 to annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2018 as a consequence of Chapter 6 Hedge Accounting, and to amend reduced disclosure requirements.	1 Jan 2018	This amending standard will defer the application period of AASB 9 to the 2018-19 reporting period in accordance with the transition requirements.
AASB 2014-7 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 9*	Amends various AASs to incorporate the consequential amendments arising from the issuance of AASB 9.	1 Jan 2018	The assessment has indicated that there will be no significant impact for the entity.
AASB 15 *Revenue from Contracts with Customers*	The core principle of AASB 15 requires an entity to recognise revenue when the entity satisfies a performance obligation by transferring a promised good or service to a customer.	1 Jan 2018	The changes in revenue recognition requirements in AASB 15 may result in changes to the timing and amount of revenue recorded in the financial statements. The Standard will also require additional disclosures on service revenue and contract modifications. A potential impact will be the upfront recognition of revenue from licenses and leases that cover multiple reporting periods. Revenue that was deferred and amortised over a period may now need to be recognised immediately as a transitional adjustment against the opening retained earnings if there are no former performance obligations outstanding.

Note 1. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

Standard/ Interpretation	Summary	Applicable for annual reporting periods beginning on or after	Impact on public sector entity financial statements
AASB 2014-5 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 15*	Amends the measurement of trade receivables and the recognition of dividends. Trade receivables, that do not have a significant financing component, are to be measured at their transaction price, at initial recognition. Dividends are recognised in the profit and loss only when: • the entity's right to receive payment of the dividend is established; • it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the dividend will flow to the entity; and • the amount can be measured reliably.	1 Jan 2017, except amendments to AASB 9 (Dec 2009) and AASB 9 (Dec 2010) apply from 1 Jan 2018	The assessment has indicated that there will be no significant impact for the entity.
AASB 2015-8 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Effective Date of AASB 15*	This Standard defers the mandatory effective date of AASB 15 from 1 January 2017 to 1 January 2018.	1 Jan 2018	This amending standard will defer the application period of AASB 15 to the 2018-19 reporting period in accordance with the transition requirements.
AASB 2016-3 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Clarifications to AASB 15*	This Standard amends AASB 15 to clarify the requirements on identifying performance obligations, principal versus agent considerations and the timing of recognising revenue from granting a licence. The amendments require: • A promise to transfer to a customer a good or service that is 'distinct' to be recognised as a separate performance obligation; • For items purchased online, the entity is a principal if it obtains control of the good or service prior to transferring to the customer; and • For licences identified as being distinct from other goods or services in a contract, entities need to determine whether the licence transfers to the customer over time (right to use) or at a point in time (right to access).	1 Jan 2018	The assessment has indicated that there will be no significant impact for the entity, other than the impact identified in AASB 15.
AASB 2015-6 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Extending Related Party Disclosures to Not-for-Profit Public Sector Entities* [AASB 10, AASB 124 & AASB 1049]	The Amendments extend the scope of AASB 124 *Related Party Disclosures* to not-for-profit public sector entities. A guidance has been included to assist the application of the Standard by not-for-profit public sector entities.	1 Jan 2016	The amending standard will result in extended disclosures on the entity's key management personnel (KMP), and the related party transactions.

Note 1. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

In addition to the new standards and amendments above, the AASB has issued a list of other amending standards that are not effective for the 2015-16 reporting period (as listed below). In general, these amending standards include editorial and references changes that are expected to have insignificant impacts on the entity.

- AASB 1057 *Application of Australian Accounting Standards*
- AASB 2015-2 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Disclosure Initiative: Amendments to AASB 101* [AASB 7, AASB 101, AASB 134 & AASB 1049]
- AASB 2015-9 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Scope and Application Paragraphs* [AASB 8, AASB 133 & AASB 1057]
- AASB 2015-10 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Effective Date of Amendments to AASB 10 and AASB 128*
- AASB 2016-2 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Disclosure Initiative: Amendments to AASB 107*

Note 2. Income from transactions

	2016 $	2015 $
(a) Government grants		
Government grants from the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning	300,000	300,000
Total government grants	300,000	300,000
(b) Fair value of assets received free of charge or for nominal consideration		
Services (IT services)	0	3,385
Total fair value of assets received free of charge or for nominal consideration	0	3,385
Total income from transactions	300,000	303,385

Note 3. Expenses from transactions

	2016 $	2015 $
(a) Employee expenses		
Salaries and wages	(33,911)	(57,774)
Superannuation	(7,509)	(11,593)
Leave expenses (annual leave and long service leave)	(2,098)	(7,976)
Other on-costs (fringe benefits tax, payroll tax and workcover levy)	(5,046)	(9,070)
Total employee expenses	(48,564)	(86,413)
(b) Supplies and services		
Contract and professional services	(100,430)	(95,415)
General expenses	(15,391)	(34,304)
IT expenses	(1,327)	(6,962)
Motor vehicle expenses	0	(367)
Office and accommodation	(13,164)	(17,343)
Office expenses	(4,713)	(325)
Payments for shared services	0	(418)
Postage and telephone expenses	(1,263)	(1,967)
Travel and subsistence	(18,864)	(26,390)
Total supplies and services	(155,152)	(183,491)
(c) Other operating expenses		
Minimum lease payments - operating leases	0	(2,843)
Cost of goods sold/distributed	0	(23)
Total other operating expenses	0	(2,866)
Total expenses from transactions	(203,716)	(272,770)

Note 4. Other economic flows included in net result

	2016 $	2015 $
Other losses from other economic flows		
Net loss arising from revaluation of employee benefits (i)	0	(17)
Total other losses from other economic flows	0	(17)

Notes:
(i) Revaluation loss due to change in bond rates utilised in discounting employee benefits.

Note 5. Receivables

	2016 $	2015 $
Current receivables		
Statutory		
Amounts owing from Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning	**37,393**	14,453
Total current receivables	**37,393**	14,453
Total receivables	**37,393**	14,453

(a) Ageing analysis of contractual receivables

Refer to Table 11.2 in Note 11 for the ageing analysis of contractual receivables.

Note 6. Payables

	2016 $	2015 $
Current payables		
Contractual		
Trade creditors	**0**	5,500
Other accrued expenses	**39,039**	5,585
	39,039	11,085
Statutory		
Taxes payable	**74**	54
Superannuation payable	**132**	117
	206	171
Total current payables	**39,245**	11,256
Total payables	**39,245**	11,256

(a) Maturity analysis of contractual payables

Refer to Table 11.3 in Note 11 for the maturity analysis of contractual payables.

(b) Nature and extent of risk arising from contractual payables

Refer to Note 11 for the nature and extent of risks arising from contractual payables.

Note 7. Provisions

	2016 $	2015 $
Current provisions		
Employee benefits [i] – annual leave (Note 7(a))		
Unconditional and expected to be paid within 12 months [ii]	0	2,347
	0	2,347
Provisions for on-costs:		
Unconditional and expected to settle within 12 months [ii]	0	383
	0	383
Total current provisions	0	2,730
Non-current provisions		
Employee benefits [i][iii] (Note 7(a))	0	971
On-costs [iii]	0	158
Total non-current provisions	0	1,129
Total provisions	0	3,859

Notes:

(i) Provisions for employee benefits consist of amounts for annual leave and long service leave accrued by employees, not including on-costs.

(ii) The amounts disclosed are nominal amounts.

(iii) The amounts disclosed are discounted to present values.

(iv) Employee provisions are zero for the 2015-16 financial year as the entity does not employee any staff.

(a) Employee benefits and related on-costs[i]

	2016 $	2015 $
Current employee benefits		
Annual leave entitlements	0	2,347
	0	2,347
Non-current employee benefits		
Long service leave entitlements [iii]	0	971
	0	971
Total employee benefits	0	3,318
On-costs		
Current on-costs	0	383
Non-current on-costs [iii]	0	158
Total on-costs	0	541
Total employee benefits and related on-costs	0	3,859

Notes:

(i) Provisions for employee benefits consist of amounts for annual leave and long service leave accrued by employees, not including on-costs.

(ii) The amounts disclosed are discounted to present values.

Note 7. Provisions (continued)

(b) Movement in provisions

	On costs 2016 $	Total 2016 $
Balance at 1 July	**541**	**541**
Additional provisions recognised	313	313
Reductions arising from payments/other sacrifices of future economic benefits	(852)	(852)
Reductions resulting from re-measurement or settlement without cost	(2)	(2)
Unwind of discount and effect of changes in the discount rate	0	0
Balance at 30 June	**0**	**0**
Current	0	0
Non-current	0	0
	0	0

Note 8. Superannuation

Government Employees' Superannuation Fund

Employees of the entity are entitled to receive superannuation benefits and the Board contributes to the defined contribution plan.

Superannuation contributions paid or payable for the reporting period are included as employee benefits in the comprehensive operating statement of the entity.

The name, details and amounts expensed in relation to major employee superannuation funds and contributions made by the entity are as follows:

	Paid contribution for the year		Contribution outstanding at year end	
Fund	2016 $	2015 $	2016 $	2015 $
Defined contribution plans:				
Victorian Superannuation Fund – Vic Super Scheme	3,689	8,640	66	88
Various others	3,688	2,836	66	29
Total superannuation contributions	**7,377**	11,476	**132**	117

The bases for contributions are determined by the various schemes.

All employees of the entity are entitled to varying levels of benefits on retirement, disability or death. Contributions by the entity of a minimum of 9.50% of employee's wages and salaries are legally enforceable on the entity.

The amounts were measured as at 30 June of each year or in the case of employer contributions they relate to the years ended 30 June.

Note 9. Commitments for expenditure

There are no commitments for expenditure (2015: Nil).

Note 10. Contingent assets and contingent liabilities

There are no contingent assets or contingent liabilities (2015: Nil).

Note 11. Financial instruments

(a) Financial risk management objectives and policies

The Board's principal financial instruments comprise of:

- cash and deposits;
- receivables (excluding statutory receivables); and
- payables (excluding statutory payables).

Details of 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, with respect of each class of financial asset, financial liability and equity instrument are disclosed in Note 1 to these financial statements.

The main purpose in holding financial instruments is to prudentially manage the entity's financial risks in the government policy parameters.

The carrying amounts of the entity's financial assets and financial liabilities by category are in Table 11.1.

Table 11.1: Categorisation of financial instruments

	2016			2015		
	Contractual financial assets – loans and receivables $	Contractual financial liabilities at amortised cost $	Total $	Contractual financial assets – loans and receivables $	Contractual financial liabilities at amortised cost $	Total $
Contractual financial assets						
Cash and deposits	125,271	0	125,271	27,797	0	27,797
Total contractual financial assets	125,271	0	125,271	27,797	0	27,797
Contractual financial liabilities						
Payables (ii)						
Trade creditors	0	0	0	0	5,500	5,500
Other accrued expenses	0	39,039	39,039	0	5,585	5,585
Total contractual financial liabilities	0	39,039	39,039	0	11,085	11,085

Notes:

(i) The amount of receivables disclosed excludes statutory receivables (i.e. taxes receivable) – Refer Note 5.
(ii) The amount of payables disclosed excludes statutory payables (i.e. taxes payable) – Refer Note 6.

(b) Credit risk

Credit risk arises from the contractual financial assets of the entity's debtors. The entity's exposure to credit risk arises from the potential default of a counter party on their contractual obligations resulting in financial loss to the entity. Credit risk is measured at fair value and is monitored on a regular basis.

Provision of impairment for financial assets is recognised when there is objective evidence that the entity will not be able to collect a receivable.

Contractual financial assets that are either past due or impaired

Currently the entity does not hold any collateral as security nor credit enhancements relating to any of its financial assets.

As at the reporting date, there is no evidence to indicate that any of the contractual financial assets are impaired.

There are no contractual financial assets that have had their terms renegotiated so as to prevent them from being past due or impaired and they are stated at the carrying amounts as indicated.

Note 11. Financial instruments (continued)

The following table discloses the aging only of contractual financial assets that are past due but not impaired:

Table 11.2: Ageing analysis of contractual financial assets

	Carrying amount	Not past due and not impaired	Past due but not impaired			
			Less than 1 Month	1–3 months	3 months – 1 year	1–5 years
	$	$	$	$	$	$
2016						
Cash and deposits	**125,271**	**125,271**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**
Total	**125,271**	**125,271**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**
2015						
Cash and deposits	27,797	27,797	0	0	0	0
Total	27,797	27,797	0	0	0	0

Notes:

(i) The amount of receivables disclosed excludes statutory receivables (i.e. taxes receivable) – Refer Note 5.

(c) Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the entity would be unable to meet its financial obligations as they fall due. The entity operates under the Government fair payments policy of settling financial obligations within 30 days and in the event of a dispute, make payments within 30 days from the date of resolution. Risk is managed through monitoring future cash flows and maturities planning to ensure adequate holding of high quality liquid assets and dealing in highly liquid markets.

The entity's exposure to liquidity risk is deemed insignificant based on prior periods' data and current assessment of risk.

The following table discloses the contractual maturity analysis for the entity's contractual financial liabilities.

Table 11.3: Maturity analysis of contractual financial liabilities

	Carrying amount	Nominal amount [i]	Maturity dates				
			Less than 1 month	1 month – 3 months	3 months – 1 year	1–5 years	5+ years
	$	$	$	$	$	$	$
2016							
Payables [i]							
Trade Creditors	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other accrued expenses	39,039	39,039	39,039	0	0	0	0
Total	**39,039**	**39,039**	**39,039**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**
2015							
Payables [i]							
Trade creditors	5,500	5,500	5,500	0	0	0	0
Other accrued expenses	5,585	5,585	5,585	0	0	0	0
Total	11,085	11,085	11,085	0	0	0	0

Notes:

(i) The amount of payables disclosed exclude statutory payables (i.e. taxes payable) – Refer Note 6.

Note 11. Financial instruments (continued)

(d) Market risk

The entity's exposures to market risk are primarily through interest rate risk with only insignificant exposure to foreign currency and other price risks.

Interest rate risk
Fair value interest rate risk is the risk that the fair value of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates. The entity 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 carrying amount of financial assets and financial liabilities that are exposed to interest rate risk are set out in the below table:

Table 11.4: Interest rate exposure of financial instruments

	Weighted average interest rate	Interest rate exposure			
		Carrying amount	Fixed interest rate	Variable interest rate	Non-interest bearing
	%	$	$	$	$
2016					
Financial assets					
Cash and deposits	0.00 (ii)	125,271	0	0	125,271
Total		125,271	0	0	125,271
2015					
Financial assets					
Cash and deposits	0.00(ii)	27,797	0	0	27,797
Total		27,797	0	0	27,797

Notes:

(i) The amount of receivables disclosed excludes statutory receivables (i.e. taxes receivable) – Refer Note 5.

(ii) Weighted average is nil as the cash held in trust operates within the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning project trust account under s19 (2) of the *Financial Management Act 1994* as a specific purpose operating account.

Sensitivity disclosure analysis and assumptions
The Board's sensitivity to market risk is determined based on the observed range of actual historical data for the preceding five year period, with all variables other than the primary risk variable held constant. Based on this historical data, the Board has no sensitivity to movements in market interest rates, as there are no financial instruments exposed to variable interest rates.

(e) Fair value

The Board considers the carrying amount of financial assets and financial liabilities recorded in the financial statements to be a fair approximation of their fair values, due to the short-term nature of the financial instruments and the expectation that they will be paid in full.

Note 12. Cash flow information

	2016 $	2015 $
(a) Reconciliation of cash and cash equivalents		
Funds held in trust – cash	**125,271**	27,797
Total cash and deposits disclosed in the balance sheet	**125,271**	27,797
Balance per cash flow statement	**125,271**	27,797
(b) Reconciliation of net result for the period		
Comprehensive result	**96,284**	30,598
Non-cash movements		
Net loss arising from reduction of employee benefits	**0**	17
Movements in assets and liabilities		
(Increase)/Decrease in receivables	**(22,940)**	(10,488)
Increase/(Decrease) in payables	**27,989**	(11,141)
Increase/(Decrease) in provisions	**(3,859)**	2,637
Net cash flows from operating activities	**97,474**	11,623

Note 13. Ex-gratia payments

	2016 $	2015 $
(a) The entity has made the following ex-gratia payments		
Ex-gratia payments	**0**	0

Note 14. Responsible persons

In accordance with the Ministerial Directions issued by the Minister for Finance under the *Financial Management Act 1994*, the following disclosures are made regarding responsible persons for the reporting period.

(a) Ministers and board members

The persons who held the positions of ministers and board members are as follows:

Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water	The Hon. Lisa Neville MP	1 July 2015 to 22 May 2016
Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change	The Hon. Lily d'Ambrosio MP	23 May 2016 to 30 June 2016
Chairperson	Peter Ferguson	1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016
Deputy Chairperson	Christopher Halpin	1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016
Secretary's Nominee	Kevin Ritchie	1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016
Member	David McKenzie	1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016
Member	Desmond Morgan	1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016
Member	Elizabeth Skinner	1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016
Member	Geoffrey Dobson	1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016
Member	Jade Miller	1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016
Member	Sonia Cooper	1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016
Member	Neville Atkinson	1 July 2015 to 24 June 2016

Acting arrangements

The Hon Richard Wynne MP acted as Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water during the period 15 to 19 February 2016.

Note 14. Responsible persons (continued)

(b) Remuneration

The total remuneration received or due and receivable by the responsible persons from the Board during the reporting period was within the following ranges:

	2016 No.	2015 No.
Income band		
$0 – $9,999	9	11
$10,000 – $19,999	1	1
Total numbers	10	12
Total amount	70,993	75,426

Amounts relating to Ministers are reported in the financial statements of the Department of Premier and Cabinet.

The persons who held the position of Accountable Officer of the Board was Peter Ferguson. His salary band is disclosed above.

(c) Other transactions

The Board paid expenses to the Yorta Yorta National Aboriginal Corporation (YYNAC) of $33,344 (2015:Nil). The Board's Accountable Officer is also the Chairperson of the YYNAC.

There are no other related party transactions and loans requiring disclosure under the Directions of the Minister for Finance to report on.

Note 15. Remuneration to executives and payments to other personnel

The following disclosures are made in relation to other personnel of the board (i.e. contractors charged with significant management responsibilities).

Payments have been made to a contractor with significant management responsibilities, which is disclosed below. The contactor is responsible for planning, directing or controlling, directly or indirectly, some of the board's activities.

	2016 No.	2015 No.
Expense band		
Less than $100,000	1	0
	1	0

Note 16. Remuneration of auditors

	2016 $	2015 $
Victorian Auditor-General's Office		
Audit of the financial statements	5,200	5,100
	5,200	5,100

Note 17. Subsequent events

On 1 September 2016 the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change approved an extension to the term of the Board beyond their 17 October 2016 expiry to enable a longer term appointment process to be conducted. The Board is not aware of any other circumstances that have arisen or information that has become available between 30 June 2016 and the date of final approval of this general purpose financial report that qualifies for inclusion as a post balance date event.

Note 18. Glossary of terms and style conventions

Commitments
Commitments include those operating, capital and other outsourcing commitments arising from non-cancellable contractual or statutory sources.

Comprehensive result
The net result of all items of income and expense recognised for the period. It is the aggregate of operating result and other comprehensive income.

Employee benefits expenses
Employee benefits expenses include all costs related to employment including wages and salaries, fringe benefits tax, leave entitlements, redundancy payments, defined benefit superannuation plans, and defined contribution superannuation plan.

Ex-gratia payments
Ex-gratia payment is the gratuitous payment of money where no legal obligation exists.

Financial asset
A financial asset is any asset that is:
(a) cash;
(b) an equity instrument of another entity;
(c) a contractual or statutory right:
- to receive cash or another financial asset from another entity; or
- to exchange financial assets or financial liabilities with another entity under conditions that are potentially favourable to the entity; or

(d) a contract that will or may be settled in the entity's own equity instruments and is:
- a non-derivative for which the entity is or may be obliged to receive a variable number of the entity's own equity instruments; or
- a derivative that will or may be settled other than by the exchange of a fixed amount of cash or another financial asset for a fixed number of the entity's own equity instruments.

Financial instrument
A financial instrument is any contract that gives rise to a financial asset of one entity and a financial liability or equity instrument of another entity. Financial assets or liabilities that are not contractual (such as statutory receivables or payables that arise as a result of statutory requirements imposed by governments) are not financial instruments.

Financial liability
A financial liability is any liability that is:
(a) A contractual or statutory obligation:
  (i) To deliver cash or another financial asset to another entity; or
  (ii) To exchange financial assets or financial liabilities with another entity under conditions that are potentially unfavourable to the entity; or
(b) A contract that will or may be settled in the entity's own equity instruments and is:
  (i) A non-derivative for which the entity is or may be obliged to deliver a variable number of the entity's own equity instruments; or
  (ii) A derivative that will or may be settled other than by the exchange of a fixed amount of cash or another financial asset for a fixed number of the entity's own equity instruments. For this purpose the entity's own equity instruments do not include instruments that are themselves contracts for the future receipt or delivery of the entity's own equity instruments.

Financial statements
A complete set of financial statements comprises:

(a) A statement of financial position as at the end of the period;
(b) A statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income for the period;
(c) A statement of changes in equity for the period;
(d) A statement of cash flows for the period;
(e) Notes, comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information;
(f) Comparative information in respect of the preceding period as specified in paragraphs 38 of AASB 101 *Presentation of Financial Statement*; and
(g) A statement of financial position as at the beginning of the preceding period when an entity applies an accounting policy retrospectively or makes a retrospective restatement in accordance with paragraphs 41 of AASB 101.

Note 18. Glossary of terms and style conventions (continued)

Grants and other transfers
Transactions in which one unit provides goods, services, assets (or extinguishes a liability) or labour to another unit without receiving approximately equal value in return. Grants can either be operating or capital in nature.

While grants to governments may result in the provision of some goods or services to the transferor, they do not give the transferor a claim to receive directly benefits of approximately equal value. For this reason, grants are referred to by the AASB as involuntary transfers and are termed non reciprocal transfers. Receipt and sacrifice of approximately equal value may occur, but only by coincidence. For example, governments are not obliged to provide commensurate benefits, in the form of goods or services, to particular taxpayers in return for their taxes.

Grants can be paid as general purpose grants which refer to grants that are not subject to conditions regarding their use. Alternatively, they may be paid as specific purpose grants which are paid for a particular purpose and/or have conditions attached regarding their use.

Net result
Net result is a measure of financial performance of the operations for the period. It is the net result of items of income, gains and expenses (including losses) recognised for the period, excluding those that are classified as 'other economic flows – other comprehensive income'.

Net result from transactions/net operating balance
Net result from transactions or net operating balance is a key fiscal aggregate and is income from transactions minus expenses from transactions. It is a summary measure of the ongoing sustainability of operations. It excludes gains and losses resulting from changes in price levels and other changes in the volume of assets. It is the component of the change in net worth that is due to transactions and can be attributed directly to government policies.

Net worth
Assets less liabilities, which is an economic measure of wealth.

Other economic flows included in net result
Other economic flows included in net result are changes in the volume or value of an asset or liability that do not result from transactions. It includes:

- gains and losses from disposals, revaluations and impairments of non-financial physical and intangible assets;
- fair value changes of financial instruments and agricultural asset; and depletion of natural assets (non-produced) from their use or removal.

Other economic flows – other comprehensive income
Other economic flows – other comprehensive income comprises items (including reclassification adjustments) that are not recognised in net result as required or permitted by other Australian Accounting Standards.

The components of other economic flows – other comprehensive income include:

(a) Changes in physical asset revaluation surplus;
(b) Share of net movement in revaluation surplus of associates and joint ventures ; and
(c) Gains and losses remeasuring available-for-sale financial assets.

Payables
Includes short and long term trade debt and accounts payable, grants and interest payable.

Receivables
Includes amounts owing from government grants, short and long term trade credit and accounts receivable, accrued investment income and interest receivable.

Supplies and services
Supplies and services generally represent cost of goods sold and the day to day running costs, including maintenance costs, incurred in the normal operations of the entity.

Transactions
Transactions are those economic flows that are considered to arise as a result of policy decisions, usually an interaction between two entities by mutual agreement. They also include flows within an entity such as depreciation where the owner is simultaneously acting as the owner of the depreciating asset and as the consumer of the service provided by the asset. Taxation is regarded as mutually agreed interactions between the government and taxpayers. Transactions can be in kind (e.g. assets provided/given free of charge or for nominal consideration) or where the final consideration is cash. In simple terms, transactions arise from the policy decisions of the government.

Accountable Officer's and Chief Finance and Accounting Officer's declaration and statutory certification

The attached financial statements for the Yorta Yorta Traditional Owner Land Management Board have been prepared in accordance with Standing Direction 4.2 of the *Financial Management Act 1994*, applicable Financial Reporting Directions, Australian Accounting Standards including Interpretations, and other mandatory professional reporting requirements.

We further state that, in our opinion, the information set out in the comprehensive operating statement, balance sheet, statement of changes in equity, cash flow statement and accompanying notes, presents fairly the financial transactions for the period 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016 and financial position of the entity at 30 June 2016.

At the time of signing, we are not aware of any circumstance which would render any particulars included in the financial statements to be misleading or inaccurate.

We authorise the attached financial statements for issue on 14 October 2016

Peter Ferguson
Chairperson
Yorta Yorta Traditional Owner
Land Management Board

Melbourne
14 October 2016

Sam Claringbold
Chief Finance and Accounting Officer
Yorta Yorta Traditional Owner
Land Management Board

Melbourne
14 October 2016

VAGO
Victorian Auditor-General's Office

Level 24, 35 Collins Street
Melbourne VIC 3000

Telephone 61 3 8601 7000
Facsimile 61 3 8601 7010

Website www.audit.vic.gov.au

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board Members, Yorta Yorta Traditional Owner Land Management Board

The Financial Report

I have audited the accompanying financial report for the year ended 30 June 2016 of the Yorta Yorta Traditional Owner Land Management Board which comprises the comprehensive operating statement, balance sheet, statement of changes in equity and cash flow statement, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the accountable officer's and chief finance and accounting officer's declaration and statutory certification.

The Board Members' Responsibility for the Financial Report

The board members of the Yorta Yorta Traditional Owner Land Management Board are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, and the financial reporting requirements of the *Financial Management Act 1994*, and for such internal control as the board members determine is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

As required by the *Audit Act 1994*, my responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on the audit, which has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Those standards require compliance with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and that the audit be planned and performed to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The audit procedures selected depend on judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, consideration is given to the internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report 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 entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of the accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the board members, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

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

Independent Auditor's Report (continued)

Independence

The Auditor-General's independence is established by the *Constitution Act 1975*. The Auditor-General is not subject to direction by any person about the way in which his powers and responsibilities are to be exercised. In conducting the audit, I and my staff and delegates complied with all applicable independence requirements of the Australian Auditing Standards and relevant ethical pronouncements.

Opinion

In my opinion, the financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Yorta Yorta Traditional Owner Land Management Board as at 30 June 2016 and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with applicable Australian Accounting Standards, and the financial reporting requirements of the *Financial Management Act 1994*.

for Andrew Greaves
Auditor-General

MELBOURNE
17 October 2016

APPENDIX

APPENDIX 1- DISCLOSURE INDEX

The annual report of the Board is prepared in accordance with all relevant Victorian legislations and pronouncements. This index has been prepared to facilitate identification of the Boards compliance with statutory disclosure requirements

Legislation	Requirement	Page reference
Ministerial Directions		
Report of operations – FRD guidance		
Charter and purpose		
FRD 22G	Manner of establishment and the relevant Ministers	Page 9,10
FRD 22G	Purpose, functions, powers and duties	Page 17
FRD 22G	Key initiatives and projects	Page 18
FRD 22G	Nature and range of services provided	Page 18
Management and structure		
FRD 22G	Organisational structure	Page 21
Financial and other information		
FRD 8D	Performance against output performance measures	Page 18
FRD 10A	Disclosure index	Page 66, 67
FRD 12A	Disclosure of major contracts	Page 29
FRD 22G	Employment and conduct principles	Page 32
FRD 22G	Occupational health and safety policy	Page 32
FRD 22G	Summary of the financial results for the year	Page 20
FRD 22G	Significant changes in financial position during the year	Page 20
FRD 22G	Major changes or factors affecting performance	Page 20
FRD 22G	Subsequent events	Page 20
FRD 22G	Application and operation of *Freedom of Information Act 1982*	Page 31
FRD 22G	Compliance with building and maintenance provisions of *Building Act 1993*	Page 31
FRD 22G	Statement on National Competition Policy	Page 32
FRD 22G	Application and operation of the *Protected Disclosure 2012*	Page 32
FRD 22G	Details of consultancies over $10 000	Page 29
FRD 22G	Details of consultancies under $10 000	Page 29
FRD 22G	Disclosure of government advertising expenditure	Page 31
FRD 22G	Disclosure of ICT expenditure	Page 31
FRD 22G	Statement of availability of other information	Page 32, 33
FRD 25B	Victorian Industry Participation Policy disclosures	Page 31
FRD 29A	Workforce Data disclosures	Page 28
SD 4.5.5	Attestation for compliance with *Ministerial Standing Direction 4.5.5*	Page 33

Legislation	Requirement	Page reference
Ministerial Directions (continued)		
Financial Report		
SD 4.2(g)	Specific information requirements	Entire document
SD 4.2(j)	Sign off requirements	Page 33, 61
Financial statements required under Part 7 of the FMA		
SD 4.2(a)	Statement of changes in equity	Page 39
SD 4.2(b)	Operating statement	Page 37
SD 4.2(b)	Balance sheet	Page 38
SD 4.2(b)	Cash flow statement	Page 40
Other requirements under Standing Directions 4.2		
SD 4.2(c)	Compliance with Australian accounting standards and other authoritative pronouncements	Page 42
SD 4.2(c)	Compliance with Ministerial Directions	Page 61
SD 4.2(d)	Rounding of amounts	Page 42
SD 4.2(c)	Accountable officer's declaration	Page 61
Other disclosures as required by FRDs in notes to the financial statements*		
FRD 11A	Disclosure of Ex gratia Expenses	Page 57
FRD 21B	Subsequent events	Page 58
	Disclosures of Responsible Persons, Executive Officers and other Personnel (Contractors with Significant Management Responsibilities) in the Financial Report	Page 57, 58
FRD 103F	Non Financial Physical Assets	Page 60
FRD 110	Cash Flow Statements	Page 40
FRD 112D	Defined Benefit Superannuation Obligations	Page 53

*Note: References to FRDs have been removed from the Disclosure Index if the specific FRDs do not contain requirements that are of the nature of disclosure

Legislation	
Conservation, Forests and Land Acts 1987 (Vic)	Page 10, 15
National Parks Act and Regulations 1975 (NP Act)	Page 15
Public Administration Act 2004	Page 15
Financial Management Act 1994	Page 15, 42, 56, 57
Audit Act 1994	Page 15, 62
Freedom of Information Act 1982	Page 15, 31
The Information Privacy Act 2000	Page 15
Protected Disclosure Act 2012	Page 32
Victorian Industry Participation Policy Act 2003	Page 31
Building Act 1993	Page 31

YORTA
YORTA

YORTA YORTA

TRADITIONAL OWNER LAND MANAGEMENT BOARD