

MERRI CREEK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE INC

ABN: 13 025 599 242

**AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
30th SEPTEMBER 2024**

MERRI CREEK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE INC

ABN: 13 025 599 242

CONTENTS

Audited Financial Report For the Year ended 30th September 2024	Page
Committee Report	1
Responsible Persons' Declaration	2
Statement of Profit of Loss and Other Comprehensive Income	3
Statement of Financial Position	4
Statement of Changes in Equity	5
Statement of Cash Flows	6
Notes to the Financial Statements	7-14
Independent Auditor's Report	15-17

MERRI CREEK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE INC

ABN: 13 025 599 242

COMMITTEE REPORT

Your Committee (Board) members submit the financial report of Merri Creek Management Committee Inc for the financial year ended 30 September 2024.

Committee (Board) Members

Merri Creek Management Committee Inc Committee (Board) members in office at any time during or since the end of the year were:

Ann McGregor OAM – President
Nicole Lowe – Vice President
Cr Rob Eldridge – Vice President
Judy Schrever – Treasurer
Lisa Souquet-Wigg – Secretary
Cr Trent McCarthy – Member Representative
Linda Martin-Chew – Member Representative
Cr Angelica Panopoulos – Member Representative
Richard Tolliday – Member Representative
Narelle Liepa – Member Representative
Claudia James – Member Representative
Vix Penko – Member Representative
Peter Ewer – Member Representative
Philip Sinclair – Member Representative
Kate Jost – Member Representative

Principal Activities

The principal activities of the association during the financial year were to ensure the preservation of natural and cultural heritage, and the ecologically sensitive restoration, development and maintenance of the Merri Creek and tributaries, their corridors and associated ecological communities.

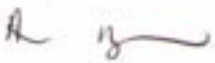
Operating Activities

The surplus for the 2024 financial year amounted to \$81,438 (2023: \$1,830 surplus).

Significant Changes

No significant change in the nature of these activities occurred during the year.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Members of the Committee (Board).



Ann McGregor - President



Judy Schrever - Treasurer

Signed February 3rd, 2025

MERRI CREEK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE INC

ABN: 13 025 599 242

RESPONSIBLE PERSONS' DECLARATION

The Committee members being the responsible persons, declare that in their opinion:

- (a) There are reasonable grounds to believe that the registered entity will be able to pay all of its debts, as and when they become due and payable;
- (b) the financial statements and notes satisfy the requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and comply with Australia Accounting Standards applicable to the entity; and
- (c) give a true and fair view of the financial position of the registered entity as at 30 September 2024 and its performance for the year ended on that date.

This declaration is signed in accordance with subsection 60.15(2) of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission Regulation 2022*.


.....
Ann McGregor - Chairman
.....
Judy Schrever – Treasurer

Signed February 3rd, 2025

MERRI CREEK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE INC

ABN: 13 025 599 242

**STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2024**

	Note	2024 \$	2023 \$
Revenue	2	2,504,858	2,347,556
Employee Benefits and Related Expenses		(2,040,187)	(1,742,816)
Project Expenses		(85,944)	(105,578)
Depreciation Expense		(26,218)	(20,424)
Consultants Expenses		(68,477)	(295,722)
Miscellaneous Expenses		(38,605)	(15,102)
Administration Expenses		(163,989)	(166,084)
CURRENT YEAR SURPLUS	3	<u>81,438</u>	<u>1,830</u>
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME		-	-
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR		<u><u>81,438</u></u>	<u><u>1,830</u></u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

MERRI CREEK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE INC

ABN: 13 025 599 242

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT 30th SEPTEMBER 2024**

	Note	2024 \$	2023 \$
Current Assets			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	4	877,041	895,956
Accounts Receivables and Deposits		469,845	204,141
Inventories		9,874	1,598
Prepaid Expenses		84,383	46,727
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		<u>1,441,143</u>	<u>1,148,422</u>
Non-Current Assets			
Property, Plant and Equipment	5	166,017	176,536
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		<u>166,017</u>	<u>176,536</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>1,607,160</u>	<u>1,324,958</u>
Current Liabilities			
Accounts Payables		38,146	80,926
Other Creditors and Accrued Expenses	6	100,753	60,312
Provisions	7	275,859	339,924
Contract Liability	8	461,989	199,775
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>876,747</u>	<u>680,937</u>
Non-Current Liability			
Provisions	7	15,737	10,783
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>15,737</u>	<u>10,783</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES		<u>892,484</u>	<u>691,720</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>714,676</u>	<u>633,238</u>
Equity			
Environment Fund Reserve	9	146,259	128,601
Retained Surplus		568,417	504,637
TOTAL EQUITY		<u>714,676</u>	<u>633,238</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

MERRI CREEK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE INC

ABN: 13 025 599 242

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY
FOR YEAR ENDING 30th SEPTEMBER 2024**

	Reserves \$	Retained Surplus \$	Total \$
Balance 1 st October 2022	110,429	520,979	631,408
Transfer to/ (from) Reserves	18,172	(18,172)	-
Surplus for the year	-	1,830	1,830
Balance 30 th September 2023	<u>128,601</u>	<u>504,637</u>	<u>633,238</u>
Transfer to/ (from) Reserves	17,658	(17,658)	-
Surplus for the year	-	81,438	81,438
Balance 30 th September 2024	<u><u>146,259</u></u>	<u><u>568,417</u></u>	<u><u>714,676</u></u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

MERRI CREEK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE INC

ABN: 13 025 599 242

**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2024**

	Note	2024 \$	2023 \$
Cash Flows from Operating Activities			
Grant and donation income received		2,422,884	1,731,927
Interest received		26,014	12,736
Other income received		52,470	61,866
Payments to suppliers and employees		(2,504,584)	(2,259,030)
Net Cash (used in) Operating Activities	10	<u>(3,216)</u>	<u>(452,501)</u>
Cash Flow from Investing Activities			
Payments for plant and equipment		(15,699)	(99,408)
Net Cash (used in) Investing Activities		<u>(15,699)</u>	<u>(99,408)</u>
Net (decrease) in cash held		(18,915)	(551,909)
Cash and cash equivalent at beginning of year		895,956	1,447,865
Cash and cash equivalent at end of year	4	<u>877,041</u>	<u>895,956</u>

The accompanying notes form part of the financial statements.

MERRI CREEK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE INC

ABN: 13 025 599 242

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30th SEPTEMBER 2024**

1. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements cover Merri Creek Management Committee Inc. as an individual entity, incorporated and domiciled in Australia.

The financial statements were authorised for issue by the Committee members of the association at the time of signing the Responsible Persons' Declaration.

Financial Reporting Framework

The Committee has prepared the financial statements on the basis that the association is a non-reporting entity because there are no users who are dependent on its general-purpose financial statements. These financial statements are therefore special purpose financial statements that have been prepared in order to meet the requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2022*. The association is a not-for-profit entity for financial reporting purposes under Australian Accounting Standards.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the significant accounting policies below, and the recognition and measurement requirements specified by the Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations except for those within "AASB 19" Employee Benefits. The measurement of Long Service Leave liabilities based upon discounted present values and probabilities of staff meeting continuous periods of employment have not been adopted in accordance with AASB 19 Employee Benefits. Refer to Note 1 (d) for the associations' policies for Employee Entitlements.

The financial statements have also been prepared in accordance with the significant accounting policies disclosed below and disclosure requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2022*.

Basis of Preparation

The financial statements, except for the cash flow information, have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs unless otherwise stated in the notes. The material accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are presented below and have been consistently applied unless stated otherwise. The amounts presented in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest dollar.

a. Principal Activities

The principal activities of the association during the financial year were to ensure the preservation of natural and cultural heritage, and the ecologically sensitive restoration, development and maintenance of the Merri Creek and tributaries, their corridors and associated ecological communities.

b. Property, Plant and Equipment

Property, plant and equipment are measured on the cost basis and are therefore carried at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. In the event the carrying amount of plant and equipment is greater than the estimated recoverable amount, the carrying amount is written down immediately to the estimated recoverable amount and impairment losses recognised either in profit or loss or as a revaluation decrease if the impairment losses relate to a revalued asset.

A formal assessment of recoverable amount is made when impairment indicators are present (refer to Note 1(e) for details of impairment).

MERRI CREEK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE INC

ABN: 13 025 599 242

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30th SEPTEMBER 2024**

1. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONT'D)

b. Property, Plant and Equipment (Cont'd)

Subsequent costs are included in the asset's carrying amount or recognised as a separate asset, as appropriate, only when it is probable that future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to the association and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. All other repairs and maintenance are recognised as expenses in profit or loss during the financial period in which they are incurred.

Depreciation

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets are depreciated on either a straight line basis, or on a diminishing value basis, over their useful lives commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

The depreciation rates used for each class of depreciable assets are:

Class of Fixed Asset	Depreciation Rate
Buildings	33%
Motor Vehicles	8%
Computers & Equipment	25%
Plant & Equipment	20%

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed and adjusted, if appropriate, at the end of each reporting period. An asset's carrying amount is written down immediately to its recoverable amount if the asset's carrying amount is greater than its estimated recoverable amount.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing proceeds with the carrying amount. These gains and losses are included in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income.

c. Taxation

The Association is a tax exempt body under Div 50 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997 and therefore does not account for income tax.

d. Employee Entitlements

Provision is made for the association's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to the end of the reporting period. Employee benefits have been measured at the nominal amounts plus payroll on cost owing at year end. The association commences to accrue for Long Service Leave after an employee has completed five years of continuous service.

Contributions are made by the association to employee's superannuation funds and is charged as an expense when incurred.

e. Impairment of Assets

At the end of each reporting period, the entity reviews the carrying values of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have been impaired. If such an indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use, is compared to the asset's carrying value. Any excess of the asset's carrying value over its recoverable amount is recognised immediately in profit or loss.

MERRI CREEK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE INC

ABN: 13 025 599 242

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30th SEPTEMBER 2024**

1. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONT'D)

f. Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents includes cash on hand, deposits held at call with banks, and other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of less than twelve months.

g. Revenue recognition

The association is first required to determine whether amounts received are accounted for as Revenue per AASB 15: *Revenue from Contracts with Customers* or Income per AASB 1058: *Income of Not-for-Profit Entities*.

Funding arrangements which are enforceable and contain sufficiently specific performance obligations are recognised as revenue under AASB 15. Otherwise, such arrangements are accounted for under AASB 1058, where upon initial recognition of an asset, the association is required to consider whether any other financial statement elements should be recognised (eg, financial liabilities representing repayable amounts), with any difference being recognised immediately in profit or loss as income.

Operating Grants, Donations and Bequests

When the entity received operating grant revenue, donations or bequests, it assesses whether the contract is enforceable and has sufficiently specific performance obligations in accordance with AASB 15.

When both these conditions are satisfied, the entity: – identifies each performance obligation relating to the grant – recognises a contract liability for its obligations under the agreement – recognises revenue as it satisfies its performance obligations. Where the contract is not enforceable or does not have sufficiently specific performance obligations, the entity:

- recognises the asset received in accordance with the recognition requirements of other applicable accounting standards.
- recognises related amounts (being contributions by owners, lease liability, financial instruments, provisions); and
- recognises income immediately in profit or loss as the difference between the initial carrying amount of the asset and the related amount.

If a contract liability is recognised as a related amount above, the entity recognises income in profit or loss when or as it satisfies its obligations under the contract.

Interest Income

Interest revenue is recognised using the effective interest rate method, which for floating rate financial assets is the rate inherent in the instrument.

Goods and Services

Revenue from the rendering of a service or provision of goods is recognised upon the delivery of the service or goods to the member or customer and measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable.

MERRI CREEK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE INC

ABN: 13 025 599 242

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30th SEPTEMBER 2024**

1. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONT'D)

h. Leases

Lease payments for operating leases, where substantially all the risks and benefits remain with the lessor, are charged as expenses in the periods in which they are incurred.

i. Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the association has a legal or constructive obligation, as a result of past events, for which it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will result and that outflow can be reliably measured. Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation at the end of the reporting period.

j. Accounts Receivable and Other Debtors

Accounts receivable and other debtors include amounts due from customers and donors. Receivables expected to be collected within 12 months of the end of the reporting period are classified as current assets. All other receivables are classified as non-current assets.

Accounts receivable are initially recognised at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any provision for impairment. Refer to Note 1(e) for further discussion on the determination of impairment losses.

k. Accounts Payable and Other Payables

Accounts payable and other payables represent the liability outstanding at the end of the reporting period for goods and services received by the association during the reporting period that remain unpaid. The balance is recognised as a current liability with the amounts normally paid within 30 days of recognition of the liability.

l. Comparative Figures

When required by Accounting Standards, comparative figures have been adjusted to conform to changes in presentation for the current financial year.

Where the entity retrospectively applies an accounting policy, makes a retrospective restatement or reclassifies items in its financial statements, a third statement of financial position as at the beginning of the preceding period in addition to the minimum comparative financial statements must be presented.

m. Critical Accounting Estimates and Judgements

The Committee evaluate estimates and judgements incorporated into the financial statements based on historical knowledge and best available current information. Estimates assume a reasonable expectation of future events and are based on current trends and economic data, obtained both externally and within the Association.

Key Estimates

Impairment

The Association assesses impairment at the end of each reporting period by evaluating conditions and events specific to the Association that may be indicative of impairment triggers.

Property, plant and equipment

As indicated in Note 1(b), the Association reviews the useful life of property, plant and equipment on annual basis.

MERRI CREEK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE INC

ABN: 13 025 599 242

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30th SEPTEMBER 2024**

1. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONT'D)

n. Critical Accounting Estimates and Judgements (Cont'd)

Key Judgements

Performance obligations under AASB15

To identify a performance obligation under AASB 15, the promise must be sufficiently specific to be able to determine when the obligation is satisfied. The Committee exercise judgement to determine whether the promise is sufficiently specific by taking into account any conditions specified in the arrangement, explicit or implicit, regarding the promised goods or services. In making this assessment, management includes the nature/-type, cost/-value, quantity and the period of transfer related to the goods or services promised.

o. New and Amended Accounting Policies Adopted by the Entity

AASB 2021-2: Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards– Disclosure of Accounting Policies and Definition of Accounting Estimates

The entity adopted AASB 2021-2 which makes some small amendments to a number of standards including the following: AASB 7, AASB 101, AASB 108 and AASB 134.

The adoption of the amendment did not have a material impact on the financial statements.

There were no other new significant Accounting Standards or Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) which were mandatory for the current reporting period that were applicable to the entity.

MERRI CREEK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE INC

ABN: 13 025 599 242

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30th SEPTEMBER 2024**

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
2. Revenue		
<u>Operating Activities</u>		
Government Grants		
- Municipalities	812,599	771,899
- Other Government	112,954	302,743
Contract fees	1,400,650	1,141,153
Non-Government Grants	29,365	16,678
Donations	70,807	40,481
Interest	26,014	12,736
Other income	52,469	61,866
Total Revenue	<u>2,504,858</u>	<u>2,347,556</u>
3. SURPLUS FROM ORDINARY ACTIVITIES		
<u>a) Surplus from Ordinary Activities</u>		
<u>has been determined after:</u>		
Expenses:		
Superannuation Expense	195,564	158,745
Depreciation	26,218	20,424
Auditors Remuneration – Audit	8,600	7,300
The auditors do not receive any other benefit.		
4. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENT		
Cash on hand	748	700
Cash at bank		
- Merri Creek Environment Fund	146,259	128,884
- Other	250,587	100,336
Short Term Deposits	479,447	666,036
	<u>877,041</u>	<u>895,956</u>
5. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT		
Buildings at Cost	20,231	20,231
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(20,231)	(20,231)
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Motor Vehicles at Cost	331,822	331,822
Less Accumulated Depreciation	(190,346)	(172,978)
	<u>141,476</u>	<u>158,844</u>
Computers & Equipment at Cost	14,001	14,001
Less Accumulated Depreciation	(14,001)	(14,001)
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Plant & Equipment at Cost	66,485	50,786
Less Accumulated Depreciation	(41,944)	(33,094)
	<u>24,541</u>	<u>17,692</u>
Total Property, Plant and Equipment	<u>166,017</u>	<u>176,536</u>

MERRI CREEK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE INC

ABN: 13 025 599 242

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30th SEPTEMBER 2024**

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
6. OTHER CREDITORS		
Wages and Employee Expenses	8,186	1,583
GST Payable	54,364	18,702
PAYG owed to ATO	38,203	40,027
	<u>100,753</u>	<u>60,312</u>
7. PROVISIONS		
Current Liability		
Provision for Annual Leave	145,517	106,118
Provision for Long Service Leave	122,415	183,479
Provision for Flexible Hours	7,927	10,103
Provision for Sick Leave	-	40,224
	<u>275,859</u>	<u>339,924</u>
Non-Current Liability		
Provision for Long Service Leave	15,737	10,783
	<u>15,737</u>	<u>10,783</u>
Total Provision	<u>291,596</u>	<u>350,707</u>
8. CONTRACT LIABILITY		
Unexpended Grants and Income	<u>461,989</u>	<u>199,775</u>

If grants are enforceable and have sufficiently specific performance obligations in accordance with AASB 15 the amount received at that point in time, is recognised as a contract liability until the performance obligations have been satisfied.

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
9. ENVIRONMENT FUND RESERVE		
Opening Balance	128,601	110,429
Add Transfer from Retained Earnings:		
Interest Received	769	598
Donations Received	62,530	37,737
Additional Amount Transferred In	419	-
	<u>63,718</u>	<u>38,335</u>
Less Transfer to Retained Earnings :		
Project Expenditure	(46,060)	(20,163)
	<u>(46,060)</u>	<u>(20,163)</u>
Closing Balance	<u>146,259</u>	<u>128,601</u>

MERRI CREEK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE INC

ABN: 13 025 599 242

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30th SEPTEMBER 2024**

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
10. OPERATING SURPLUS IS RECONCILED TO CASH FROM OPERATIONS AS FOLLOWS:		
Operating Surplus	81,438	1,830
Non-cash flows in Surplus:		
Depreciation	26,218	20,424
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
(Increase)/ Decrease in Accounts Receivables and Deposits	(311,635)	(129,830)
Increase/ (Decrease) in Creditors and Other Payables	(2,340)	15,873
Increase/ (Decrease) in Provisions	(59,110)	50,400
Increase/ (Decrease) in Income in Advance	262,213	(411,198)
Cash Flow (Used in) by Operating Activities	<u>(3,216)</u>	<u>(452,501)</u>
11. CONTINGENCIES		
There are no known contingent assets or liabilities as at 30 th September 2024.		
12. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS		
There were no significant events that require to be disclosed as at 30 th September 2024.		
13. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS		
There were no related party transactions required to be disclosed for the year ending 30 th September 2024.		
There was only one remunerated key management personnel during the financial year ended 30 th September 2024.		
14. AUDITOR DETAILS		
The Audit firm is McBain McCartin & Co. (Chartered Accountants)		
The firm's registered office is:		
Level 1, 123 Whitehorse Road		
BALWYN VIC 3103		
The Auditor Remuneration for the year ended 30 th September 2024 is detailed at Note 3.		
15. LEASE COMMITMENTS		
The association leases on an ongoing month to month basis the office at 2 Lee Street Brunswick with rent payable on a monthly basis of approximately \$780.		
16. ASSOCIATION DETAILS		
The registered office of the association is;		
2 Lee Street		
BRUNSWICK EAST VIC 3057		

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
TO THE MEMBERS OF
MERRI CREEK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE INC
ABN: 13 025 599 242**

**Report on the Audit of the Financial Report
Opinion**

We have audited the financial report of Merri Creek Management Committee Inc, which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 September 2024, 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, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies, other explanatory information and the responsible person's declaration.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of Merri Creek Management Committee Inc has been prepared in accordance with Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 (ACNC Act)*, including:

- a. giving a true and fair view of the registered entity's financial position as at 30 September 2024 and of its financial performance for the year ended; and
- b. complying with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 1 and Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2022*.

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 registered entity in accordance with ACNC Act and ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110: *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to 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.

Information Other than the Financial Report and Auditor's Report Thereon

The committee members are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the registered entity's annual report for the year ended 30 September 2024 but does not include the financial report and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information; we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Emphasis of Matter – Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the registered entity's financial reporting responsibilities under the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Committee's Responsibility for the Financial Report

The committee members of Merri Creek Management Committee Inc are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the ACNC Act and for such internal control as the committee determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the committee is responsible for assessing the registered entity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the committee either intends to liquidate the registered entity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but it 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:

- a. 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.
- b. 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 registered entity's internal control.
- c. Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the committee.

- d. Conclude on the appropriateness of the committees' 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 registered 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 our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the registered entity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- e. Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

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



McBain McCartin & Co



Simon Aukstin
Partner

SIGNED this 4th day of February 2025

Level 1, 123 Whitehorse Road,
BALWYN VIC 3103