

National Rural
Women's Coalition

2023
2024

Annual Report



Acknowledgement

The National Rural Women's Coalition pays our respects to the ancestors, elders, emerging leaders and the women that are a part of the longest living civilisation on earth, the First Nation peoples of Australia. We acknowledge their strength and resilience. They are the custodians of the land and we celebrate together their right to continue with cultural practices on the land and water where they live across Australia.

Principles

Professionalism

We hold ourselves to the highest standards of accountability, integrity, evidence and excellence.

Diversity

Our work is by Regional, Remote and Rural (RRR) Women in all our diversity and we seek to recognise and celebrate the strength of inclusive practice and communities.

Relational

We are a trusted partner to all our stakeholders through cultivating respectful and mutually beneficial relationships.

Leadership

We represent all RRR women and empower RRR women to lead in their own right.

Innovation

We work to improve the lives of RRR Women and communities through applying evidence, amplifying stories to challenge and improve policy, programs and attitudes.

Primary Goal

Rural, Regional and Remote Women are reaching their highest potential and are celebrated for their contribution to broader society.

Purpose

The National Rural Women's Coalition is a national network of rural, regional and remote women, organisations and allies **leading transformational change** through evidence based solutions and the stories of rural, regional and remote women's experience **by and for rural, regional and remote women.**

National Rural Women's Coalition would like to thank the Rural Women of Australia who have contributed to photos included in this publication. Cover image photographer: Catherine Scotney – Liquid Gold.



We are a significant network of diverse women who work to improve the lives of rural women.

We work to provide a powerful collaborative national voice for women living in rural, regional and remote Australia.

We value respect, innovation, professionalism and empowerment.

Our objectives are to:

1. Represent the diverse views of women in rural, remote and regional Australia;
2. Provide advice to the Australian Government on policy issues relevant to the views and circumstances of rural women; and
3. Contribute to building a positive profile of rural women, their achievements and issues.



The National Rural Women's Coalition wishes to thank and acknowledge the ongoing support of the Australian Government - Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet's Office for Women.

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Company Secretary's Report



It is with great pleasure that I provide the following Company Secretary's Report. Throughout the past year the NRWC Executive and Board have focused on governance including developing new policies and procedures ensuring our continual improvement and strengthening as a Board.

National Rural Women's Coalition has delivered against the work plan, provided exceptional professional development opportunities to RRR women and so supported member organisations in various ways.

As Company Secretary I am responsible for the overall governance of the company and also for compliance and reporting to relevant bodies such as ASIC (Australian Securities and Investments Commission). Board meetings are held regularly via teleconference with extraordinary meetings held if necessary. A face-to-face meeting is held once per year which includes strategy review and development, this year the meeting was held in Adelaide in April 2024. All directors have fulfilled their obligations to the NRWC.

I am pleased to report that we have continued to implement improvements in our governance and board management including having successfully achieved an acquittal for the 2023-2024 grant from the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet (Office for Women) and

extended funding to November 2024. We look forward to further developing opportunities for RRR women in the coming year.

Thank you to CEO, Keli McDonald and contract staff for your valuable time and energy in advocating for RRR women.

Thank you to Jan Clifford OAM for her leadership as President of NRWC this past year providing her chairing and governance expertise driving the organisation towards a stronger future.

Natalie Sommerville

COMPANY SECRETARY

LEFT: Jan Clifford OAM, Jaquelene Brotherton and Natalie Sommerville.

RIGHT: NRWC MUSTER participants with Dame Enid Lyons & Dame Dorothy Tangney.



NRWC Board 2023-2024



JAN CLIFFORD OAM

PRESIDENT

Australia Local Government Women's Association (ALGWA)

Attended 4 of 4 meetings

QUEENSLAND



JO STEWART-RATTRAY

VICE PRESIDENT

Independent Director
Attended 3 of 4 meetings

SOUTH AUSTRALIA



NATALIE SOMMERVILLE

COMPANY SECRETARY

Australian Women in Agriculture (AWiA)
Attended 2 of 4 meetings

SOUTH AUSTRALIA



KAREN HOLDER

DIRECTOR

Women in Seafood Australasia (WiSA)

Attended 4 of 4 meetings

SOUTH AUSTRALIA



JACQUELENE BROTHERTON

TREASURER

Transport Women Australia Limited (TWAL)

Attended 4 of 4 meetings

VICTORIA



WENDY HICK

INDEPENDENT DIRECTOR

Attended 4 of 4 meetings

QUEENSLAND



DR. MELANIE BOURSNELL

INDEPENDENT DIRECTOR

Attended 3 of 4 meetings

NEW SOUTH WALES



NICOLE O'REILLY

DIRECTOR

National Rural Health Alliance (NRHA)
Attended 2 of 4 meetings

NORTHERN TERRITORY



President's Report



Well, what a year it has been for us all! And where has the year gone?

I would like to start by thanking the Directors and staff of NRWC who have worked tirelessly on behalf of rural and remote women.

The year has been challenging on many fronts; the ongoing funding from the Federal Government being of particular concern.

NRWC has been active both nationally and internationally with a delegation to the United Nations in March headed up by our superstar CEO Keli McDonald and Vice President Jo Rattray-Stewart.

It would be remis of me to not mention the awesome amount of work done by my predecessor Leonie Noble. Leonie's knowledge and dedication is a huge loss to the organisation. I would also like to acknowledge the amazing contribution made by outgoing Independent Director Jo Rattray-Stewart. Therefore, it gives me great pleasure to announce that NRWC has approved the position of Ambassador; Both Leonie and Jo will take up the roles of Ambassador for the next 12 months.

I would also personally thank your board of Directors and staff for their "can do" attitude and selfless work ethics.

- Vice President Jo Rattray-Stewart
- Company Secretary Natalie Sommerville
- Treasurer Jaqueline Brotherton
- Directors Karen Holder
- Wendy Hicks
- Dr Melanie Bournell
- Nicole O'Reilly

And of course, our Staff; CEO Keli McDonald and Administrator Jess Davis.

As mentioned previously our federal funding is pending' however after a recent trip to Canberra by Jacqueline Brotherton, Wendy Hick and myself where we met with various ministers and advisors, I am fairly confident that NRWC will continue to be funded. We also attended the 2024 AgriFutures Rural Women's Awards Gala Dinner at Parliament house where Tania Egerton from Katherine NT was awarded this most prestigious award.

We are committed to continuing to advocate for Rural, Regional & Remote Women particularly in the issues around communication, health services, education, transport, long-term economic security, infrastructure, safety, housing and leadership.

I would again like to thank the board and staff along with our member organisations and partners and I look forward to continuing making a difference in rural and remote Australia.

Jan Clifford OAM
PRESIDENT



ABOVE: MUSTER Alumnae Suzie Evans with President Jan Clifford OAM.

BELOW: NRWC at the 2023 AgriFutute National Rural Women's Awards in Canberra.



Treasurer's Report



I am pleased to present the audited financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2024.

The NRWC receives core funding from the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet, administered by the Office for Women and for this we offer our thanks and appreciation.

The NRWC has an annual budget of \$305,913.00, GST exclusive, from the Office for Women. In this financial period we also received additional funds from PM&C, Office for Women of \$110,000. These funds were used to project manage the Shadow Committee on the Elimination of discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) report that will be completed in October 2024. As funds received are for grants the NRWC budgets to break even annually; this result is the product of good financial management as well as close monitoring of expenses over the entire financial year.

NRWC adopts a rigorous approach to understanding and proactively managing the risks faced in its business and how we continuously find better ways to interact with our constituency base.

We actively manage our balance sheet for a positive outcome. The NRWC continues to consider new and innovative ways to build our financial base, and the financial position of the organisation remains sound. It is pleasing to note that all projects fell within their budget and that the organisation achieved its forecast outcomes and expenditure for the year ended 30 June 2024.

This years financial funding was received from the Federal Office for Women specifically for activities relating gender equality, women's leadership, and international engagement which informs our national practice.

We have run webinars, meetings, and established regular events with a focus on health, wellness and wellbeing of RRR women, as well as opportunities and gender equality.

We have continued to adapt to the online world that we are still living in. Where there has been any change to delivery timing and where significant change to delivery modes have occurred, approval of the Office for Women has been sought and obtained.

We have engaged Auditeo this year to provide us with a full Audit of NRWC finances.

The Finance Committee meets on a regular basis to review all financial activities of the organisation and provides a Financial Report to the Board at each of its meetings.

I would also like to thank Keli McDonald, NRWC Chief Executive Officer, for her oversight and her considered control of the day-to-day finances of the organisation.

Please refer to the following audited financial reports of the NRWC for more detail on our current financial position.

Jacqueline Brotherton
TREASURER

RIGHT: NRWC meeting with Office for Women.



CEO's Report



The strength of the National Rural Women's Coalition continues to radiate from the inspiring and indomitable women who join its journey.

Eight of those amazing women are the National Rural Women's Board of Directors: President, Cr Jan Clifford OAM (ALGWA), Vice President Jo Stewart Rattray (Independent), Company Secretary Natalie Sommerville (AWiA) and Treasurer Jacqueline Brotherton (TWAL), Karen Holder (WiSA), Nicole O'Reilly (NRHA), Wendy Hick (Independent) and Dr Melaine Bournsell (Independent).

The Board volunteers enormous amounts of time to ensure that the NRWC is able to respond to requests for consultations, input, submissions and advice to the Federal Government, policy makers, industry and rural, regional and remote women. In addition, the Board oversees the governance and strategic planning of the organisation.

In April 2024 the Annual Strategic Planning Workshop facilitated by the Meredith Turnbull resulted in a new three year strategic plan for the NRWC and the nuancing of the founding principles that you can read on page two of this annual report. I am in constant awe of the capacity of these eight women to use their combined and individual expertise and lived experience to benefit rural, regional and remote women and to support our small secretariat.

The National Rural Women's Coalition also has a powerful and dynamic network for individuals and organisations that collaborate with us to provide support to our work.

We especially thank the NRWC Women's Leadership MUSTER Alumnae, the Communications Reference Team Alumnae, NRWC Director Alumnae, the Young Rural, Regional & Remote Advocacy Panel (YRRRAP), the eLeader and eSkilling Alumnae, members of the NETWORK, the Rural Regional & Remote Communications Coalition, Isolated Children Parents Association (Federal), Future Female Entrepreneurs Expert Panel, Regional Australia Institute - National Regionalisation Alliance and the National Women's Alliances.

We thank all the rural, regional, and remote women in all their diversity that support our work, by their contributions to webinars, surveys and attending focus groups, responding to our social media call outs and personal phone calls – you are our strength, we believe in you, we are you!

The NRWC takes the concerns, issues, expertise and experiences of rural, regional and remote women to the following consultations and meetings:

Government

- **Dept of Employment and Workforce Relations – Parents Next Consultation** – ensuring Transport, all access issues, stigma & fatigue, Child Care, tangible job opportunities and targeted training opportunities
- **Dept Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government with Minister King** – discuss Regional Investment Framework
- **Dept Treasury** – Digital ID Consultation. Discussions on Data breaches & Digital ID, voluntary, ACCC oversight
- **Department of the Attorney-General - Family Law Branch** – discuss Exposure Draft of Family Law Amendment Bill (no2)
- **Department of Social Services** – Escaping the Violence Payment Pilot
- **National Women's Health Advisory Council** – meets each two months, chaired by Assistant Minister Ged Kearney

CSW 68 Secretary Generals Meeting

- **Dept Employment & Workplace Relations** - Consultation Supporting women to succeed in VET
- **Prime Minister & Cabinet - Office for Women** - Gender Equality Strategy Meeting
- **Prime Minister & Cabinet Long-term Insights Briefing** – National Women's Alliances – Future Government Services in Australia
- **Dept Of Communications** – USO Briefing with the RRRCC (Rural Regional & Remote Communications Coalition)
- **Prime Minister & Cabinet** - Long-term Insights Briefings (LTIBs) - provide government with an opportunity to work with Australians to shine a light on significant, complex, and long-term issues we may face as a country. The LTIB was tasked with understanding the future of government services for Australia. This was discussed with the NRWC with rural lens. The issues of the impact of climate change, telecommunications – access/digital literacy/cost/not always the answer to geographical distance, cost of transport, public spaces for the use during emergency, including heat wave were all discussed.
- **National Women's Alliance & PM&C AI Safety Standard** – highlevel Roadmap/ upcoming releases information shared with Alliances
- **Dept of Finance** - Digital ID Communication, Inclusion and Governance Branch – Digital ID and Data Policy Division. Discussion how to make digital Id more Inclusive, discussion on draft Digital Rules, Accreditation Rules and Data standards.
- **Dept health and Aging** - National Rural Health Commissioner's Consumer Advisory Group with Commissioner Ruth Stewart

Non- Government

- Australian Women in Local Government Alliance
- Transport Women Australia Limited Conference
- Women For Election - Design Council Workshops
- Australian Gender Equality Council
- Women's Right's Caucus
- Regional Australia Institute Working Group
- Isolated Children Parent Association (FED)
- RIC ACT Review with Dr Wendy Craik (see NRWC's submission)
- **The Parenthood** - advocating for childcare centre workforce
- **Future Women Expert Panel** – Decadal Plan
- **Country Women Association of NSW Conference**
- **Rural Regional and Remote Communications Coalition meetings**
- **National Women's Alliance Meetings**
- **Homeless Australia** - consultation on Regional & Remote National Housing & Homelessness Plan
- **Digital ID Inclusion & Rules Roundtable**



LEFT: Keli McDonald with Clancy Hall, OFW Assistant Secretary and Jan Clifford OAM.

RIGHT: Keli McDonald at the UN.

Our Administration Officer Gay Quelch resigned in June 2024 to move closer to her daughters and grandchildren. We are deeply grateful to her for the steadfast professionalism and calmness in what can be a rapidly evolving environment. We wish her all the best for new adventures. Jess Davis joins the NRWC team from 1 July 2024 to support the activities of the secretariat.

Leonie Noble, after nine years of dedicated and inspirational service to the National Rural Women's Coalition, representing Women in Seafood Australasia on the Board, including four years as President, has taken the new role of NRWC Ambassador. Leonie has left a long-lasting positive legacy to the National Rural Women's Coalition creating a strong and thoughtful Board of Directors, the YRRRAP and RRROW volunteer groups, attending CSW and representing RRR women's voices at consultations and roundtables.

After six years of service to the National Rural Women's Coalition Jo Stewart-Rattray steps down at the October 2024 AGM. Jo's passion for rural women's leadership, especially in STEM, international work, access to communications and women's safety, as well as her roles as NRWC Treasurer, Company Secretary and Vice President has seen her generously volunteer umpteen hours to the benefit of RRR Women in all their diversity. Jo will continue her support of the NRWC as our Ambassador.

The Office for Women, Women's Leadership and Development Grant was extended from June 2024 to November 2024 and a new grant round for a five-year period called Working for Women Program: National Women's Alliance, under an open tender format, opened in May 2023 and closed on 3 July 2024. The National Rural Women's Coalition has applied for funding under this grant.

The National Working for Women Strategy is an innovative, large piece of work produced by the Office for Women that the National Rural Women's Coalition along with many other organisations contributed into. It will be the roadmap to delivery gender equality for the future and will work in with the reporting through the Status of Women's Report Card, the Women's Budget Statement, the National Women's Strategy and The National Plan to End Violence against Women and Children.

We hope you enjoy reading about the broad range of consultations, programs and activities undertaken by the National Rural Women's Coalition during 2023-2024. It has been a huge year for us, with five federal submissions and the five emerging issue reports (thank you Megan Johnson, Claire Tatyzo, Elisa Ramsey and Courtney du Pleissis), the MUSTER program and eSkilling webinar, international engagement commitments, working with and for our member organisations, NETWORK and stakeholders. The 20 Years of NRWC History (thank you, Gay Quelch and Sahm Keily Graphic Designer) is a great read and can be found on the NRWC Website (thank you Marketeam) or purchased through the office.

We look forward to 2024-2025,

Warm regards

Keli McDonald

CEO

LEFT: Back home.



Projects

Networking and Capacity Building

eSkilling Program

'How to get more rural, regional and remote women on boards' webinar was held on 30 August 2023 and was supported by Directors Australia and Grains Research & Development Corporation with guest speakers Alex Gartman and Glee Mitchell. The free webinar shared information from the facilitators on what board recruiters are looking for when recruiting new Directors and what Boards are looking for. Alex and Glee shared their insights and experience on the power of connections, mentors, sponsors and the importance of due diligence and preparation.

This was the third eSkilling webinar in the series and is available of downloading from the NRWC Website Shop.

NETWORK

The NRWC is creating stronger advocacy connections with key state and national organisations focused on issues impacting rural regional and remote women to increase and share information. NETWORK members are listed on the NRWC website.



Emerging Issue Roundtable – How to Achieve Gender Equality in RRR Australia

The NRWC gathered in Canberra in September 2023 to learn from a number of experts that delivered information in a virtual

SPEAKERS:

Aunty Serena Williams

Welcome to Country

Dr Nicola Ivory

Charles Sturt University discussing the RRR Women Facts Data from the 2021 Census

Adjunct Associate Professor

Rae Dufty-Jones

Western University & Director – Social Advisory and Research at RPS Australia Asia Pacific – discussing her research on why RRR Women love rural towns and why & when do they return to rural towns.

Doss McPherson

A/g Assistant Secretary Gender Equality Strategy and Reform Branch

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet – Explaining the process of the Gender Equality Strategy.

Yasmin Johnson

CEO National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women Alliance – discussing the issues of ASTI women and showcasing the Women's Voices video.

Daniel Witthaus

CEO & Founder of Rural Pride Australia – discussing the programs that are working to support the LBGTIQ+ rural community to live safe and fulfilling lives in RRR towns. Breaking stereotyping and stigma that strengthens RRR towns through diversity.

Alexandra Gartmann

Non-Executive Director of Nufarm, Deputy Chair of the Australian Wool Testing Authority, Chair of the Victorian Agriculture and Climate Change Council, Director of the Australian Farm Institute, a trustee of Helen Macpherson Smith Trust, and a Director of the One Basin CRC - how to recruit and retain RRR Women leaders. How to have professional career from RRR.

The Report produced is on the NRWC website

Advocacy

Position Statements

- Gender Equality in Rural Regional and Remote Australia
- RRR in 2023–2021 Census Data, which was a collaboration with Charles Sturt University (November 2023)
- Rural Women's Volunteerism in RRR Australia (December 2023)



LEFT: Administration Officer Gaye Quelch.



Australian Civil Society delegation to the Commission on the Status of Women - New York - March 2024.

Submissions

The NRWC has lodged a number of federal submission to raise issues that impact on the lives of women and their families living in rural regional and remote Australia.

Submission:

Department of Employment and Workplace Relations | Supporting women to achieve VET-based careers. (November 2023)

Submission:

Independent Review of Operation of the Regional Investment Corporation.

The NRWC ran a survey as part of its engagement on this topic. (January 2024)

Submission:

Joint Standing Committee on the NDIS Inquiry into the NDIS participant experience in rural, regional and remote Australia. The NRWC held a focus of group to listen to RRR women's experiences of the NDIS and included their voices in the submission. (February 2024)

Submission:

Early Childhood Education and Care – Productivity Commission Inquiry into the Sector. This report was produced in conjunction with Isolated Children Parents Association. (February 2024)

Submission:

National Skills Passport. (February 2024)

To read the submissions:

www.nrwc.com.au/resources/position-papers/submissions

Young Rural Regional & Remote Advocacy Panel (YRRRAP)

The YRRRAP are women 18-30 years that volunteer with NRWC to share their experiences, opinions and issues that impact young women in the work of the NRWC

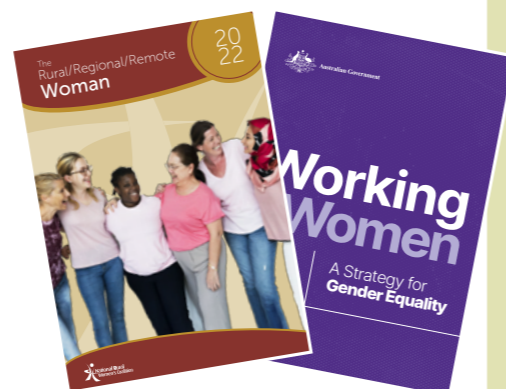
Young women's voices were included in the 'How to Achieve Gender Equality in RRR':

- Carolina Merriman is a young single mother and is involved in the ag sector in NSW. Carolina also attended the Agrifutures Rural Women of the Year Awards with the NRWC in September 2023.
- Elise Ramsey is a young single woman currently undertaking her PhD at Charles Sturt University. Elise was charged with writing the report of the Roundtable on 'How to Achieve Gender Equality in RRR' and also attend the Agrifutures Rural Women of the Year Awards with the NRWC

The NRWC is currently promoting for new members to join this group. For more information or to apply check out: www.nrwc.com.au/get-involved/young-rural-regional-and-remote-women-s-advocacy-panel-yrrrap

What Rural Women Want Survey

The Survey has more than 80 questions and is rich in quantitative and qualitative data. The survey was started in 2014 and was repeated in 2018-2019 and again in June 2023 with the report finalised in December 2023. Information from the data provided is used to direct the work of the NRWC, to understand the priorities of RRR women and to bring their voices to our work. This means it is shared and incorporated in to work provided to the Rural Health Commissioner, and the National Women's Health Advisory Council, the Regional Investment Corporation Submission, the two education submission and the stats are share with federal politicians and the Office for Women. We thank all the women that took the time to complete the survey. **The Report can be found on our website.**



Commission on the Status of Women (CSW68)

written by
Jo Stewart-Ratray



After a three-year journey, the NRWC has been granted its United Nationals Economic and Social Committee (ECOSOC) accreditation which allows civil society participation in the work of the UN and to participate fully in the UN System.

In previous years the NRWC has had to rely upon the auspice of other Australian ECOSOC accredited bodies for our delegates to have full access to the UN compound and the associated activities conducted there.

NRWC may now act on its own behalf in relation to civil society consultations and workshops. This has not been a trivial exercise and has been a huge step forward.

10,500 people attended CSW68, and 192 member states were represented. Further, 9 Heads of State; 101 Ministers and 21 Vice/Deputy Ministers represented their countries. Australia's Minister for Women, the Honourable Katy Gallagher headed the official Australian Government Delegation.

Independent Director, Jo Stewart-Ratray and CEO, Keli McDonald attended a range of side events run by member state governments, including those of Australia, and parallel events which are run by civil

society organisations. They took part in the Secretary-General's Town Hall session gleaning particularly pertinent information relating to RRR women. Additionally, they were invited to attend a session of the General Assembly to hear the country representations of many of the member states.

Meetings were held with the Mary Wooldridge who is CEO of the Workplace Gender Equality Agency and Sex Discrimination Commissioner Anna Cody.

The learnings from the sessions attended and meeting held are already being localised and are informing the work of the NRWC.



LEFT: Jo Stewart-Ratray & Keli McDonald attending a meeting at the UN.
RIGHT: Jo Stewart-Ratray at the UN.





MUSTER Women, March 2024, Canberra.

MUSTER

The National Rural Women's Coalition Rural Women's Leadership & Advocacy MUSTER was held from September 2023 to March 2024 with the Canberra residential from 15–19 October 2023.

There are 8 MUSTER participants this year – the program reflected the broad diversity and intersections of rural life including two participants identifying as First Nations Women and 4 working in the First Nations space, one woman identifying as LGBTIQ+ and one woman from a migrant background, there was also diversity in age, occupation and geographical location.

The Program was delivered in hybrid format with webinars before and after the five-day residential in Canberra. The residential element covered Leadership/ Governance/ Media/Advocacy/ Federal Political System/ Community Project work training.

MUSTER participants met with:

- Office for Women – Megan Leahy, the First Assistant Secretary of Office for Women – The Role of the OFW and the Gender Equality Strategy
- Professor Kim Rubenstein
- Honourable Katy Gallagher – Minister for Women
- Dr Anne Webster MP
- Katheryn Bernie - NWSA
- David Littleproud MP
- Isabelle Byrnes – Minister Rowland's Office
- Emma McBride MP
- Linda Burnie MP
- Senator James Patterson
- Hon Melissa Price – Member for Durak
- Hon Bob Katter MP
- Hon Andrew Gee MP
- Sex Discrimination Commissioner, Dr Anna Cody

As part of the MUSTER residential program the women took part in: a smoking ceremony and welcome at the Aboriginal Tent Embassy, a guided tour of old Parliament House, question time at new Parliament House, a tour of the ABC studio & a visit to the Australian War Memorial.

Each of the MUSTER women undertook a project to complete in their community on a volunteer basis to strengthen rural women's leadership, five projects were completed in the areas of women's safety, women's wellbeing and increasing women's knowledge in governance to assist community groups.



RIGHT: MUSTER 2023-2024 participants enjoying various activities.

Projects

YRRRAP Young Rural Regional Remote Advocacy Panel

The National Rural Women's Coalition's Young Rural, Regional and Remote Women's Advocacy panel (YRRRAP) is a volunteer group of women with members from each State and Territory between the ages of 18 and 30. The YRRRAP work on projects that are important to RRR young Australian women and provide grassroots advice on emerging RRR issues to the NRWC Secretariate and Board. Meeting monthly the group provides young women's perspectives to the work and advocacy of the National Rural Women's Coalition and supports communications and advocacy initiatives.

The YRRRAP is provided with leadership opportunities through the work of the NRWC. This is a dynamic group and suits women with a strong commitment to thriving rural, regional and remote communities.



Natalie Eckert
VICTORIA



Laura Rutherford
QUEENSLAND



Caroline Merriman
NEW SOUTH WALES



Louise Hobbs
VICTORIA



Jessica Ryan
NEW SOUTH WALES



Ashleigh Reynolds
TASMANIA



Sara Makeham
WESTERN AUSTRALIA



Nicola DiBona
NEW SOUTH WALES



Dayna Duncan
NORTHERN TERRITORY



Simone-Maree Hyde
NEW SOUTH WALES

Projects

Member Organisation Consultations

August 2023

- NRWC Director Jo Stewart Rattray attended and spoke at the Australian Local Government Women's Association conference

September 2023

- NRWC attended the Australian Women in Agriculture – members networking meeting in Canberra.
- NRWC members met in a virtual format as part of the How to Achieve Gender Equality in Rural Regional & Remote Australia

November 2023

- NRWC held their Annual General Meeting of the NRWC Member Organisations.

Leonie Noble, after nine years of service to the NRWC Board, retired and Cr Jan Clifford become the new President with Vice President Jo Stewart Rattray (Independent), Treasurer Jacqueline Brotherton (TWAL),

Company Secretary Natalie Sommerville (AWiA) other Directors are Nicole O'Reilly (NRHA), Karen Holder (WiSA), Dr Melanie Bournnell (Independent), & Wendy Hick (Independent)

April 2024

- The NRWC held its annual strategic planning workshop in Adelaide. The workshops session was facilitated by Meredith Turnbull from Meredith Turnbull Consulting. All member organisations and the independent directors attended.
- The NRWC assisted the National Rural Health Alliance as part of the review of submitted abstracts for their Annual conference.
- The NRWC attended the Transport Women's Australia Limited Annual Conference and spoke on a panel discussing the Working for Women - Gender Equality Strategy; women in the workforce; trucks as the lifeline to RRR communities (including food security); acknowledging the donations and volunteerism of the trucking industry during the eastern states drought; discussed the issues of poor roads and safety; and the importance of ensuring the diesel rebate stays available to the transport industry.

International Engagement

Commission on the Status of Women – CSW67

The National Rural Women's Coalition became ECOSOC accredited in the 2023–2024 year. A webinar was held in December 2023 in conjunction with National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women's Alliance (NATSIWA) on the role of a civil society Australian Government Delegate – this was produced to assist Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island and RRR identifying women in applying for the position. The Webinar called 'Demystifying CSW' – on our website – was hosted by NATSIWA's Wendy Anders and NRWC's Keli McDonald in tandem and had past government civil society delegates Carole Shaw and Kaylee Anderson as paid presenters. This was a 60minute webinar and included opportunities for Q&A.

NRWC promoted the Civil Society Australian Delegate positions and received 6 applications. A recruitment process was carried out with two names put forward to the OFW.

The National Rural Women's Coalition participated in the Pre – departure brief. This is an opportunity to share knowledge, understand the issues in a domestic and international setting and to meet and hear from the Government delegates.



A rare photo with Mum by Amanda Michael

The National Rural Women's Coalition provided significant feedback to the Office for Women International Team on the Zero Report and maintained open and continuous communications throughout the CSW negotiation process on the issues important to rural, regional and remote women over a number of thematic areas.

Further contributions to the Agreed Conclusions reports were made through the consolidated report Equality Rights Alliance provide to OFW through the tight timelines.

NRWC Director, Vice President Jo Stewart Rattray (self-funded) and CEO Keli McDonald attended CSW in New York – Please see CSW Report.

The NRWC has a WhatsApp group of interested CSW volunteers who shared their knowledge during the 10 days and, where able, to stay in touch with issues through Jo and Keli in real time.

Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)

The NRWC is submitting a report to CEDAW responds to the issues raised in Australia's List of Issues Prior to Reporting (LOIPR). As part of the preparation for this report the NRWC sent a delegate to Rockhampton to attend the Recommendation 39 Review meeting that was convened by Professor Sandra Creamer. The NRWC Report has been researched and written by Claire Tatyzo and Megan Johnson.

The NRWC Report in October 2024 will be incorporated into a Shadow Report with the other five National Women's Alliance Reports.

Top: Keli McDonald With Sex Discrimination Commissioner Dr Anna Cody and Jo Stewart Rattray

LEFT: National Women's Alliances meeting with Minister for Women, Senator Katy Gallagher

RIGHT: Carolina Merriman from the NRWC YRRRAP and Vice President Jo Stewart Rattray.



LEFT: Jacqueline Brotherton opening the Transport Women Australia Limited Conference.



Communications

The National Rural Women's Coalition continues to find ways to reach more rural, regional and remote women. We have a strong focus on Facebook and added a LinkedIn page to support communications.

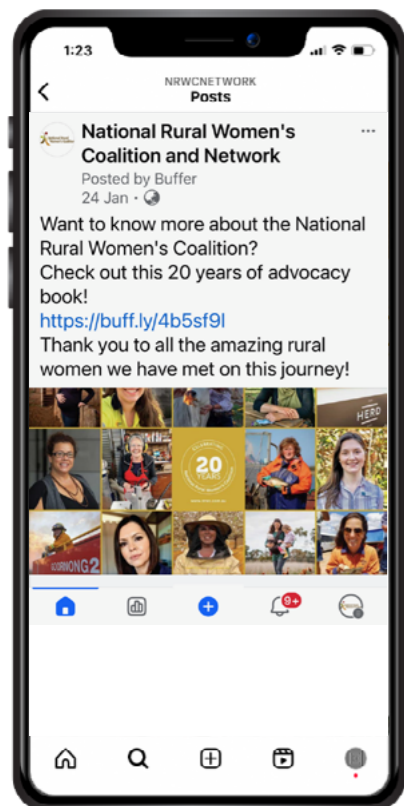
In late 2024 it is our ambition to engage the services of a communications and engagement specialist. The social platforms support the work of the National Women's Alliances, researchers and NETWORK and provide a broad range of issues for rural, regional and remote women's consumption. We love your feedback and thank those that take to time to follow us, engage with a comment or like our posts.

 18,283 followers

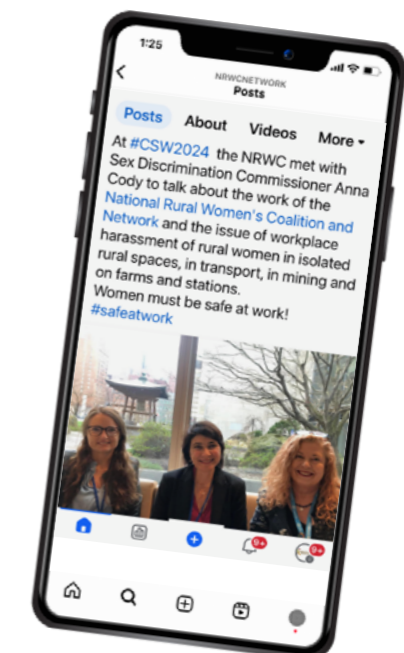
 783 followers

 2775 followers

 278 connections



Samples of social media posts



Member Organisations



AUSTRALIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

With branches in every state and territory in Australia, the national board is a collaborative body comprised of membership from each of the state branches, and seeks to strengthen networking, mentoring and innovative opportunities that encourage and support women in local government.

The aim of the association is to:

- Assist in furthering women's knowledge and understanding of the functions of Local Government
- Encourage women to participate in Local Government
- Encourage women to make a career from Local Government
- Protect the interests and rights of women in Local Government
- Take action in relation to any subject or activity affecting Local Government and Local Government legislation
- Act in an advisory capacity to intending women candidates for Local Government elections

www.algwa.net.au



AUSTRALIAN WOMEN IN AGRICULTURE

Australian Women in Agriculture Ltd (AWiA) is a national organisation for women involved or interested in all aspects of primary production, from the farm to the classroom, extension, research, marketing, decision-making and industry bodies.

AWiA was established in 1993 as a support network for women. With no "branch" structure, members meet through informal local groups, at General Meetings, the Annual Conference, through the email Forum and over the phone. The nationally representative Board of Management deals with organisational matters.

www.awia.org.au



NATIONAL RURAL HEALTH ALLIANCE

The National Rural Health Alliance (NRHA) comprises 52 national organisations committed to improving the health and wellbeing of the 7 million people in rural and remote Australia. Their diverse membership includes representation from the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health sector, health professional organisations, health service providers, health educators and students, as well as consumer groups. Well rounded representation of the rural health sector gives us a united voice to government as we work to achieve 'healthy and sustainable rural, regional and remote communities'.

www.ruralhealth.org.au



WOMEN IN SEAFOOD AUSTRALASIA

Women in Seafood Australasia is the only national organisation in Australia representing the interests of women involved or associated with the Australian seafood industry. Women in Seafood Australasia aims to recognise and enhance the skills of seafood women; develop effective partnerships with government agencies and other industry stakeholders and provide community education on all aspects of the seafood industry. Women in Seafood Australasia works with regional development task forces, peak fishing industry bodies, research providers, industry development boards, and associations and rural affairs units. We have developed partnerships with Commonwealth/ State/ Territory government and peak industry bodies and associations and other national women's organisations. Seafood women of Women in Seafood Australasia are also making their presence felt with their input into government plans and policies at state and national levels. WINSC is a vital link for industry and government to work as one and move the seafood industry of Australia forward into an international producer, harvesting and producing safe, quality seafood products.

www.womeninseafood.org.au



TRANSPORT WOMEN AUSTRALIA LIMITED

Transport Women Australia Limited was formed in 1999 by an enthusiastic group of women involved in various capacities in the Road Transport Industry.

These women shared a common view that women in all modes of the transport industry could benefit from a national independent organisation that focused on the support of women and the concept of dealing with industry issues from the perspective of women.

The organisation is now the leading group representing women in the transport industry and has formed relationships with many other like minded groups on both a National and International level.

Our members are from a diverse range of backgrounds and cover all modes of transport – road, rail, maritime and air

www.transportwomen.com.au

Independent Directors



JO STEWART-RATTRAY
MEdStud(Psych), CISA, CISM, CGEIT, CRISC, FACS CP(Cyber)

Jo Stewart-Ratray is from Auburn, South Australia. Jo has over 25 years' experience in the Technology field some of which were spent as CIO in the Utilities and Tourism arenas, and 19 in the Information Security arena. She underpins her technology and cyber security background with her qualifications in education and management. She specialises in consulting in strategic technology issues with a particular emphasis on governance in both the commercial and operational areas of businesses. Jo provides strategic advice to organisations across several industry sectors including banking and finance, utilities, manufacturing, tertiary education, retail and government.



WENDY HICK

Wendy Hick lives with her family on a remote cattle property at the bottom of the Gulf of Carpentaria near the Queensland-Northern Territory border town of Camooweal. A director in her family's beef grazing enterprise, Wendy has also been involved in local and wider community groups for over twenty-five years. Access to education and improved communication services in rural and remote Australia have been focuses for Wendy, and she is dedicated to ensuring communities and families in geographically isolated areas have a voice. Wendy is currently the Independent Chair of the Regional, Rural and Remote Communications Coalition and Chair of the Agforce Qld Telecommunications and Social Policy Working Group.



DR MELANIE BOURSNELL, GAICD

Dr. Bournnell is a distinguished governance expert with extensive experience as a senior executive, serving as an Independent Director of the National Rural Women's Coalition (NRWC) from 2023-24. She is the Chair of the NSW Ministerial Council for Carers and chairs the Governance Committee as a Non-Executive Director at Campbell Page, reflecting her strong commitment to driving impactful, transformative change. Additionally, Dr. Bournnell holds Non-Executive Director roles at VERTO Ltd and Fairhaven. With a PhD, MSocHlth, PgDPH, and BA, Dr. Bournnell brings a wealth of leadership experience across the NSW Government and private sectors. Her governance expertise spans health, community services and education. She has consistently led initiatives that foster organisational excellence, drive quality improvement, and champion equity in learning, particularly through the integration of innovative technologies. A highly skilled leader, Dr. Bournnell excels in navigating complex, rapidly changing environments, and is recognised for her ability to inspire and build high-performing teams. Her extensive experience in government enables her to build meaningful relationships and approach her leadership with a sharp focus on achieving strategic goals and advancing organisational sustainability.

National Rural Women's Coalition FINANCIAL STATEMENTS For the Year Ended 30 June 2024

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National Rural Women's Coalition Limited Directors' report 30 June 2024

The directors present their report, together with the financial statements, on the company for the year ended 30 June 2024.

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:

- Natalie Sommerville
- Jan Clifford
- Nicole O'Reilly
- Jacqueline Brotherton
- Jo Stewart Rattray
- Melanie Bournnell (Appointed in Nov 2023)
- Wendy Hick (Appointed in Nov 2023)
- Leonie Noble (Resigned in Nov 2023)

Objectives

The objective of the company are as follows:

- represent the diverse views of women in rural, remote and regional Australia;
- provide advice to the Australian Government on policy issues relevant to the views and circumstances of rural women; and
- contribute to building a positive profile of rural women, their achievements and issues.

Principal activities

During the financial year the principal continuing activities of the company consisted of:

- To provide a collaborative national voice for women living in rural, regional and remote Australia.

There were no significant changes in the nature of the company's principal activities during the financial year.

Performance measures

The surplus of the company for the financial year amounted to \$33,810 (2023: deficit \$20,861).

Dividends paid or recommended

No dividends were paid or declared since the start of the financial year. No recommendation is made as to dividends.

Indemnifying Officers or Auditor

No indemnities have been given or insurance premiums paid, during or since the end of the financial year, for any person who is or has been an officer or auditor of the company.

Contributions on winding up

In the event of the company being wound up, each member is required to contribute a maximum of \$2 each towards meeting the costs and obligations of the company.

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

Signed by:

04D9A3D831FB5B8F

Jan Clifford
Director - OAM

21 October 2024

Signed by:

68258FE435C81340

Jacqueline Brotherton
Director - Treasurer

Auditor's Independence Declaration

Lead Auditor's Independence Declaration Under Section 307c of The Corporations Act 2001

To: The Directors of National Rural Women's Coalition Limited

In accordance with Section 307C of the Corporations Act 2001, we are pleased to provide the following declaration of independence.

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2024 there have been no contraventions of:

- the auditor independence requirements as set out in the *Corporations Act 2001* in relation to the audit; and
- Any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

Auditeo Australia Pty Ltd
Authorised Audit Company

Signed by:

6D5A37C24238765F

Didarul Khan CA
Director

Dated 21 October 2024

SYDNEY

National Rural Women's Coalition Limited
Statement of profit or loss - NRWC management
30 June 2024

NRWC Management

	2024 \$	2023 \$
Income		
Interest received	1,251	1,114
Brave Danny Books	143	150
Management Fees	-	300
Miscellaneous Income	13,000	10,102
	<u>14,394</u>	<u>11,666</u>
Expenses		
Accommodation/ taxi/ airfares	664	115
Wages & Salaries	300	(900)
Stipends	(9,600)	(6,750)
Superannuation	(1,040)	(803)
Other expenses	(185)	-
	<u>(9,861)</u>	<u>(8,338)</u>
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	<u>4,533</u>	<u>3,328</u>
Retained Surpluses/(Deficit)		
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	4,533	3,328
Retained Surpluses at the beginning of the year	111,672	108,344
Retained Surpluses at the end of the year	<u>116,205</u>	<u>111,672</u>

Auditeo

ABN 31 629 880 691

admin@auditeo.com.au 

www.auditeo.com.au 

L32 200 George Street Sydney NSW 2000 

Office for Women

	2024 \$	2023 \$
Income		
Funding	305,913	312,740
Miscellaneous Income	982	-
	<u>306,895</u>	<u>312,740</u>
Expenses		
Accountancy	(2,750)	(3,500)
Accommodation	(24,693)	(25,390)
Administration Officer	(68,785)	(71,169)
Advertising, Promotion & Marketing	(599)	(991)
Airfares	(25,071)	(21,438)
Auditors Remuneration - Fees	(2,950)	(5,980)
Bank Charges	(157)	(150)
Chief Executive Officer	(118,866)	(102,914)
Comms, Networking & Reach	(5,023)	(4,013)
Coordinators/Facilitators	(13,427)	(21,497)
Design & Development	(5,772)	(6,990)
Gratuity	(839)	(387)
Insurance	(4,340)	(4,240)
Legal Costs	(361)	(1,681)
MYOB	(1,273)	(1,103)
Parking	(626)	(394)
Printing, Stationery, Postage & Freight	(7,963)	(6,708)
Project Management	-	(5,530)
Registration	(3,600)	(5,211)
Staff Amenities	(123)	-
Telephone	(1,659)	(2,852)
Taxi/Meals	(11,986)	(19,114)
Venue Hire	(4,653)	(6,739)
Web	(3,102)	(2,747)
	<u>(308,618)</u>	<u>(320,738)</u>
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	<u>(1,723)</u>	<u>(7,998)</u>
Retained Surpluses/(Deficit)		
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	(1,723)	(7,998)
Retained Surpluses at the beginning of the year	8,887	16,885
Retained Surpluses at the end of the year	<u>7,164</u>	<u>8,887</u>

CEDAW

	2024 \$	2023 \$
Income		
Miscellaneous Income	100,000	-
Expenses		
Coordinators/ Facilitators	(69,000)	-
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	<u>31,000</u>	<u>-</u>
Retained Surpluses/(Deficit)		
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	31,000	-
Retained Surpluses at the beginning of the year	-	-
Retained Surpluses at the end of the year	<u>31,000</u>	<u>-</u>

National Rural Women's Coalition Limited
Statement of financial position
30 June 2024

	Note	2024 \$	2023 \$
Assets			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	3	170,604	140,208
Trade and other receivables	4	10,363	8,777
Total current assets		<u>180,967</u>	<u>148,985</u>
Total assets		<u>180,967</u>	<u>148,985</u>
Liabilities			
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	5	9,900	331
Accrued expenses		4,500	15,897
Accrued wrap up funds	6	10,000	10,000
Total current liabilities		<u>24,400</u>	<u>26,228</u>
Total liabilities		<u>24,400</u>	<u>26,228</u>
Net assets		<u>156,567</u>	<u>122,757</u>
Equity			
Retained surpluses	7	<u>156,567</u>	<u>122,757</u>
Total equity		<u>156,567</u>	<u>122,757</u>

The above statement of financial position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes

National Rural Women's Coalition Limited
Statement of changes in equity
30 June 2024

	Retained Surpluses \$	Total equity \$
Balance at 1 July 2022	144,593	144,593
Deficit for the year	(20,861)	(20,861)
Other comprehensive income for the year	-	-
Total comprehensive income for the year	(20,861)	(20,861)
Write-off FRRR Tackling Tougher Times	(282)	(282)
Write-off OFW Intl Engagement Funding	(693)	(693)
Balance at 30 June 2023	<u>122,757</u>	<u>122,757</u>
	Retained Surpluses \$	Total equity \$
Balance at 1 July 2023	122,757	122,757
Surplus for the year	33,810	33,810
Other comprehensive income for the year	-	-
Total comprehensive income for the year	33,810	33,810
Balance at 30 June 2024	<u>156,567</u>	<u>156,567</u>

The above statement of financial position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes

	Note	2024 \$	2023 \$
Cash flows from operating activities			
Receipts from customers		418,452	330,074
Payments to suppliers and employees		<u>(388,056)</u>	<u>(332,498)</u>
Net cash from/(used in) operating activities	9	<u>30,396</u>	<u>(2,424)</u>
Net cash from investing activities		-	-
Net cash from financing activities		-	-
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		30,396	(2,424)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year		<u>140,208</u>	<u>142,632</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year	3	<u><u>170,604</u></u>	<u><u>140,208</u></u>

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

Note 1. General information

The financial statements cover National Rural Women's Coalition Limited as an individual entity. The financial statements are presented in Australian dollars, which is National Rural Women's Coalition Limited's functional and presentation currency.

National Rural Women's Coalition Limited is a not-for-profit company limited by guarantee, incorporated and domiciled in Australia. Its registered office and principal place of business are:

PO Box 474 Gunnedah NSW 2380

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

The financial statements were authorised for issue, in accordance with a resolution of directors, on 21 Oct 2024. The directors have the power to amend and reissue the financial statements.

Note 2. Material accounting policy information

The accounting policies that are material to the company are set out either in the respective notes or below. The accounting policies adopted are consistent with those of the previous financial year, unless otherwise stated.

New or amended Accounting Standards and Interpretations adopted

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

Any new or amended Accounting Standards or Interpretations that are not yet mandatory have not been early adopted.

Basis of preparation

In the directors' opinion, the company is not a reporting entity because there are no users dependent on general purpose financial statements.

These are special purpose financial statements that have been prepared for the purposes of complying with the Corporations Act 2001 requirements to prepare and distribute financial statements to the members of National Rural Women's Coalition Limited. The directors have determined that the accounting policies adopted are appropriate to meet the needs of the members of National Rural Women's Coalition Limited.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the recognition and measurement requirements specified by the Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board ('AASB') and the disclosure requirements of AASB 101 'Presentation of Financial Statements', AASB 107 'Statement of Cash Flows', AASB 108 'Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors', AASB 1048 'Interpretation of Standards' and AASB 1054 'Australian Additional Disclosures', as appropriate for not-for profit oriented entities.

Historical cost convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Revenue recognition

The company recognises revenue as follows:

Revenue from contracts with customers

Revenue is recognised at an 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.

Note 2. Material accounting policy information (continued)

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.

Grants

Grant revenue is recognised in profit or loss when the company satisfies the performance obligations stated within the funding agreements.

Interest

Interest revenue is recognised as interest accrues using the effective interest method. This is a method of calculating the amortised cost of a financial asset and allocating the interest income over the relevant period using the effective interest rate, which is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash receipts through the expected life of the financial asset to the net carrying amount of the financial asset.

Other revenue

Other revenue is recognised when it is received or when the right to receive payment is established.

Income tax

As the company is a charitable institution in terms of subsection 50-5 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997, as amended, it is exempt from paying income tax.

Current and non-current classification

Assets and liabilities are presented in the statement of financial position based on current and non-current classification.

An asset is classified as current when: it is either expected to be realised or intended to be sold or consumed in the company's normal operating cycle; it is held primarily for the purpose of trading; it is expected to be realised within 12 months after the reporting period; or the asset is cash or cash equivalent unless restricted from being exchanged or used to settle a liability for at least 12 months after the reporting period. All other assets are classified as non-current.

A liability is classified as current when: it is either expected to be settled in the company's normal operating cycle; it is held primarily for the purpose of trading; it is due to be settled within 12 months after the reporting period; or there is no unconditional right to defer the settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after the reporting period. All other liabilities are classified as non-current.

Goods and Services Tax ('GST') and other similar taxes

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of associated GST, unless the GST incurred is not recoverable from the tax authority. In this case it is recognised as part of the cost of the acquisition of the asset or as part of the expense.

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the tax authority is included in other receivables or other payables in the statement of financial position.

Cash flows are presented on a gross basis. The GST components of cash flows arising from investing or financing activities which are recoverable from, or payable to the tax authority, are presented as operating cash flows.

Commitments and contingencies are disclosed net of the amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the tax authority.

Note 3. Cash and cash equivalents

	2024 \$	2023 \$
CBA (561)	998	6,167
CBA Management Account 1	118,432	122,319
CBA Management Account 2	49,749	10,049
Debit Credit card	1,425	1,673
	<u>170,604</u>	<u>140,208</u>

Accounting policy for cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents includes cash on hand, deposits held at call with financial institutions, other short-term, highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value.

Note 4. Trade and other receivables

	2024 \$	2023 \$
Trade debtor	-	344
GST Refundable	10,363	8,433
	<u>10,363</u>	<u>8,777</u>

Accounting policy for trade and other receivables

Trade receivables are initially recognised at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any allowance for expected credit losses. Trade receivables are generally due for settlement within 30 days.

The company has applied the simplified approach to measuring expected credit losses, which uses a lifetime expected loss allowance. To measure the expected credit losses, trade receivables have been grouped based on days overdue.

Other receivables are recognised at amortised cost, less any allowance for expected credit losses.

Note 5. Trade and other payables

	2024 \$	2023 \$
Trade payables	9,900	-
Payroll accrual payable	-	331
	<u>9,900</u>	<u>331</u>

Accounting policy for trade and other payables

These amounts represent liabilities for goods and services provided to the company prior to the end of the financial year and which are unpaid. Due to their short-term nature they are measured at amortised cost and are not discounted. The amounts are unsecured and are usually paid within 30 days of recognition.

Note 6. Accrued wrap up funds

	2024 \$	2023 \$
Wrap up funds	<u>10,000</u>	<u>10,000</u>

Note 6. Accrued wrap up funds (continued)

Accounting policy for wrap up funds

The company, being reliant on government grants for its operations, has established a Wrap-Up Fund as a contingency plan. This fund is intended to cover essential operating expenses in the event that government funding is not renewed or is delayed.

The Wrap-Up Fund ensures the company can continue operating for a short period while seeking alternative funding or preparing to wind up operations if additional grants cannot be secured.

Note 7. Retained surpluses

	NRWC Management \$	Office of Women \$	Women's Pathway Program \$	CEDAW \$	Total \$
Opening balance as on 1 July 2023	111,672	8,887	2,198	-	122,757
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	4,533	(1,723)	-	31,000	33,810
Closing balance as on 30 June 2024	<u>116,205</u>	<u>7,164</u>	<u>2,198</u>	<u>31,000</u>	<u>156,567</u>

Note 8. Events after the reporting period

No matter or circumstance has arisen since 30 June 2024 that has significantly affected, or may significantly affect the company's operations, the results of those operations, or the company's state of affairs in future financial years.

Note 9. Reconciliation of surplus/(deficit) to net cash from/(used in) operating activities

	2024 \$	2023 \$
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	33,810	(20,861)
Change in operating assets and liabilities:		
(Increase)/ decrease in trade and other receivables	(1,586)	5,806
Increase/ (decrease) in trade and other payables	(1,828)	12,631
Net cash from/(used in) operating activities	<u>30,396</u>	<u>(2,424)</u>

In the directors' opinion:

- the company is not a reporting entity because there are no users dependent on general purpose financial statements. Accordingly, as described in note 2 to the financial statements, the attached special purpose financial statements have been prepared for the purposes of complying with the Corporations Act 2001 requirements to prepare and distribute financial statements to the members of National Rural Women's Coalition Limited;
- the attached financial statements and notes comply with the Corporations Act 2001, the Accounting Standards as described in note 2 to the financial statements, the Corporations Regulations 2001 and other mandatory professional reporting requirements;
- the attached financial statements and notes give a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 30 June 2024 and of its performance for the financial year ended on that date; and
- there are reasonable grounds to believe that the company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of directors made pursuant to section 295(5)(a) of the Corporations Act 2001.

On behalf of the directors

Signed by:

04D9A3D831FB5B8F

Jan Clifford
Director - OAM

21 October 2024

Signed by:

68258FE435C81340

Jacqueline Brotherton
Director - Treasurer

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of National Rural Women's Coalition Limited

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of National Rural Women's Coalition Limited (the Entity), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 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, 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 Entity for the year ended 30 June 2024 is prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the applicable accounting standards described in Note 2.

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 Entity 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 – Basis of Accounting and Restriction on Distribution

We draw attention to Note 2 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared to assist the Entity to meet the requirements of the applicable legislation. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

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

The Directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Entity's annual report for the year ended 30 June 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.

Auditeo

ABN 31 629 880 691

admin@auditeo.com.au 

www.auditeo.com.au 

L32 200 George Street Sydney NSW 2000 

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of National Rural Women's Coalition Limited

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Report

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with the financial reporting requirements of the applicable legislation and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial report, management is responsible for assessing the Entity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Entity or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so. Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Entity's financial reporting process.

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 independent auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial report is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at: <http://www.auasb.gov.au/Home.aspx>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Auditeo Australia Pty Ltd Authorised Audit Company

Signed by:

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Didarul Khan CA
Director

Dated 21 October 2024

SYDNEY

www.nrwc.com.au