



CRC for Developing Northern Australia Ltd

ABN: 43 618 131 150

Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

CRC for Developing Northern Australia Ltd

ABN: 43 618 131 150

Directors Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

The directors present their report, together with the financial statements, on the company for the year ended 30 June 2023.

Directors

The following persons were directors of the company during the whole of the financial year and up to the date of this report, unless otherwise stated:

Name	Position
Sheriden Morris	Chair
John Wharton	Deputy Chair
John Bearne (resigned 9 Nov 2022)	Director
Peter Long	Director
Ronald (Ricky) Archer	Director
Dr Rebecca Mohr-Bell	Director
Brendon Douglas	Director
David Larkin	Director
Scott Davis (appointed 9 Nov 2022)	Director

Our vision and purpose

To create a prosperous, sustainable, vibrant, and healthy Northern Australia and deliver industry-led research and development collaborations which de-risk Northern Australian development and attract quality investment, improving the competitiveness, productivity and sustainability of the North's economy and the wellbeing of its communities.

About the CRCNA


The CRCNA is investing \$75m of Commonwealth funds over ten years to support industry-led research collaborations. The funding will develop new technologies, products and services which address industry issues in Northern Australia within three initial focus areas:

- Agriculture and food (including aquaculture, horticulture, and forestry),
- Northern Australia health service delivery and
- Traditional Owner-led business development

Auditor's independence declaration

A copy of the auditor's independence declaration as required under section 307C of the Corporations Act 2001 is set out immediately after this directors' report.

This report is made in accordance with a resolution of directors, pursuant to section 298(2)(a) of the Corporations Act 2001. On behalf of the directors:



Sheriden Morris
Chair
Townsville

25/10/2023

Dated

Auditor's Independence Declaration

To the Directors of CRC for Developing Northern Australia Ltd

In accordance with the requirements of section 60-40 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, as lead auditor of CRC for Developing Northern Australia Ltd for the year ended 30 June 2023, I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been:

- (i) no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* in relation to the audit; and
- (ii) no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

Crowe Audit Australia

Crowe Audit Australia



Donna Sinanian

Partner

Townsville, 21st November 2023

Findex (Aust) Pty Ltd, trading as Crowe Australasia is a member of Crowe Global, a Swiss Verein. Each member firm of Crowe Global is a separate and independent legal entity. Findex (Aust) Pty Ltd and its affiliates are not responsible or liable for any acts or omissions of Crowe Global or any other member of Crowe Global. Crowe Global does not render any professional services and does not have an ownership or partnership interest in Findex (Aust) Pty Ltd. Services are provided by Crowe Audit Australia, an affiliate of Findex (Aust) Pty Ltd.

Some of the Crowe personnel involved in preparing this document may be members of a professional scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation such that their occupational liability is limited under that Legislation. To the extent that applies, the following disclaimer applies to them. If you have any questions about the applicability of Professional Standards Legislation to Crowe's personnel involved in preparing this document, please speak to your Crowe adviser. Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation.

© 2023 Findex (Aust) Pty Ltd

The title 'Partner' conveys that the person is a senior member within their respective division, and is among the group of persons who hold an equity interest (shareholder) in its parent entity, Findex Group Limited. The only professional service offering which is conducted by a partnership is external audit, conducted via the Crowe Australasia external audit division and Unison SMSF Audit. All other professional services offered by Findex Group Limited are conducted by a privately owned organisation and/or its subsidiaries.

CRC for Developing Northern Australia Ltd

ABN: 43 618 131 150

Contents

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Financial Statements	Page
Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income	5
Statement of Financial Position	6
Statement of Changes in Equity	7
Statement of Cash Flows	8
Notes to the Financial Statements	9
Directors' Declaration	18
Independent Audit Report	19

General Information

The financial statements were authorised for issue, in accordance with a resolution of Directors on 12/10/2023. The directors have the power to amend and re-issue the financial statements.

CRC for Developing Northern Australia Ltd

ABN: 43 618 131 150

Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
Revenue	3	15,841,814	7,456,926
Expenses			
Employee benefits expense		(1,943,128)	(1,679,626)
Depreciation and amortisation expense		(96,906)	(84,021)
Finance costs		(13,889)	(4,685)
Other expenses	4	(16,821,851)	(10,245,135)
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year		<u>(3,033,960)</u>	<u>(4,556,541)</u>
Other comprehensive income for the year		-	-
Total comprehensive income for the year		<u>(3,033,960)</u>	<u>(4,556,541)</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

CRC for Developing Northern Australia Ltd

ABN: 43 618 131 150

Statement of Financial Position

As at 30 June 2023

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	5	13,047,002	15,779,093
Trade and other receivables	6	386,850	94,244
Other assets		140,513	108,170
Total current assets		<u>13,574,365</u>	<u>15,981,507</u>
Non-current Assets			
Property, plant, and equipment	7	118,460	130,272
Right-of-use assets	8	252,098	314,393
Total non-current assets		<u>370,558</u>	<u>444,665</u>
Total Assets		<u>13,944,923</u>	<u>16,426,172</u>
LIABILITIES			
Current Liabilities			
Trade and other payables	9	749,502	144,725
Employee benefits		84,345	79,881
Lease liabilities	10	274,663	331,193
Total current liabilities		<u>1,108,510</u>	<u>555,799</u>
Total Liabilities		<u>1,108,510</u>	<u>555,799</u>
Net Assets		<u>12,836,413</u>	<u>15,870,373</u>
EQUITY			
Retained surplus		15,870,373	20,426,914
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year		<u>(3,033,960)</u>	<u>(4,556,541)</u>
Total Equity		<u>12,836,413</u>	<u>15,870,373</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

CRC for Developing Northern Australia Ltd

ABN: 43 618 131 150

Statement of Change in Equity

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

	Retained Surpluses \$	Total \$
2023		
Balance at 1 July 2022	15,870,373	15,870,373
Total other comprehensive income for the period	<u>(3,033,960)</u>	<u>(3,033,960)</u>
Balance at 30 June 2023	<u>12,836,413</u>	<u>12,836,413</u>
	Retained Surpluses \$	Total \$
2022		
Balance at 1 July 2021	20,426,914	20,426,914
Total other comprehensive income for the period	<u>(4,556,541)</u>	<u>(4,556,541)</u>
Balance at 30 June 2022	<u>15,870,373</u>	<u>15,870,373</u>

CRC for Developing Northern Australia Ltd

ABN: 43 618 131 150

Statement of Cash Flows

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

	Notes	2023 \$	2022 \$
Cash flows from operating activities			
Receipts from Commonwealth Government		10,300,000	2,300,000
Receipts from other customers		4,460,663	3,819,146
Receipts from State Governments		717,494	1,350,000
Interest received		277,259	12,737
Payments to suppliers and employees		(18,385,961)	(12,710,756)
Finance costs		(12,239)	(2,928)
Net cash provided by/ (used in) operating activities		<u>(2,642,784)</u>	<u>(5,231,801)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Disposal of property, plant & equipment		2,954	172,533
Purchase of property, plant & equipment		<u>(23,491)</u>	<u>(467,645)</u>
Net cash provided by/ (used in) investing activities		<u>(20,537)</u>	<u>(295,112)</u>
Cash flows from financing activities			
Lease liability repayments		<u>(68,770)</u>	<u>(48,317)</u>
Net cash provided by/ (used in) financing activities		<u>(68,770)</u>	<u>(48,317)</u>
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents held		(2,732,091)	(5,575,230)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		<u>15,779,093</u>	<u>21,354,323</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the period	5	<u>13,047,002</u>	<u>15,779,093</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

CRC for Developing Northern Australia Ltd

ABN: 43 618 131 150

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

The financial report covers CRC for Developing Northern Australia Ltd as an individual entity. CRC for Developing Northern Australia Ltd is a not-for-profit Company, registered and domiciled in Australia.

The principal activities of the Company for the period ended 30 June 2023 were to improve the competitiveness, productivity, and sustainability of the Northern Australian economy by building on the strengths of Northern Australia including agriculture, food, and Northern health service delivery. The company assists industry to solve the challenges of doing business in Northern Australia and reduce the barriers to investment, and brings together industry, research organisations and all Northern jurisdictions and international partners to grow business opportunities in Northern Australia.

The functional and presentation currency of the CRC for Developing Northern Australia Ltd is Australian dollars.

Comparatives are consistent with prior years, unless otherwise stated.

1. Significant accounting policies

Basis of Preparation

The company has adopted all the new or amended Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board ('AASB') that are mandatory for the current reporting period.

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

Revenue recognition

The Company recognises revenue in accordance AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers and AASB 1058 Income of Not-for-Profit Entities.

Revenue so recognised is the amount that reflects the consideration to which the Company is expected to be entitled in exchange for transferring goods or services to a customer. For each contract with a customer, the Company: identifies the contract with a customer; identifies the performance obligations in the contract; determines the transaction price which takes into account estimates of variable consideration and the time value of money; allocates the transaction price to the separate performance obligations on the basis of the relative stand-alone selling price of each distinct good or service to be delivered; and recognises revenue when or as each performance obligation is satisfied in a manner that depicts the transfer to the customer of the goods or services promised.

Variable consideration within the transaction price, if any, reflects concessions provided to the customer such as discounts, rebates and refunds, any potential bonuses receivable from the customer and any other contingent events. Such estimates are determined using either the 'expected value' or 'most likely amount' method. The measurement of variable consideration is subject to a constraining principle whereby revenue will only be recognised to the extent that it is highly probable that a significant reversal in the amount of cumulative revenue recognised will not occur. The measurement constraint continues until the uncertainty associated with the variable consideration is subsequently resolved. Amounts received that are subject to the constraining principle are recognised as a refund liability.

CRC for Developing Northern Australia Ltd

ABN: 43 618 131 150

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Specific revenue streams from projects are:

Commonwealth revenue

Commonwealth program funds are recognised when received.

Other project funding revenue

Revenue is recognised as contract performance obligations are met under AASB 15, however contracts where no performance obligations exist, revenue is recognised as income on receipt in line with AASB 1058.

Specifically, this revenue is from Participants or Co-Funders as follows:

Participant Co-contribution Revenue

The Company receives cash co-contributions from successful project applicants. The co-contributions are held on behalf of the participant to ensure that they are co-invested in the research being undertaken and then subsequently released back to the participant in line with the project milestones as set out in each signed research agreement. Cash co-contributions are recognised when received as the Company has no enforceable sufficiently specific performance obligations in relation to those funds under the research agreements.

Co-Funding Revenue

The Company receives cash co-funding from other entities. The contributions are held on behalf of the participant and then subsequently released to the project participant in line with the project milestones as set out in each signed research agreement. Cash co-funding is recognised when received or receivable per the co-funding agreement. Any co-funding for specific projects that are received in advance of CRC for Developing Northern Australia Ltd making a distribution of the project funds are recognised as a contract liability.

Interest

Interest income is recognised when received.

Other income

Other income is recognised when it is received or when the Company is entitled to it.

Income Tax

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

Goods and services tax (GST)

Revenue, expenses, and assets are recognised net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST), except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of GST. Cash flows in the statement of cash flows are included on a gross basis and the GST component of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities which is recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is classified as operating cash flows.

CRC for Developing Northern Australia Ltd

ABN: 43 618 131 150

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Cash and cash equivalents

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

Leases

At inception of a contract, the Company assesses whether a lease exists. That is, does the contract convey the right to control the use of an identified asset for a period of time in exchange for consideration.

This involves an assessment of whether:

- The contract involves the use of an identified asset - this may be explicitly or implicitly identified within the agreement. If the supplier has a substantive substitution right, then there is no identified asset.
- The Company has the right to obtain substantially all the economic benefits from the use of the asset throughout the period of use.
- The Company has the right to direct the use of the asset, that is, the decision-making rights in relation to changing how and for what purpose the asset is used.

Exceptions to lease accounting:

The Company has elected to apply the exceptions to lease accounting for both short-term leases (i.e. leases with a term of less than or equal to 12 months) and leases of low-value assets. The Company recognises the payments associated with these leases as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Employee benefits

Provision is made for the Company's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to the end of the reporting period. Employee benefits that are expected to be wholly settled within one year have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled.

Economic dependence

CRC for Developing Northern Australia Ltd is dependent on the Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources (the Department) for most of its revenue used to operate the business. A funding agreement has been signed with the Department, committing funding annually to 2026-27. At the date of this report the directors have no reason to believe the Department will not continue to support CRC for Developing Northern Australia Ltd.

2. Critical Accounting Estimates and Judgments

Those charged with governance make estimates and judgements during the preparation of these financial statements regarding assumptions about current and future events affecting transactions and balances. These estimates and judgements are based on the best information available at the time of preparing the financial statements, however as additional information is known then the actual results may differ from the estimates.

The significant estimates and judgements made have been described below.

CRC for Developing Northern Australia Ltd

ABN: 43 618 131 150

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Key estimates – receivables

The receivables at reporting date have been reviewed to determine whether there is any objective evidence that any of the receivables are impaired. An impairment provision is included for any receivable where the entire balance is not considered collectible. The impairment provision is based on the best information at the reporting date.

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
3. Revenue and Other Income		
DISR grant income	10,300,000	2,300,000
Co-contributions received	5,153,734	3,781,889
State government partnership fees	100,000	1,350,000
Bank interest received	277,259	12,737
Other income	721	-
Membership income	10,100	12,300
Total revenue	<u>15,841,814</u>	<u>7,456,926</u>

\$7,803,280 of grant funds received from the Commonwealth and recognised as revenue have been allocated by CRCNA to specific research projects to be expended during the period 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2027 as project milestones are met.

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
4. Other Expenses		
Project disbursements	15,564,506	9,342,457
Auditor remuneration	19,423	11,000
Travel costs	187,589	122,205
Insurance	17,217	11,254
Scholarships and bursaries	372,688	441,635
Other Expenses	660,428	316,584
Total other expenses	<u>16,821,851</u>	<u>10,245,135</u>

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
5. Cash and Cash Equivalents		
Westpac cheque account	1,735,762	4,144,694
Westpac term deposit	11,311,078	11,640,099
Clearing account	162	(5,700)
Total cash and cash equivalents	<u>13,047,002</u>	<u>15,779,093</u>

CRC for Developing Northern Australia Ltd

ABN: 43 618 131 150

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
6. Trade and other receivables		
Trade receivables	189,146	34,487
Provision for impairment	(880)	(880)
GST receivable	198,584	60,637
Total current trade and other receivables	<u>386,850</u>	<u>94,244</u>

The carrying value of trade receivables is considered a reasonable approximation of fair value due to the short-term nature of the balances. The maximum exposure to credit risk at the reporting date is the fair value of each class of receivable in the financial statements.

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
7. Property, plant, and equipment		
Furniture at cost	10,719	10,719
Accumulated depreciation	(6,522)	(5,904)
Net value	<u>4,197</u>	<u>4,815</u>
Office Equipment at cost	32,237	32,805
Accumulated depreciation	(17,287)	(13,994)
Net value	<u>14,950</u>	<u>18,811</u>
Computers and IT at cost	128,754	115,769
Accumulated depreciation	(53,963)	(32,225)
Net value	<u>74,791</u>	<u>83,544</u>
Lease hold Improvements at Cost	24,217	24,217
Accumulated depreciation	(5,957)	(1,115)
Net value	<u>18,260</u>	<u>23,102</u>
Low Value Pool at Cost	6,893	-
Accumulated depreciation	(631)	-
Net value	<u>6,262</u>	<u>-</u>
Total Net Value of Property, Plant and Equipment	<u>118,460</u>	<u>130,272</u>

Property, plant, and equipment assets are depreciated over with their useful life in accordance with AASB 116.

CRC for Developing Northern Australia Ltd

ABN: 43 618 131 150

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
8. Right of Use Assets		
Office Building	337,434	337,434
Accumulated depreciation	(85,336)	(23,041)
Net value	<u>252,098</u>	<u>314,393</u>

Office building is a leased asset depreciated over the life of the lease which expires on 14/07/2027.

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
9. Trade and Other Payables		
Trade payables	662,503	24,832
Accrued wages and super	12,084	65,059
Accrued expenses	14,442	14,291
Credit cards	7,417	5,447
PAYG Withholding payable	31,048	35,096
Superannuation payable	22,008	-
Total current trade and other payables	<u>749,502</u>	<u>144,725</u>

Trade and other payables are unsecured, non-interest bearing and are normally settled within 30 days. The carrying value of trade and other payables is considered a reasonable approximation of fair value due to the short-term nature of the balances.

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
10. Lease Liabilities		
Future lease payments are as follows:		
Within one year	60,815	56,531
One to five years	135,435	126,148
More than five years	78,413	148,514
Total lease liabilities	<u>274,663</u>	<u>331,193</u>

11. Members' Guarantee

The Company is incorporated under the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and is a Company limited by guarantee. If the Company is wound up, the constitution states that each member is required to contribute a maximum of \$100 each towards meeting any outstanding obligations of the Company. As of 30 June 2023, the number of members was 107 (2022: 121).

CRC for Developing Northern Australia Ltd

ABN: 43 618 131 150

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

12. Key Management Personnel Remuneration

The total remuneration paid to the key management personnel of CRC for Developing Northern Australia Ltd during the period is set out below:

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Aggregate compensation	676,263	608,627

13. Remuneration of Auditors

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Audit of financial statements	19,423	11,000
Total Remuneration of Auditors	<u>19,423</u>	<u>11,000</u>

14. Contingencies

The Board are aware of a potential liability of \$5,000 relative to an ongoing legal matter. There were no contingencies as at 30 June 2022.

15. Related Parties

- a) *The Company's main related parties are as follows:*
Key management personnel - refer to Note 12. Other related parties include close family members of key management personnel and entities that are controlled or significantly influenced by those key management personnel or their close family members.

- b) *Transactions with related parties*
Transactions between related parties are on normal commercial terms and conditions no more favourable than those available to other parties unless otherwise stated.

The following transactions occurred with related parties:

CRC for Developing Northern Australia Ltd

ABN: 43 618 131 150

	Purchases	Sales
	\$	\$
Key Management Personnel Related Parties		
3Science Solutions Pty Ltd	61,600	-
ArGyll Consulting Pty Ltd	-	100
Carlson B Consultancy	2,297	-
Charles Darwin University	218,378	61,750
Menzies School of Health Research	296,000	200,000
North Australian Indigenous Land & Sea Management	890	-
Reef & Rainforest Research Centre	3,926	-
Ridley AgriProducts Pty Ltd	-	11,000
Santaro Unit Trust	80,520	-
The People Principal	36,433	-
Townsville Enterprise Limited	1,423	-
Townsville Hospital and Health Service	-	60,000
Total Related Parties	<u>701,467</u>	<u>332,850</u>

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
16. Project Commitments		
<i>Contracted Project Funding</i>		
Income from CRCNA	56,356,038	28,302,205
Income from Co-contributors and Funders	24,801,355	12,257,370
Payments by CRCNA	(81,157,393)	(40,559,575)
<i>Future Committed Project Funding</i>		
Income from CRCNA	1,300,000	28,436,198
Income from Co-contributors and Funders	625,000	-
Payments by CRCNA	(1,925,000)	(28,436,198)
Total Income	83,082,393	68,995,773
Total Payments	(83,082,393)	(68,995,773)

1) The CRC for Developing Northern Australia Ltd is required to undertake core activities outlined in the Commonwealth Funding Agreement. As of 30 June 2023, the CRCNA directors had approved \$57,656,038 of CRCNA funding for projects which will be expended over the life of the CRC, which ends on 30 June 2027. This amount comprises \$56,356,038 of contracted CRCNA funding and a further \$1,300,000 of current and future committed CRCNA funding which has been allocated to future projects identified by the directors and is in the process of being contracted.

2) Contracted income from other project participants of \$24,801,355 will be received over the life of the CRC, which ends on 30 June 2027, and a further \$625,000 of income is expected once the final committed projects are contracted.

CRC for Developing Northern Australia Ltd

ABN: 43 618 131 150

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

17. Events after the end of the Reporting Period

The financial report was authorised for issue on the date of signing the Directors Declaration by those charged with governance. No matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial period which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the Company, the results of those operations or the state of affairs of the Company in future financial years.

18. Statutory Information

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

CRC for Developing Northern Australia Ltd

Suite 5, 281-285 Ross River Road

AITKENVALE QLD 4814

A description of the nature of the entity's operations and its principal activities are included in the directors' report, which is not part of the financial statements.

CRC for Developing Northern Australia Ltd

ABN: 43 618 131 150

Directors' Declaration

The responsible persons declare that in the responsible persons' opinion:

- there are reasonable grounds to believe that the registered entity is able to pay all its debts, as and when they become due and payable; and
- the financial statements and notes satisfy the requirements of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012.

Signed in accordance with subsection 60.15(2) of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission Regulation 2013.

Director S. Daylar

Dated 25.10.23

Director S. Morris

Dated 25/10/2023

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of CRC for Developing Northern Australia Ltd

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of CRC for Developing Northern Australia Ltd (the Company), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2023, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, the statement of changes in equity and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the directors' declaration.

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

- (a) giving a true and fair view of the Company's financial position as at 30 June 2023 and of its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended; and
- (b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures and Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013*.

Basis for Opinion

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

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

Emphasis of Matter - Economic Dependency

Without qualification to the opinion above, we bring users attention to Note 1(h) to the financial statements which outlines the economic dependency which the company has on funding bodies to conduct its principal activities. Without the continued support of government funding bodies the company's operations would not be viable.

Responsibilities of the Directors for the Financial Report

The directors of the Company are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* (ACNC Act) and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Findex (Aust) Pty Ltd, trading as Crowe Australasia is a member of Crowe Global, a Swiss verein. Each member firm of Crowe Global is a separate and independent legal entity. Findex (Aust) Pty Ltd and its affiliates are not responsible or liable for any acts or omissions of Crowe Global or any other member of Crowe Global. Crowe Global does not render any professional services and does not have an ownership or partnership interest in Findex (Aust) Pty Ltd. Services are provided by Crowe Audit Australia, an affiliate of Findex (Aust) Pty Ltd.

Some of the Crowe personnel involved in preparing this document may be members of a professional scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation such that their occupational liability is limited under that Legislation. To the extent that applies, the following disclaimer applies to them. If you have any questions about the applicability of Professional Standards Legislation to Crowe's personnel involved in preparing this document, please speak to your Crowe adviser. Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation.

© 2023 Findex (Aust) Pty Ltd

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of CRC for Developing Northern Australia Ltd (cont.)

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

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

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

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by those charged with governance.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of those charged with governance's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of the auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the entity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

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

Crowe Audit Australia
CROWE AUDIT AUSTRALIA



Donna Sinanian
Partner
Townsville, 21st November 2023