

Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre



Annual Report
2022 - 2023

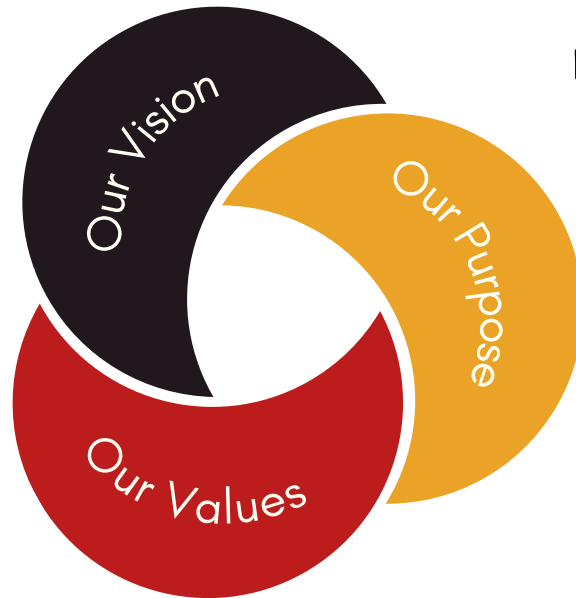


CONTENTS

Chair & CEO report	2
TAC board 2022-2023	4
Our organisation	5
Our strategic priorities	6
Strong, safe, resilient community	7
Land, heritage and culture	12
Business and economic development	15
Strong, well-functioning TAC	16
External profile and influence	18
Financial overview	22



A HEALTHY,
SELF-DETERMINED AND RESPECTED
TASMANIAN ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY



TO IMPROVE THE CIRCUMSTANCES AND
PURSUE THE RIGHTS AND INTERESTS OF
THE ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY IN
TASMANIA

COURAGE

Standing firm behind Aboriginal values and beliefs

RESPECT

For individual and group rights

COMMITMENT

To our history, culture and relationship with the land

INTEGRITY

Operating in the best interests of the Aboriginal community

TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

To our community and our funders

Connect with us



Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre
GPO Box 569, Hobart TAS



Hobart: (03) 6234 0700
Freecall: 1800 132 260



www.tacinc.com.au



Chair & CEO Report

The TAC Board for 2022-2023 was me as Chair, the four elected members from last year's AGM who were Annette Peardon, Michael Beeton, Michelle Purdy, and Leah Cameron-Brown with Rebecca Digney then replacing Leah; and the three Branch representatives Jillian Munday for Nipaluna/Hobart, Tony Medcraft for Pataway/Burnie and Darlene Mansell for Launceston, who was replaced by Lynne Spotswood when Darlene resigned. We had nine Board meetings during the financial year, most of them online meetings but longer when required. We also had some face-to-face meetings.

Our financial position and processes continued their annual improvement. Nevertheless the first few Board meetings were fully occupied with correcting the mistakes that an ORIC examination had identified - things like making sure the number of members on our member list was the same as the ORIC list, that we had a list of ex-members with their details, that incoming Board members details were notified to ORIC within a set time and things of that sort. All the corrections were made to the satisfaction of ORIC. The Board noted the strict liability approach of the ORIC legislation, that the same member reporting details are required of organisations with 1

member, 7 members or thousands of members like TAC and that compliance will require a much higher proportion of program funds being devoted to administration and compliance rather than community work.

We're proud to report that we're now the owners of a beautiful barge named the Lucy Beeton that will move our gear around the islands. The Board had approved the use of Centre funds to match the government grant for that purpose. We also approved the purchase of the house that sits right near our Diana's Basin property at St Helens. The house will save accommodation costs for our land management workers there and will be available for Aboriginal community use.

We had to consider a few membership applications from people not known to Board members and then had to consider their objections to our refusal to accept their applications on the basis of the information provided. We updated our Conflicts of Interest and Code of Conduct policies and adopted policies against the Voice referendum and the stadium at Macquarie Point. We also got started on our new obligations under the federal government's aged care quality standards legislation. We spent quite some time on things that did not eventuate like the purchase of an oyster farm, the purchase of new premises for the Connected Beginnings program, and the making of a film about our community struggles. We also decided to review the way we deal with NAIDOC week and the NAIDOC awards.

Chair & CEO Report

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR INCLUDE:

As well as all the compliance matters we dealt with, we also oversaw matters of more direct relevance to the community like the return to families of hair and tissue samples, the pending return of more ancestral remains from overseas institutions, the establishment of a new sea country indigenous protected area around the Furneaux islands, the return of the preminghana petroglyphs from the Tasmanian museum, and attempts to get a Treaty negotiated in Lutruwita/Tasmania. We continued our work on the Close the Gap campaign about which I attended national meetings of the Joint Council established with all governments in Australia to oversee the direction of the campaign. There were some major changes in TAC administration this year with the long-term Finance Manager heading for retirement and his replacement with both a new chief finance officer and a new accounting system together with a new payroll system. We wish Chris Mansell all the best and look forward to his continuing work with us in some other finance capacity. As always, I thank the TAC Board and the TAC staff for their outstanding work again this year.

GRAHAM GARDNER

Chair, Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre Board

TAC Board 2022 - 2023

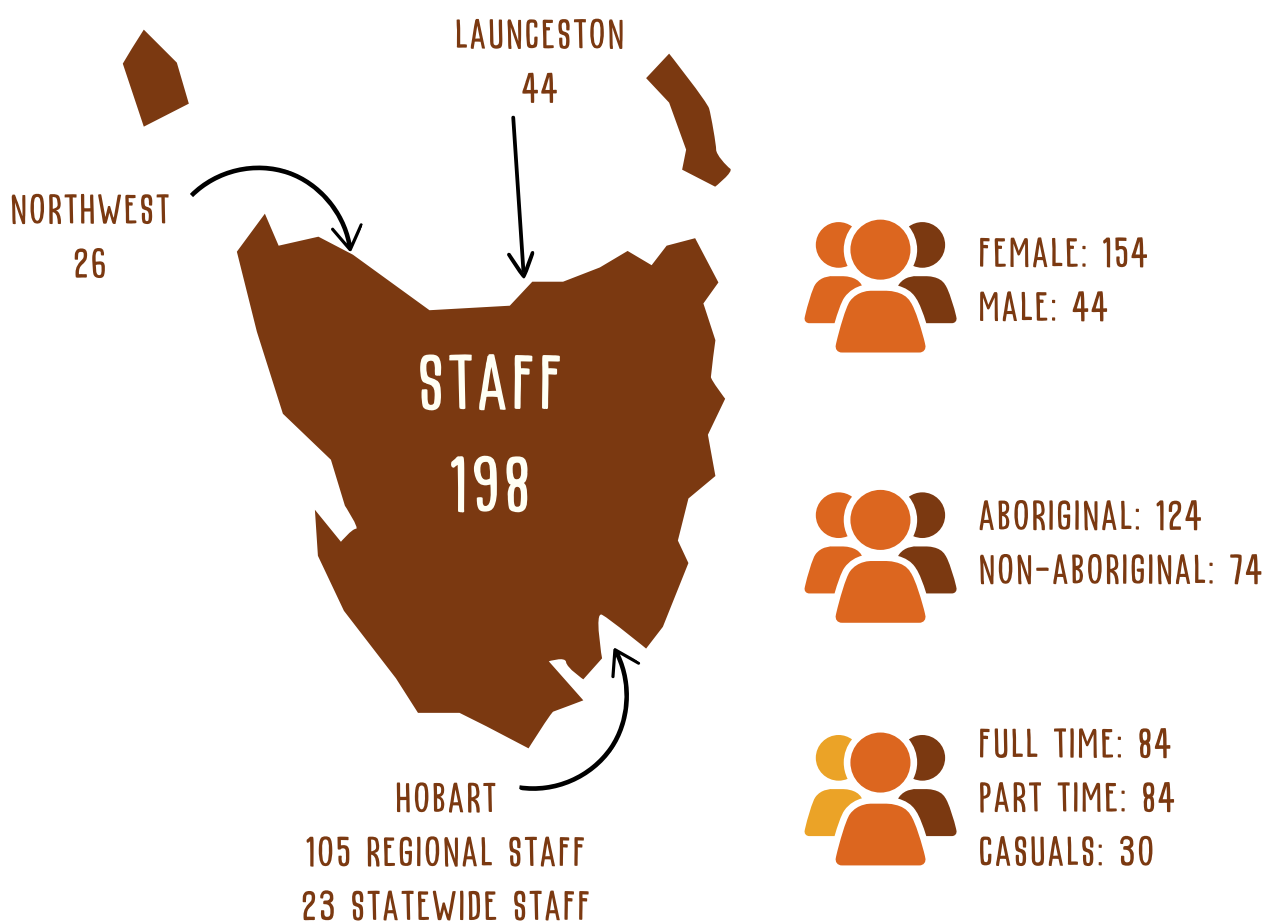
NAME	BOARD MEETINGS	
	Number eligible to attend	Number attended
Michael Beeton	9	9
Leah Cameron-Brown	7	5
Rebecca Digney	2	1
Graeme Gardner	9	9
Darlene Mansell	3	2
Lucas Maynard	9	8
Tony Medcraft	6	6
Jillian Mundy	9	8
Annette Peardon	9	6
Michelle Purdy	9	8
Lynne Spotswood	6	6

Our Organisation

We are an Aboriginal Community-Controlled Organisation established by the Tasmanian Aboriginal community in the early 1970s to advocate for the rights of Aboriginal people throughout Lutruwita/Tasmania and to represent the political and community development aspirations of the Tasmanian Aboriginal community.

We operate statewide services and programs including a holistic and state-of-the-art health service, land and sea management, a cultural awareness unit, the palawa kani language program, children and family services, community events and festivals.

OUR STAFF



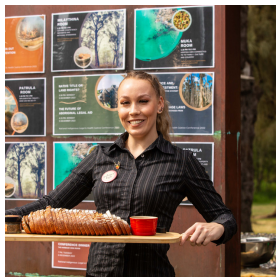
Our strategic priorities



STRONG, SAFE, RESILIENT
COMMUNITY



LAND, HERITAGE AND
CULTURE



BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT



STRONG, WELL-FUNCTIONING
TAC



EXTERNAL PROFILE AND
INFLUENCE

1 Strong, safe, resilient community

ABORIGINAL HEALTH SERVICES

The statewide Aboriginal Health Service cares for the physical, emotional, social and cultural well-being of the Tasmanian Aboriginal community.

We deliver a comprehensive range of integrated programs, services and activities, that provide a seamless whole of life-span support to individuals and families.

AHS CLINICS

Health services are delivered from clinics located in Nipaluna/Hobart, Launceston, Pataway/Burnie, LimilinatURI/Devonport and Kutalayna/Bridgewater.



Federal funding secured and planning underway to expand the Nipaluna clinic.

This past year we have experienced a significant increase in clients accessing our services. Use of the health services over the 12-month period was almost

back to pre-COVID levels with around 67,000 client contacts and 47,000 episodes of care. We continue to be proud that our AHS staff provide the highest standard of service in the state.

344 NEW CLIENTS HAVE ACCESSED OUR HEALTH SERVICE

To respond to the increased demand in Nipaluna/Hobart we have:

- Introduced an extra registrar position
- Introduced flexible appointment times to meet client expectations
- Partnered with Tasmanian Health Service to place training registrars with the AHS

Some of our long-term GPs have started training in key specialist areas, including alcohol and other drugs (AOD), skin care, obstetrics, paediatrics and women's health. A specialist in chronic pain has also started in the Nipaluna clinic. We continue to suffer from the unavailability of GPs and other medical specialists in the rest of the state.

The Integrated Team Care program provides access to additional health services to improve health outcomes for Aboriginal people with complex chronic health conditions.

COUNSELLING

The counselling team reports that demand has continued to increase, with a 13% increase in consultations over the past 12 months.

Key initiatives put in place this year to improve the counselling service include:

- The relocation of the counsellor team in Nipaluna to a separate building to allow for increased client confidentiality.
- Implementation of a crisis roster
- Recruitment of an experienced male trauma counsellor.
- Increased phone and telehealth counselling to clients in remote areas and/or with other obstacles to in-person counselling.
- More counsellors are now registered with Medicare to provide Mental Health Care Plans.
- A text survey was developed to enable clients to rate their satisfaction with, and provide feedback to, the counselling service.

Client feedback includes improved feelings of confidentiality and safety, and staff reported feeling they are better able to manage risks around stress and vicarious trauma.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE

We continued to provide support to Aboriginal clients experiencing substance use issues, and their families. There are many gateways (through the TAC's clinical and other services) where the presence of substance use issues can be identified and, importantly, often identified early. A range of internal referral options are available to provide individualised and seamless support and care, including services for screening and assessment, treatment and relapse prevention.

Solid linkages and pathways have also been developed with external AOD specialist services.

Actively engaging in prevention strategies has been a priority. We assist staff in the different programs to gain skills in AOD prevention and early intervention techniques. Best practice AOD prevention is part of reflective practice for all staff.



SERVICES FOR OLDER COMMUNITY MEMBERS

To support older members of the Tasmanian Aboriginal community, 60 Home Care Packages to aged care clients were provided across Lutruwita, including:

- 21 in the south
- 16 in the north
- 23 in the northwest

Of these there were 12 level one packages, 21 level two, 21 level three and 6 level four.

Average age of
aged care clients **70 YEARS**

To keep our aged care clients informed, we started a regular newsletter which will continue to be provide monthly.

Feedback from the people who use our services is essential in making sure that programs are meeting their needs and functioning well.

This year we asked elders in the southern region how the Home Care Packages work for them and what suggestions they have for improvement.

Aged care clients across the rest of the state will be invited to contribute their feedback over the coming months.

The Elders Group in Pataway/Burnie attracted up to 15 people every week from across the north-west. Sessions included arts and crafts days, on-country trips, bingo, swapping household item days, pamper days and BBQ lunches.

SERVICES FOR FAMILIES AND CHILDREN

Our statewide Family Support Program provides holistic care to Tasmanian Aboriginal families through a strengths-based, trauma-informed framework.

The TAC is funded by the Tasmanian government to deliver Intensive Family Engagement Services (IFES) to Tasmanian Aboriginal parents and their children.

Other services provided include a weekly mums and bubs group, school holiday activities and after-school sessions for three different age groups, held three times a week.



The Empowering Palawa Parents (luwutina milangkani) program worked with families to improve the educational outcomes for children through playgroups and home visits (in the northwest) and preparing for success at school (statewide).

There was an increase in the number of adults and families engaging across the program.

CHILDREN'S CENTRE

The Aboriginal Children's Centre at Piyura Kitina/Risdon Cove provided early education and care for Aboriginal children in southern Lutruwita.

Our focus is supporting children to become strong and confident community members through building connections to country and culture.

We are licensed to support 29 children in total, including four in the baby room, five in the toddler room and 20 children in the three to five year old room.

Staffing includes four full-time diploma qualified educators, a part-time diploma qualified educator and three part-time and casual certificate III qualified educators.

Workforce shortages have meant fewer families are able to access this support. New appointments and a development plan will enable more children to access the service in the next year.

DISABILITY SERVICES

We have an Aboriginal Disability Liaison Officer (ADLO) who supports eligible Tasmanian Aboriginal clients across Lutruwita who are living with a disability to access the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).

Clients are referred from other TAC programs or can self-refer. Additionally, the ADLO provides information and advice to other TAC programs on accessing NDIS and facilitates information sessions by staff from the National Disability Insurance Agency on changes to NDIS processes.

CONNECTED BEGINNINGS

The Connected Beginnings Program in Lutruwita has expanded across the state over the past year. Along with the successful Kutalayna Collective in Brighton, in southern Tasmania, we also have the Pataway and Kanamaluka Collectives in the northwest and north.

The Kutalayna Collective has seen an increase in clients across the year. As a result, medical resources will be increased, including recruiting a GP and registrar.

RANA, PAYNGANA PALITI RRALA - STRONG IN BODY, MIND AND SPIRIT

A number of workshops, activities and information sessions have been organised for community members to practice cultural skills and learn new ones, such as sewing and print-making. Informative sessions with organisations such as Housing Connect and Knowmore Legal Service have been assisting community members with understanding service provision and how to access legal support.

This program was instrumental in working with the Moonah Arts Centre to exhibit over 100 pieces of artwork produced over the years by members of the Tasmanian Aboriginal community. The exhibition, called Rana Payngana Paliti Rrala, opened with a launch for all artists to celebrate with families, friends and the wider community.

RRALA MILAYTHINA-TI/STRONG IN COUNTRY

rrala milaythina-ti 2022-2023

238 participants **15** On Country trips



7 Camps **30** First-time participants



8 Day walks **40** First-time participants

Strong in Country provides the support and pathways for Aboriginal community members to access cultural healing, learning and generational knowledge sharing.

Some very special and deeply moving connections were made during the trips. One of the year's highlights was a nine-day rafting and hiking trip along the Franklin River with ten participants.

This included a journey to one of our most significant and culturally sacred cave sites. Kuti Kina cave was protected by Aboriginal elders in 1980 when they made the same journey down the Franklin River and camped out on-country in the fight against the damming of the Franklin River. The damming of the Franklin River would have destroyed this sacred cave. The elders were successful in their campaign and the cave, along with the now iconic Franklin River, was protected.

The hiking group was joined on day eight of their journey by elders who led the original campaign in 1980. The group travelled into the cave together where the elders shared the story of the campaign, the story of the cave and passed on cultural knowledge of kuti kina the spirit of the cave. It was a truly significant and impactful camp for all involved and an experience of connection to ancestors stronger than any could have imagined.

Feedback from this trip and others throughout the year talked about the value the on-country project brings to their health in physical, emotional and spiritually beneficial ways.

This included noting a drop in stress and anxiety as well as understanding the benefit of time away from social media, time away from social, urbanized and substance impacts and time with other community members and family members.



2 Land, heritage and culture

LAND AND SEA COUNTRY

Healthy people come from healthy country and ensuring community involvement in the care of land and sea country has been a significant focus for us over the past year.

LUNGTALANANA

For thousands of generations, Aboriginal people have had a deep and ongoing connection to Lungtalanana/Clarke Island. Returned to the Aboriginal community in 2005, Lungtalanana has been a place where successful youth justice programs and many cultural experience camps have been held.

Aboriginal rangers and community members are working to heal the island through cultural burning and managing invasive vegetation. Plans to eradicate feral cats are advancing, with extensive and modern monitoring systems being placed across the island. This will enable the repatriation of culturally significant and conservation-priority species such as the Bass Strait Island wombat, Bennett's wallaby and Long-nosed potoroo.



This community-led project will be a nationally significant showcase of Indigenous leadership in environmental restoration. Funding support has also been provided by WWF-Australia and the Invasive Species Council.

The TAC received a grant from the Invasive Species Council to deploy Felixir cat control machines on Lungtalanana. The Felixir uses AI to identify and eliminate feral cats from the environment. The Felixirs form part of a wider integrated cat eradication strategy.



17,000 hectares of land managed

4 land and sea country management crews

17 Aboriginal rangers

CULTURAL FIRE REVITALISATION

We have been leading the revitalisation of cultural fire practice in Lutruwita for the past ten years. This year we established a partnership with the Firesticks Alliance. Twenty-five Aboriginal community members have been participating in a cultural fire training and mentoring program around Lutruwita, Tayaritja and Cape York.

MOULTING LAGOON FAUNA MONITORING PROJECT

We have partnered with the Tasmanian Land Conservancy and NRM South to complete a three-year camera monitoring project, commencing in 2023. Aboriginal rangers deployed and serviced 47 cameras around Moulting Lagoon properties the Grange and Long Point.

The project has provided valuable data to the long-term management of these properties and enabled our rangers to hone their skills in monitoring data collection and animal identification.



PROTECTING SEA COUNTRY

A Sea Country Indigenous Protected Area (IPA) has been proposed for the area of Tayaritja/Bass Strait Islands and the northeast waters of Lutruwita/Tasmania. Other Sea Country IPAs have been established in Australia, but this is the first project in Lutruwita.

This project supports the Palawa community to connect with Tayaritja milaythina muka / Sea Country, and partner with others to understand, protect and manage the proposed IPA.

A team of Pakana Sea Country rangers has been established. They are carrying out community consultations to create a community vision, identify important values and key threats, and develop a management plan for the proposed IPA.

Our Sea Country rangers are also partnering with scientists to improve understanding of the values of Tayaritja milaythina muka.

A large seagrass mapping project will establish the extent and composition of seagrass in Tayaritja milaythina muka and support establishing ranger-led monitoring and management.

They have also had a valuable ranger exchange with the Tjaltjraak rangers from the Recherche Archipelago in south-west Western Australia and hosted a seaweed workshop with Aboriginal people from around Australia and Māori people from New Zealand/Aotearoa as part of the International Seaweed Symposium held in Nipaluna.

LANGUAGE

This year was the 30th anniversary of the palawa kani Program.

Palawa kani is becoming increasingly prevalent and many place names are now in use across mainstream culture in Lutruwita/Tasmania. Australian Antarctic Division's ice breaker being named Nuyina - Aurora Australis provides an international presence to the strength and resilience of Aboriginal languages in general and Palawa people in particular.

REVIVING LANGUAGE FOR 30 YEARS



In recognition of the 30th anniversary of the *palawa kani* Program, and as part of the International Decade of Indigenous Languages, a ceremony and celebration was held at Piyura Kitina/Risdon Cove for the Aboriginal community in Lutruwita/Tasmania.

The event included stories from language workers who have grown the Program over the decades; three episodes of Little J and Big Cuz spoken entirely in *palawa kani*; a remembering of the songs sung by children who are now young adults; and several other cultural and language activities.

The growth of the placenames map was particularly noted; the map now has over 200 palawa kani names across Lutruwita/Tasmania and Tayaritja/Bass Strait Islands. Names for places and rivers are shared on the map with a brief history and context and a recording of how to say the name.

Celebrating this achievement, along with highlighting the increasingly widespread use of *palawa kani*, provided a significant opportunity to celebrate the strength and resilience of Aboriginal people and culture in Lutruwita. Over 80 people from the Tasmanian Aboriginal community, ranging from birth to 80 years old, joined us in this celebration.



"Thank you, we had an awesome day, lots of learning!"

"Fabulous having our younger generations continuing our culture"

"Really enjoyed it and hearing the stories"

"Good to be reminded of all the hard work that's been put in over the years"



3 Business and economic development

We have continued to explore and secure funding for new and existing programs, services and activities to meet the identified needs of the Tasmanian Aboriginal community and support the business model of the organisation. There is a robust system of compliance and reporting in place to ensure that contractual obligations are met and that funding is on-going.

In addition, several income-generating activities further supported the business and economic development of the organisation.

PALAWA KIPLI

Palawa Kipli continued to be a successful enterprise throughout the year, catering at major events such as Dark MOFO.

Also established this year is the takara/ bush food walks program, which has been very popular at Piyura Kitina/Risdon Cove. We look forward to increasing our cultural tourism.

CULTURAL AWARENESS TRAINING

The Cultural Awareness Unit was booked out for 2022/23 with exceptional feedback and ongoing commitment from the health sector, including NGOs, and commonwealth and state government departments.

"THE CONTENT WAS INTERESTING AND RESPECTFULLY DELIVERED. THE TRAINING ALLOWED ME TO EMPATHISE AND UNDERSTAND THE CULTURE, BELIEFS, AND HISTORY OF TASMANIAN ABORIGINAL PEOPLE."

Participant feedback

The Cultural Awareness Unit has successfully transitioned GP registrar cultural competency training from the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners to the TAC.



4 Strong, well-functioning TAC

STRATEGIC PLANNING

All indications are that the new version of the TAC Strategic Plan will be similar to the previous plans. We continue to operate under the Plan developed with the community; our planner is working on the updates; and we commit to further consultation with our community before we finalise our next Plan for the next few years.

We are also developing a new program and staffing structure in view of the impending retirement of the CEO and CFO. This is not an easy process given the long duration of TAC operations that have evolved over time. We look forward to exciting times ahead with more staff involved in management and decision making under the guidance and control of the TAC Board.

UPGRADED TECHNOLOGY

We have invested heavily in technology upgrades to improve efficiencies in our finance and payroll functions. It will take a while to get the new systems working to their full capacity and we appreciate the cooperation of staff, community, and suppliers as we work on these improvements. We are nearly 'future-proofed' as we supply staff with the technology and training to work from anywhere as required and to reduce the burdens of reporting on the many different funding requirements.

DIGITAL HEALTH PROJECT

The Digital Health project supports adopting and embedding digital health technologies like My Health Record, secure messaging and telehealth.

SHIFTING RESOURCES TO THE ABORIGINAL CONTROLLED SECTOR

A priority for us over the last 12 months was to get started on implementing the priority reforms of the national Closing the Gap strategy. A priority over the last 12 months was to get started on implementing the priority reforms of the national Closing the Gap strategy.

One of the critical successes was securing funding, and commencing a process, to work with the Aboriginal community on reforms to Aboriginal child welfare and safety in Tasmania, (in line with Target 12 of Closing the Gap).

This included the potential to transfer funds to the Aboriginal community-controlled sector and to develop a Strategy and Action Plan to guide the transition of those funds. Additionally, commitment has been secured for Life Without Barriers to progressively transition care of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in out-of-home care into the care of the Aboriginal community-controlled sector.

SOCIAL COMMUNICATIONS SNAPSHOT

Our presence on social media expanded this year to new channels, including X (formerly known as Twitter) and Instagram, as well as strengthened reach and information shared on existing channels.



13,384 FOLLOWERS
11,784 PAGE LIKES

Strong profile for community, allies, and partnerships.



52% increase in likes compared to last year

TAC highest performing post 22-23

Last week our pakana Rangers hosted the Tjaltjraak Rangers from Esperance Western Australia on Big Dog Island to learn about the sustainable harvest of yula (mutton birds). We yarned about cultural burning, fauna trapping, seabird monitoring and sea country management.

The Tjaltjraak Rangers care for sea country and islands in the Recherche Archipelago in south-west Western Australia. Like tayariŋa (Bass Strait) islands, their sea country and islands are rich in biodive... See more



323 interactions
6,664 people reached
18 shares



1,482 FOLLOWERS

Launched
8 August 2022
@taclutruwita



1,330 FOLLOWERS

Launched
20 June 2022
@taclutruwita



1,482 FOLLOWERS

WHAT'S THE HASHTAG?

Frequent hashtags 2022-23

- #Lungtalanana
- #HealCountry
- #Treaty
- #palawakani
- #PalawaPride
- #politas

PARTNERSHIPS

TAC could not do its job without forming partnerships, both formal and informal, with other agencies. We give special recognition to the following people and agencies for their cooperation and assistance in 2022-2023:

- National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO).
- Pat Turner - National Coalition of Peak Organisations on Closing the Gap
- Aboriginal Land Council of Tasmania (ALCT)
- Tasmanian Land Conservancy (TLC)
- Firesticks Alliance
- Material Institute Lutruwita
- Theatre Royal
- SNAICC
- Performing Lines Tasmania
- Tuylupa Tunapri
- Salvation Army Bridge Program
- Commissioner for Children, Tasmania
- Tasmanian Wilderness Society (TWS)
- Vica Bailey
- ABC Hobart - many program presenters
- World Wildlife Fund (WWF)
- Tangaroa Blue Foundation (marine debris)
- Australian Marine Science Association
- Elsie Cameron Foundation
- Tjaltjraak Native Title Corp Rangers
- Bob Brown Foundation
- Terrapin Puppet Theatre
- Move Media
- Engender Equality
- CREATE Foundation
- Women's Legal Service
- Tenant's Union
- Constance ARI

5 External profile and influence

There was a focus on raising the profile and increasing the influence of the Tasmanian Aboriginal community and the TAC through representation at key decision-making national forums; policy submissions; development of strategic partnerships; attendance at, and delivery of, conferences; and organising campaigns around issues of significance to the Aboriginal community. This included operating in our capacity as an Aboriginal Community-Controlled Organisation and as the peak body for the Tasmanian Aboriginal community-controlled health sector.

CLOSING THE GAP

Our Closing the Gap (CtG) Policy Officer has supported the Peak's response to the *National Agreement on Closing the Gap*, including the four CtG priority reforms and key socio-economic targets within the National Agreement and the *Closing the Gap Tasmanian Implementation Plan*.

Over the past year, we supported and built on the partnership arrangements between the Peak, the five jurisdictional CtG Policy Partnerships Groups, the state government, and the private sector. The five CtG Policy Partnership Groups meet monthly, and a Policy Partnership Working Subgroup now supports each.

Additional partners include the Department of Education and Young People and the Department of Health.

The Peak also has three National Policy Partnerships members, covering: Language; Housing; and Early Childhood Care and Development. All government CtG national representatives report to the Peak and other Policy Partners and are encouraged to participate in the CtG community workshops.

A CtG combined Peak/Government Governance Workshop was held, This resulted in a commitment for a formal jurisdictional CtG structure, the development of a new, realistic *Closing the Gap Tasmanian Implementation Plan* and a formal CtG Partnership Agreement that will provide the overall framework for CtG in Tasmania, including a formal agreement with Treasury.



NATIONAL LEGAL & HEALTH JUSTICE CONFERENCE 2022

The TAC hosted the National Indigenous Legal and Health Justice Conference in December 2022. Local leaders and expert speakers, as well as others from across the country, met in Nipaluna/ Hobart to reflect, inspire, challenge and motivate delegates on some of the critical issues facing our communities today. Discussions included: exploring solutions for keeping children out of care; conversations on the Voice, Treaty, Truth Telling; Aboriginal Heritage Laws; the future of legal aid; land rights; cultural training protocols; and climate change; and justice reinvestment possibilities.

The diverse line-up of speakers and leaders included (among many others) Senator Patrick Dodson, Michael Mansell, Senator Lidia Thorpe, Heather Sculthorpe, Jim Everett, Pat Turner, Leah Cameron, Donnella Mills, Jodi Haines, Dean Greeno, Rob Hull, Adam Thompson and Catherine Liddle.

In addition to the very positive feedback from attendees on the range and quality of conference topics and discussions, positive mentions were made about the immersive welcome event that was held on Aboriginal Land at Piyura Kitina/ Risdon Cove, featuring a warm welcome by cultural Palawa leader Dewayne

EverettSmith and food prepared by our Aboriginal catering business, palawa kipli. The final night of the conference saw outstanding leaders recognised for their lifetime commitment to the advancement and representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island people. Nyoongar man Dennis Eggington (long term CEO of the Western Australia Aboriginal Legal Service) and Pierre Slicer (the first and longest serving lawyer with the TAC Aboriginal Legal Service and later head of Legal Aid Tasmania and a Supreme Court judge) were recognised for their lifetime commitment to fighting for Aboriginal people. A special recognition award was presented to Palawa law student Tyenna Hogan.



CHANGE FEST 2023

ChangeFest23 was a national celebration of place-based change in Australia that included interactive workshops, reflective spaces, field trips and cultural activities. It was open to people from across Australia - those working at the grassroots; academics and strategic thinkers in the field; politicians; and others just keen to learn more.

This gathering was an opportunity to highlight the positive impact of community-led initiatives and the importance of deepening connection to place and to celebrate the fantastic work of communities who are driving change across the Country.

Being a part of this movement for positive change allowed the TAC and the Lutruwita/Tasmania Aboriginal community to share the knowledge and work we are doing, particularly that of the Connected Beginnings Program.

It also provided a valuable opportunity to learn from other community champions leading this crucial work and to consider how this could further inform future TAC place-based programs and services. The event was sold out, with over 500 participants and 60 speakers flying in from across the Country.

TREATY

In July 2022, a delegation was elected by the Palawa community to represent the community in negotiations and process for Treaty and Truth Telling in Lutruwita. Following extensive consultations, the delegation - Tuylupa Tunapri (to light the fire of understanding) - drafted a Treaty Lutruwita Bill and presented it to the state government in December 2022.

The delegation has also met with other party members and independents to discuss the process and progress, making sure all parties understand the aspirations of the Palawa community.



HIT THE STREETS

In 2022, we invited the community to Get Up, Stand Up and Show Up, for our first-ever march in Liminaturi/Devonport.

Community members, families, friends, allies and supporters did not disappoint, and it was a fantastic opportunity to showcase the thriving outreach clinic we operate on Best Street.

The community rallied again to support the march on Invasion Day, calling for the end to the celebrations on 26 January, and recognition of the day as a day of mourning. These efforts were rewarded with the Mayor of Limilnaturi announcing that the Devonport Council would no longer hold ceremonies on 26 January.

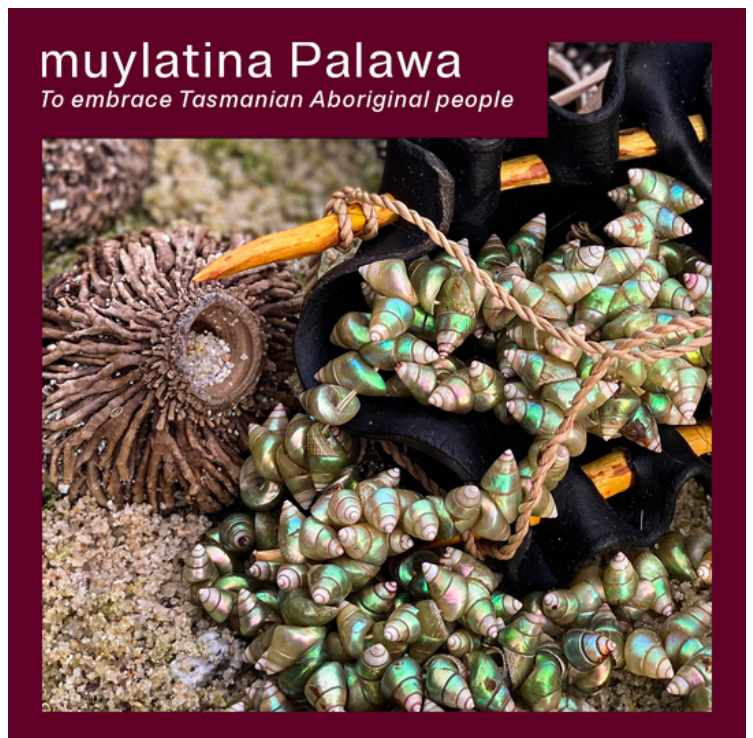


MUYLATINA PALAWA

Over three weeks in June 2023, we partnered with the Theatre Royal to provide an opportunity to elevate and celebrate Tasmanian Aboriginal voices, stories and achievements.

Muylatina Palawa, which means to embrace Tasmanian Aboriginal people, featured Tasmania Aboriginal artists and their allies through talks, films, music and workshops. It also included a political discussion and panel discussions following the plays of Wesley Enoch and Nathan Maynard.

Partnerships like this are essential, and illustrate how the arts can reflect and express the complexities of society and culture and provide a valuable medium for expressing emotions and ideas.

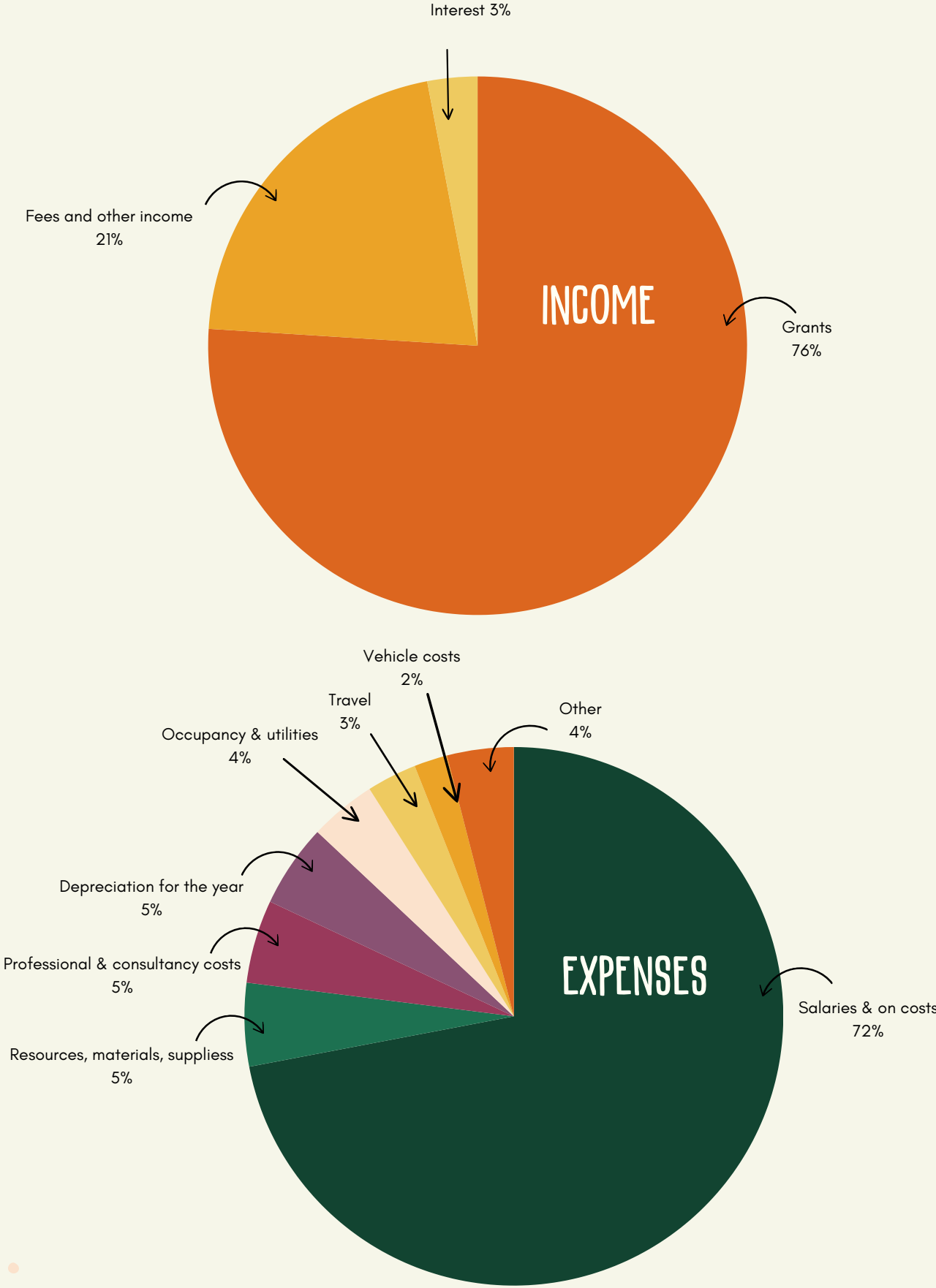


Financial Overview

SUMMARY STATEMENT



Income & expenses



Statement of Comprehensive Income

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

	2023	2022
		\$
Income		
Grants	16,846,915	13,894,095
Gain on the Disposal of Assets	110,909	34,4447
Fees & Other Income	4,643,488	5,395,861
Interest	654,015	38,104
Total Income	<u>22,255,327</u>	<u>19,362,507</u>
Expenditure		
Salaries and Employment Costs	13,378,005	12,610,692
Travel	612,661	416,164
Vehicle Costs	391,279	509,524
Resources, Materials, Supplies	1,691,690	1,188,188
Professional & Consultancy Costs	1,207,200	1,220,727
Miscellaneous Program Expenses	172,216	77,020
Occupancy & Utilities	735,455	600,095
Repairs & Maintenance	237,506	235,279
Insurances	207,885	161,281
Depreciation for the Year	1,036,269	312,521
Loss on Revaluation of Assets	0	280,020
Interest Expense	25,199	26,269
Total Expenditure	<u>19,695,365</u>	<u>17,637,780</u>
Net surplus/(deficit) for the financial year	<u>2,559,962</u>	<u>1,724,727</u>
Asset Revaluation Reserve Movement		
Revaluation Increments	0	4,629,656
Total Asset Revaluation Reserve Movement	<u>0</u>	<u>4,629,656</u>
Total Comprehensive Income	<u>2,559,962</u>	<u>6,354,383</u>

Statement of Financial Position

As at 30 June 2023

	2023	2022
ASSETS		\$
Current assets		
Cash at Bank	23,063,774	20,074,802
Trade & Other Receivables	538,688	333,480
Prepayments	202,157	120,071
Total Current Assets	<u>23,804,619</u>	<u>20,528,353</u>
Non-current assets		
Goodwill	56,650	56,650
Right of Use Asset	584,039	551,000
Property, Plant & Equipment	21,801,085	22,040,107
Total Non-current Assets	<u>22,441,774</u>	<u>22,647,757</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u><u>46,246,393</u></u>	<u><u>43,176,110</u></u>
LIABILITIES		
Current liabilities		
Trade & Other Payables	255,611	459,829
Grants in Advance	4,854,895	3,474,632
Service Income in Advance	43,891	128,764
Staff Leave Accruals & Provisions	1,914,703	2,598,346
Lease Liability	188,981	168,180
Total Current Liabilities	<u>7,258,081</u>	<u>6,865,751</u>
Non-current liabilities		
Staff Leave Provisions	524,429	418,676
Lease Liability	395,058	382,820
Total Non-current Liabilities	<u>919,487</u>	<u>801,496</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES	<u><u>8,177,568</u></u>	<u><u>7,667,247</u></u>
NET ASSETS	<u><u>38,068,825</u></u>	<u><u>35,508,863</u></u>
EQUITY		
Accumulated Funds	27,985,341	25,425,379
Asset Revaluation Reserve	10,083,484	10,083,484
TOTAL EQUITY	<u><u>38,068,825</u></u>	<u><u>35,508,863</u></u>

