

# SCARLET ALLIANCE ANNUAL REPORT 2022-23



Australian  
Sex Workers  
Association

THE SCARLET ALLIANCE OFFICE IS HELD ON THE UNCEDED  
LAND OF THE GADIGAL PEOPLE OF THE EORA NATION. ALWAYS  
WAS, ALWAYS WILL BE ABORIGINAL LAND.

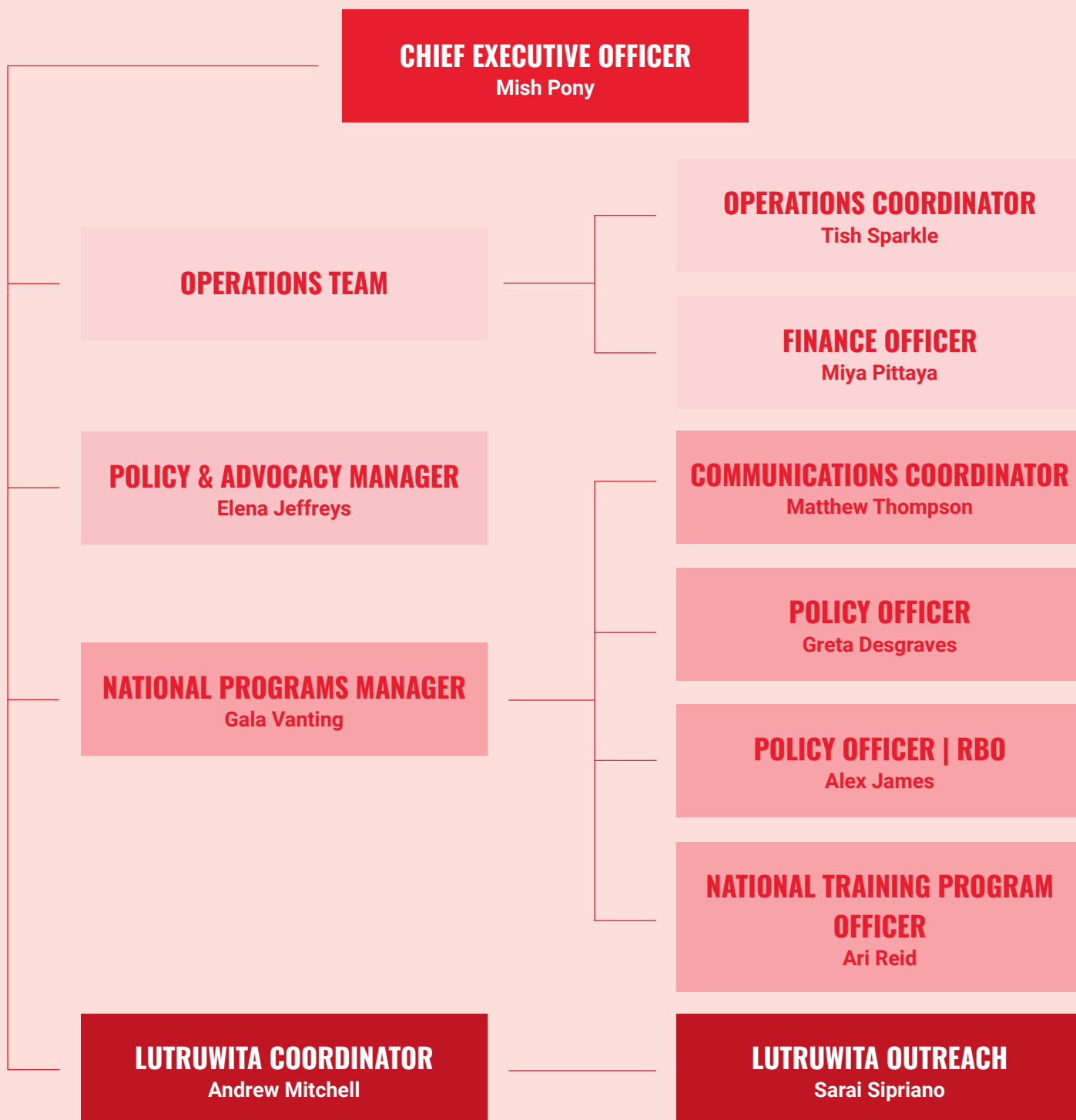
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# OUR TEAM

as of June 2023



# OUR MEMBERS



The Scarlet Alliance membership consists of member organisations (100% peer), associate member organisations (less than 100% peer), and individual sex workers across unceded Australia. All agree to uphold the objectives of Scarlet Alliance and abide by our constitution.

## VOTING MEMBER ORGANISATIONS



## NON-VOTING ASSOCIATE MEMBER ORGANISATIONS



## INDIVIDUAL VOTING SEX WORKER MEMBERS

# CEO REPORT

*by Mish Pony*

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This year we farewelled Jules Kim, Scarlet Alliance's Chief Executive Officer since 2016, and Migration Project Manager prior to that since 2009. Jules' leadership maintained the strength of the organisation during times of tremendous change for sex workers and the national response to HIV. I thank her for her leadership, commitment, passion and guidance.

I also thank the Scarlet Alliance Committee for the opportunity they've given me, and their continued support and guidance, and extend that to our membership who inspire me daily for their ongoing commitment to sex worker community organising.

In late 2022 we celebrated the successful campaign to include sex work and sex worker as protected attributes in NT. This is a world first in providing explicit anti-discrimination protections for sex workers and is testament to the hard work and advocacy of SWOP NT and NT sex workers.

My tenure as CEO has been dominated by the damaging impacts of Operation INGLENOK and the Nixon Review on Asian migrant sex worker communities; both of which were formed in response to unfounded and sensationalist media reporting in late 2022.

Our lobbying and advocacy in this space is led by our Asian Migrant Sex Worker Advisory Group, in collaboration with our Policy and Advocacy Manager, Elena Jeffeys.

**"I also thank the Scarlet Alliance Committee for the opportunity they've given me, and their continued support and guidance, and extend that to our membership who inspire me daily for their ongoing commitment to sex worker community organising."**

Whilst we have had some notable successes in this space, specifically the Government's rejection of banning temporary migrants from working in the sex industry, we are still fighting hard to ensure that migration and anti-trafficking policies are rights-based, and recognise and support the autonomy of migrant sex workers.

Scarlet Alliance has maintained an extremely high level of engagement with federal parliamentarians this year, engaging with Senators, Members and Ministers across a range of portfolios to ensure that the impacts of legislation and policies on sex workers are understood and taken into account.



Prior to her departure, Jules was successful in ensuring I was appointed to the HIV Taskforce which was established by the Minister for Health to examine opportunities to eliminate HIV transmission in Australia and provide advice to the Australian Government. A final report from the HIV Taskforce is due for release by the end of 2023. Coinciding with this are the upcoming national STI and BBV strategies, which are still waiting on finalisation and release. As always, Scarlet Alliance is committed to ensuring that the successful and world-leading peer response by sex workers is recognised, resourced and is not sidelined in favour of non-peer and biomedical interventions.

In commencing my role, one of the committee's priorities for me was to engage in a systematic review and improvement of policies, procedures and systems. To this end Scarlet Alliance has launched a new suite of policies and procedures, and extensive systems change. I thank all the staff and committee members for their patience with these extensive changes, and for navigating the unavoidable bumps in the road. Scarlet Alliance staff and committee members have also been engaging in reflection on our commitment to our values, and how we implement them in all our work. I thank all our staff for their contributions to Scarlet Alliance that are included through this Annual Report, and to all the work that goes undocumented; but not unseen. This year we farewelled communications officer Lola Li, national programs manager Gala Vanting, and policy officer Claudia. They all brought so much to Scarlet Alliance and I wish them all the best in their future endeavours.



One of the biggest setbacks in 2022/23 was the rejection of our grant application that sought to re-fund the Migration Project. The continued lack of dedicated national resourcing for Asian migrant sex workers means that our capacity in this space remains stretched, and over-reliant on Asian migrant peer educators taking time away from their front-line roles. We will continue to fight for resourcing in this space, and all areas that sex workers deserve a seat at the table for.

As I look forward to 2023/24 there is so much to be excited about: decriminalisation in Queensland, the second stage of reforms in Victoria in December 2023, advocating for anti-discrimination projections in NSW, and the continued advocacy throughout all of Australia to decriminalise sex work, and for evidence and rights based policies and legislation that impacts us as sex workers.

**I look forward to working with the Scarlet Alliance team and our members in 2023/24 as we continue to fight to advance sex worker rights for all sex workers.**



# PRESIDENT REPORT

*by Acting President, Jenna Love*

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## CONTENT WARNING | DEATH AND MURDER OF PEERS

This Committee was led passionately and diligently into 2023 by Bec. Bec and I were elected to the board at the same time in late 2019, and it was clear to me almost immediately that their skills for governance, diplomacy, and frankly, operating in “normal” workplaces far outweighed mine. Of course, the benefits of working as part of a team are that we all contribute our own skills and experiences, and we all learn from each other and grow together.

In my four years on the Scarlet Alliance Committee, I’ve seen that the above isn’t just a platitude, it describes exactly what we do here. I’d never experienced this kind of teamwork before: the generosity, compassion, and love that work can be undertaken with. And yet, when Bec made it clear that they would be stepping down from the role after I had been acting as a placeholder temporarily, I was terrified. It wasn’t that I didn’t want to take on the job, but how could I? The presidents I had seen since beginning my involvement with the association, Gala, Fox, Tia, and Bec (many of whom I know also took on the role with reluctance and trepidation), were all so capable. They were all the kind of people I saw as fit to lead in this space. I did not see myself as such. Knowing I had the support of my fellow committee members and doubles: Sienna, Tia, Estelle, Riley, Laney, and Amber; and our Chief Executive Officer Mish, however, I took on the role.

I was proud to march with my peers and our allies for the Scarlet Alliance and SWOP NSW Mardi Gras float during Sydney WorldPride in February. I had marched before, but this year I happened to be right up the front of our group, and was able to see the faces of the crowd all along the parade route as they read our ‘NO BAD WHORES JUST BAD LAWS’ sign. In previous years I assumed the crowd was so

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**“I suspect there is DNA from my knee skin still embedded on Oxford Street. Which seems appropriate. And is probably a good metaphor for any kind of advocacy.”**



supportive because they were high on life, on pride, and on a variety of other substances, but I saw it ticking over in their brains and I saw their faces turning to this warm, welcoming, joyful delight as they realised who we were. I was so proud to be a part of leading our float. And then I fell. Twice. I suspect there is DNA from my knee skin still embedded on Oxford Street. Which seems appropriate. And is probably a good metaphor for any kind of advocacy.

I was honoured to represent Scarlet Alliance at the Australian Women’s Leadership Symposium in August, after having been awarded a scholarship to attend. I had just recently, as a part of my SANTP training, read ‘Being Out as Scarlet Alliance President’, a piece penned by former President Elena Jeffreys, and her words were clear in my head all day long, “identity is our weapon”, “even when the words leave your mouth, you can tell when it doesn’t quite reach their brain”, and “being explicitly out is the role of the Scarlet Alliance President”. Emboldened by her words, we weren’t half an hour into the day when I took the opportunity to announce to the room that I was a sex worker and that we weren’t going to be left behind in conversations about women and gender-diverse people. I don’t know if they were planning to leave us behind, after all they were paying for me to be there, but that was the moment I felt the imposter syndrome start to fade away and I thought maybe I am fit to lead in this space.

I also received a scholarship as a part of the Australian Institute of Company Directors 2023 Disability Leadership Program to partake in the renowned Governance Foundations for Not-for-

**“When I look back on this term, it’s clear that 2023 was punctuated for me by grief, an emotion not at all new to our community.”**

Profit Directors Course. My course dates have been allocated for February 2024, so I am looking forward to continuing my governance journey and being able to share my learnings with the incoming Committee.

When I look back on this term, it’s clear that 2023 was punctuated for me by grief, an emotion not at all new to our community.

Firstly the sentencing of Jingai Zhang’s

murderer on a downgraded charge of manslaughter, and then his being paroled in July after serving just two and a half years, and then the sentencing of Kimberley McCrae’s murderer on the lesser charge of manslaughter was a reminder and a compounding of the ongoing grief we all share. The fact that both “rough sex” and “trans-panic” defences were used, and were successful, in 2023, on this land, was a disturbing reminder of how far we have to go.

The grief was there when we lost Rubi Valentine in January, it resurfaced again when we lost Bella Green in July, and I’ve no doubt there were others that I didn’t have the fortune of connecting with. Rubi and Bella were people that I looked up to, and that I drew strength from. They were not only sex workers, they were leaders too. They were activists on the front line, they ventured into the lion’s den of the media, and they had their own — at times — complicated relationships with community.

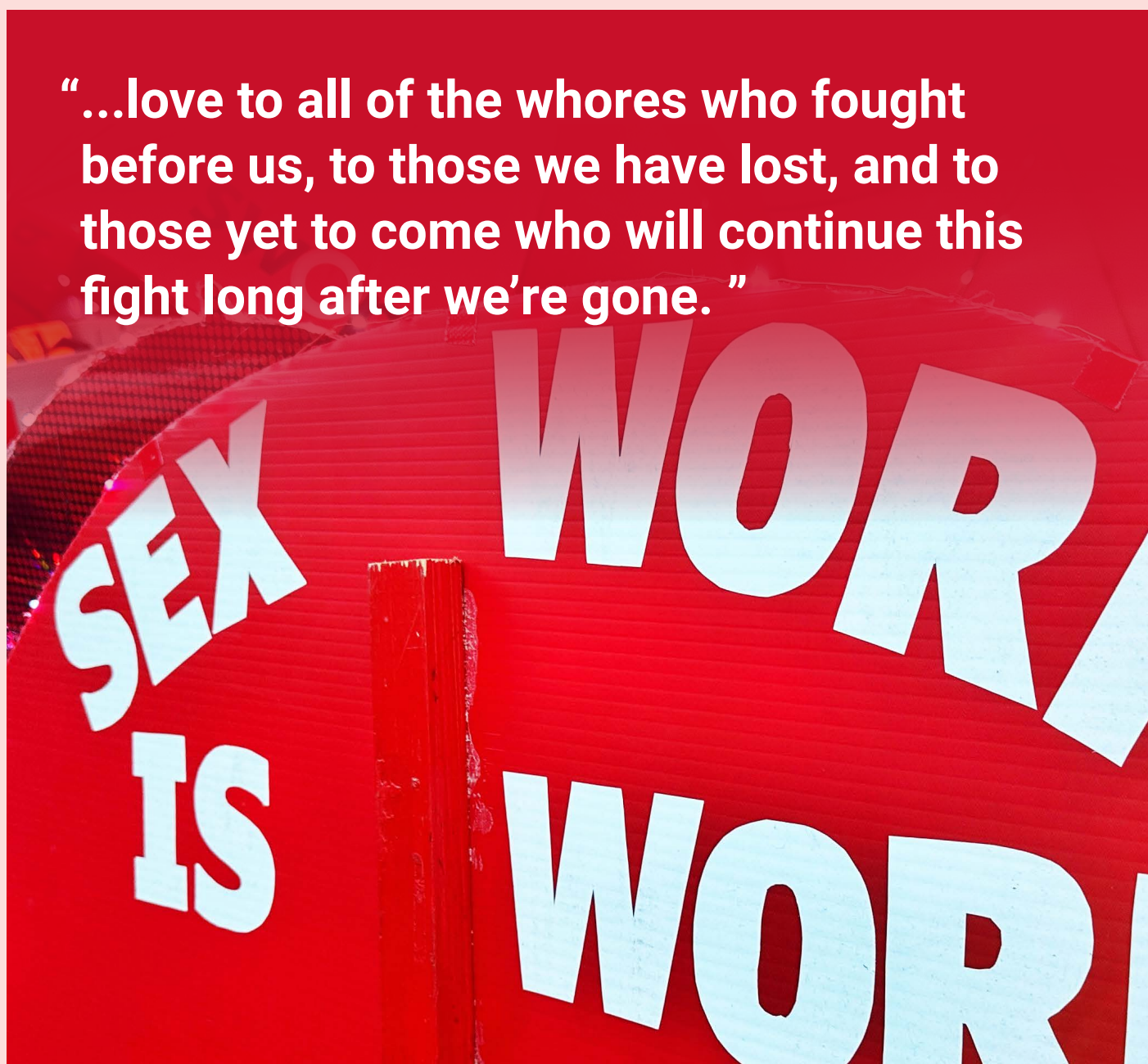
The news of Bella’s passing coincided with our mid-term face-to-face meeting. My memory is that the first person to break the silence that came after the initial gasps was Gala Vanting. She said “It never gets easier, does it?” And she’s right. And it never will. But as I sat in a room full of Scarlet Alliance Committee and staff members I was struck by just how much love was in the room. It’s a love that we can so easily forget when bogged down on where the comma needs to go in a new policy document, or if that’s the exact right word that encapsulates what we are trying to say in a government submission, or if that particular shade of red is too “corporate looking”. But it’s a love that comes from shared experience, and shared trauma. It’s a love of recognition, of seeing and understanding one another. It’s a love of whoreness, if that’s a word. Because we’re all whores here. And, along with all of the intersectionalities we experience within and alongside that, no one else shares that bond.

**“... a love of recognition, seeing and understanding one another. It’s a love of whoreness...”**

While we continue to fight this war that sometimes feels unwinnable, we must always remember that. We have to extend that love to all of the whores who fought before us, to those we have lost, and to those yet to come who will continue this fight long after we're gone.

Most importantly though, we have to remember to love one another, and ourselves. We're here because we're compassionate people, because we care deeply about human rights, equity, and justice, and I truly believe that is one of our greatest strengths. If we lose the compassion within our movement, they win, and if it is my job to lead (alongside the many other leaders in our community), then I want to lead with love, and I hope I have done so.

**"...love to all of the whores who fought before us, to those we have lost, and to those yet to come who will continue this fight long after we're gone. "**



# COMMITTEE REPORT

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There have been a lot of big changes within Scarlet Alliance this term, with Jules Kim stepping down as Chief Executive Officer and moving on to undertake the role of Global Coordinator for the Global Network of Sex Worker Projects. Stepping up to replace her has been, Mish Pony. Mish has been with Scarlet Alliance in a range of positions since 2009 across administration, SANTP and representative positions. They have been absolutely knocking it out of the park since being appointed, as we knew they would, and it's been a real joy to work with them this year. We again wish to say a massive thank you to Jules for her years of service to the organisation and the broader sex worker rights movement, and wish her all the best for her future endeavours.

We also had a fair amount of movement between Committee roles this term, with the biggest change being Bec retiring from the Presidency and Committee after four years of dedicated, passionate service through some incredibly challenging times. Jenna has done an incredible job as Acting President, generously offering herself, her expertise and her experience in service of our work. In addition we have seen Laney appointed secretary, and Riley appointed as a general member.

Along with welcoming Mish to the Chief Executive Officer role, we also welcomed Elena Jeffreys as our Policy and Advocacy Manager, while Greta Desgraves moved from casual to part-time Policy Officer, and Matthew Thompson was appointed Communications Coordinator from his previous position of Social Media Officer. We farewelled Communications Officer, Lola Li, National Programs Manager, Gala Vanting, and Policy

Officer, Claudia. We would like to thank them for their invaluable contributions. Furthermore, the Committee extends our gratitude to our continuing staff members for their tireless efforts. We are incredibly grateful for all of their efforts, much of which goes unseen by the community.

**“... the committee extends our gratitude to continuing staff members for their tireless efforts.”**



**“... meaningful step in cultivating an organisation where everyone feels valued and supported in their respective roles to work together to positively shape our work.”**

In 2022 the committee made the decision, based on strong feedback from community over a number of years, to use the Roberta Perkins bequest fund to hire a research consultant to create a set of best practice guidelines around ethical sex worker research. This position will create clear documentation based on robust community consultation to assist sex workers and sex worker organisations in making decisions around participation in research, as well as guidelines for researchers to follow. We look forward to the successful candidate beginning in late 2023.

In March, the Committee undertook

comprehensive governance training with an independent trainer, which, in addition to providing general governance information and upskilling our newer Committee members, was also valuable in supporting us in refining our respective duties and streamlining our systems. Annual governance training is an ongoing commitment to ensure we are operating with the best and most up-to-date governance information available.

The Risk and Audit Sub-Committee that was established last term is still meeting monthly in order to take a proactive approach to risk management and financial controls. Each August they meet with the independent auditor to discuss the upcoming audit and revisit any recommendations made in the previous year's management report. This year, a key piece was to continue re-developing the suite of financial policies and procedures that Mish was leading, which have since been completed.

One of the most meaningful pieces of work the Committee was involved with this term was an independent cultural review process designed to reflect on the strengths of our organisation and where we could yet improve. This process gave us critical insights into ways that we could build upon the strong foundations of the organisation to ensure that our values and sustainability remain central to all of our work. An outcome of the cultural review process was to bring the staff and Committee together for a day of reflection, team building, and values work led by an external trainer and valued community member, Queenie, with a relaxed dinner together afterwards. This is but one meaningful step in cultivating an organisation where everyone feels valued and supported in their respective roles to work together to positively shape our work.

Scarlet Alliance continues to auspice Vixen and support them through capacity development in progressing to become an independent funded organisation. In January Vixen moved into their new home that they share with Harm Reduction Victoria, and we're excited to see what they do with their new office space going forward and how it can be utilised by the Victorian sex worker community.

A number of Committee members join their monthly Vixen Transition Committee meetings to support them with capacity building and skill sharing. We have enjoyed working with them towards the shared goal of them becoming an independent organisation.

This year we welcomed some new staff members to Vixen: Lena Van Hale as Operations Manager, and Ruth Dahl as Trans and Gender Diverse Project Worker. We would like to thank the whole team at Vixen for their commitment to peer sex worker organising and being a part of Vixen's new chapter as the Victorian funded peer organisation.

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and Asian Migrant sex worker advisory groups have continued to meet and provide valuable input and guidance to Scarlet Alliance. We thank the members for their work and generosity in sharing their experiences with the community this year.

We were pleased to re-credential associate member Magenta, along with members SIN and SWOP NT this term. In a previous term, the committee identified the need for an updated credentialing tool, and we have been developing a consultation process to be undertaken with our member organisations to guide this development process in the near future.

In April of 2023 an announcement was made by the Queensland Attorney-General, Hon. Shannon Fentiman, that the Queensland Government will decriminalise sex work in the state. While the Queensland Law Reform Commission report has some areas of concern, DecrimQLD and Respect Inc are staunchly continuing the campaign for a true full decriminalisation model. We congratulate both of these organisations, as well as all individual sex workers who have contributed to this momentous decision, for their enduring work.

**We look forward to welcoming any new committee members and doubles at the Annual General Meeting, and working together with the membership to advance sex worker rights nationwide.**



# POLICY AND ADVOCACY

*by Elena Jeffreys and Greta Desgraves*

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Sex workers and politicians alike all benefited this year from Scarlet Alliance's policy, advocacy and activism. Countless hours of our attention was spent assessing proposed new laws and regulations, consulting with our community and then communicating arising concerns to the government. We have certainly been kept busy, here are the highlights.

## **BIG TECH, FINANCIAL PLATFORMS AND ENSURING OUR DIGITAL RIGHTS**

There were very few wins in digital rights for sex workers this year but the scrapped proposed online age verification regulations are cause for celebration, with thanks to our former National Program Manager, Gala Vanting.

Our submission to the Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre (AUSTRAC) on banking industry guidance on 'higher-risk' customers yielded results for sex workers by making visible the problem of 'de-banking' and starting an overdue conversation about unfair risk-profiling of sex workers.

## **SEX WORK DECRIMINALISATION**

Sex work decriminalisation remains the priority in every state and territory: implementation in Victoria and Northern Territory, legislation on the horizon in Queensland, positioning for campaigns in Western Australia and Tasmania, resisting the 'Swedish Model' in South Australia and New South Wales still fighting for full decriminalisation.

Together with Vixen, we are working on the fair and transparent implementation of decriminalisation. This includes ensuring relevant information is disseminated in an accessible and effective manner to all workers, clear access to new protections and obvious methods of raising complaints where breaches of worker rights arise.

From the 1st of December 2023 local councils will no longer be legally allowed to discriminate against sex work businesses and sex workers, in addition occupational health and safety guidance will be activated.

These reforms are the result of decades of tireless activism by so many in the broader community. We wish to pay tribute to them and thank them as we move forward towards greater equality.

After years of tireless campaigning led by Respect Inc and DecrimQLD, we welcomed the commitment from the Queensland Government to decriminalise sex work, including repealing the failed licensing system and ending the criminal laws that force sex workers to choose between working legally or safely.



We remain vigilant as the new legislation is introduced into parliament, especially given we do not have confirmation on whether it will deliver full decriminalisation for all workers. We continue to have concerns it may include new criminal laws that will be detrimental to the health, rights and safety of sex workers in the state. Working to implement full decriminalisation will continue to be a focus for our team going forward.

## **ANTI-DISCRIMINATION, STIGMA AND VILIFICATION**

While the Northern Territory is now a beacon for sex worker rights after the joint submission we worked on in collaboration with SWOP NT and local sex workers helped secure world first anti-discrimination protections; in other jurisdictions the campaigning continues.

At the time of publication, the Queensland anti-vilification and updated anti-discrimination laws, both essential to decriminalisation, were still unclear. Meanwhile in New South Wales Parliament, sex worker anti-discrimination protections were tabled once again and consultation has begun after the 2020 private members bill lapsed.

We contributed to the national Mental Health Commission consulted for a National Stigma and

Discrimination Reduction Strategy. Additionally, the noted rise of violent fascist tactics against trans and queer community, anti-trans rhetoric and whorephobic vilification, globally and locally, make our campaigns more meaningful than ever before.

## DISABILITY

Sex workers with disabilities from across the country generously participated in robust consultation to inform the Scarlet Alliance report for the Disability Royal Commission. We want to thank everyone who contributed their expertise and experiences to help shape the submission, whether that be participating in a consultation session or simply filling out a survey.

As well as the full report *Experiences of Sex Workers with Disability in Australia*, we produced a summary report that is available on our website.

## CONSENT (AFFIRMATIVE CONSENT, STEALTHING AND NON-PAYMENT) AND FAMILY VIOLENCE (NON-FATAL STRANGULATION AND COERCIVE CONTROL)

Reform of laws around family violence and sexual consent is underway in every jurisdiction nationally and generally include affirmative consent models, non-payment (obtaining sex by fraud) and stealthing (non-consensual condom removal). We continue to advocate that:



Sexual assault is a crime in any setting, rape is not a Workplace Health and Safety risk, assault in the workplace is as serious for sex workers as it is for any worker.



Reforms should reduce barriers to justice for sex workers who have experienced violence at work or outside of work.



Re-criminalisation of sex workers living with HIV and other BBVs/STIs in the new laws is unacceptable and must be avoided.



Sex workers have sophisticated skills, understanding and ability to implement sexual consent in the workplace, we draw on a long history of practice and are the experts in this field.

Alongside our member organisations we are engaged in processes to review consent laws in New South Wales (2018- 2021), Queensland (2021-2022), Victoria (2020-2021), Tasmania (2021-2022),

the Australian Capital Territory (2021- 2022), the Northern Territory (ongoing) and Western Australia. In addition we have put sex worker expertise on the record for the Commonwealth review and endorsed a submission with the HIV/AIDS Legal Centre (HALC) and the National Association of People with HIV Australia (NAPWA).

## **FIGHTING FOR ASIAN MIGRANT SEX WORKER HUMAN RIGHTS**

Nationally there are two competing policy approaches to address migrant worker human rights. The approach we support, is to expand the visa options for migrant sex workers, promote safe and accessible migration for all workers, prioritise migrant worker access to industrial rights agencies (such as Fair Work and local WHS regulators), establish a firewall between Fair Work and Department of Home Affairs so that migrant workers can report workplace exploitation without fear of visa-related repercussions, and fund peer education for and by migrant worker communities.

Despite strong evidence that our approach increases the health and wellbeing outcomes for migrant sex workers and reduces harm, the approach taken by the federal government currently is to expand trafficking and modern slavery penalties so that more migrant workers experiencing lesser types of workplace exploitation could potentially raise a case with the Australian Federal Police. The United States Trafficking In Persons' report recommends this and Border Force raids on migrant sex worker workplaces and the proposals by Christine Nixon fit with this approach.

Harms created by this approach are well known. For instance we know that Asian migrant sex workers are more likely to miss out on the benefits of decriminalisation and that HIV and STI prevention efforts are undermined by law enforcement activities.

Asian Migrant Sex Worker Advisory Group (AMSWAG) members report “Asian migrant workers, residents and citizens are caught up in raids, traumatised, standing in the workplace in lingerie for two hours or more, sometimes partially naked while questioned, not permitted to use the phone or have a friend present while Border Force isolate workers into different rooms on the premises,”

**“Asian migrant workers are more likely to miss out on the benefits of decriminalisation...”**

that “there is loss of income to the workplace and individuals as the location is closed for hours during the raid and clients avoid the location for fear of arrest” and that there is a frightening “impact on family and child care when sex workers are held on site for questioning and cannot make contact with loved ones.

## ASIAN MIGRANT SEX WORKER ADVISORY GROUP (AMSWAG)

Despite receiving no funding since 2018, the Asian Migrant Sex Worker Advisory Group (AMSWAG) regularly brings crucial expertise and leadership to inform our strategic decisions and policy, speak to media, attend conferences, apply for funding, meet with politicians and advocate for sex worker rights.

AMSWAG members include Asian migrant sex worker peer educators who field human rights, housing and immigration questions from Asian migrant sex workers every day, make referrals to services, offer legal support and assistance during crisis, organise community-building social events and conduct outreach, all in sex workers' preferred languages. Members are also individual Asian migrant sex workers, current and former, whose life experience sparks ongoing concern about sex worker human rights, legal issues and anti-trafficking policies in Australia.



The lack of funding for AMSWAG is a key problem for Asian migrant sex worker health, safety and human rights. As one member stated, “you can’t expect lots of eggs without healthy chickens.” A newly launched fundraiser for AMSWAG will inject much needed funds to keep the group meeting but sex workers need more: we need a national project to lead advocacy, translation, peer education and representation of Asian migrant sex workers.

## MEDIA, RAIDS AND MIGRATION REFORM IN 2023

Secretly obtained non-consensual videos, still images, text messages and audio of migrant sex workers went to air in late 2022 on mainstream media paired with a racist story about purported sex slavery. Almost immediately Border Force presence within migrant sex worker workplaces began causing negative impacts resulting in an unknown number of on-shore detention and deportations.

A ‘closed’ review led by ex-Police Commissioner Christine Nixon prompted fears for the rights of migrant sex workers such as bans on undertaking sex work. On International Whores Day,



sex worker leaders from across the globe came together to discuss the racist targeting of Asian migrant sex workers in Australia, New Zealand and Canada.

Alongside this clandestine media-driven enforcement and policy activity a series of formal transparent political processes were also taking place. Working backwards; Labor introduced two recommendations from a 2019 'Migrant Workers Taskforce' into Parliament in July, finalised a 'Review of the Migration System' that drew our attention in May, undertook a 'Targeted Review into Trafficking and Modern Slavery Offences' which received our submission in March, the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families received our submission in September last year, in August 2022 the government avoided evaluating Modern Slavery regulations and we responded by educating supporters on the negative impacts of modern slavery policies.

## 2022-23 | SUBMISSIONS



**Joint submission with SWOP NT and SWRG to the NT Department of the Attorney-General and Justice** on the Anti-Discrimination Amendment Bill 2022 (NT) Exposure Draft (22 Aug 2022).



**Experiences of sex workers with disability in Australia** - Report for the Australian Disability Royal Commission (18 Dec 2022).



**Submission to the Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families** on Draft General Comment No. 6 (2022) - Convergence of the Convention and the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (12 Sep 2022).



**Submission to AUSTRAC** on the Consultation on the Draft Guidance for banking services for 'higher risk' customers (13 Jan 2023).



**Submission to the Mental Health Commission** on the Draft National Stigma and Discrimination Reduction Strategy (1 Feb 2023).



**Submission to the Attorney General's Department** Review of the Modern Slavery Act 2018 (13 Dec 2022).



**Scarlet Alliance and Respect Inc Joint Submission** on the Criminal Code (Serious Vilification and Hate Crimes) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2023 Consultation Draft (14 Mar 2023).





**Submission to the Attorney-General's Department** targeted review of trafficking, slavery and slavery-like offences in Divisions 270 and 271 of the Commonwealth Criminal Code Act 1995 (24 Mar 2023).



**Submission to the Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee** on the Inquiry into Current and proposed sexual consent laws in Australia (30 March 2023)



**Scarlet Alliance and Respect Inc Joint Submission to the Legal Affairs and Safety Committee** on the Criminal Code (Serious Vilification and Hate Crimes) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2023 (16 May 2023).

**“... in August 2022 the government avoided evaluating Modern Slavery regulations and we responded by educating supporters on the negative impacts of modern slavery policies.”**



# NATIONAL PROGRAMS

*by Katia Schwartz, Alex James, Ari Reid and Matthew Thompson*

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During the 2022-23 period, Gala, our National Programs Manager led the team to produce and disseminate valuable resources for sex worker health, peer education training and policy work. As we reflect on our accomplishments over the past year, the National Programs team, consisting of Alex, Ari, Matthew and Greta has much to celebrate. Our National Programs work involves the following initiatives:



**The Red Book Online** | A central hub, offering sexual health resources created by and for sex workers.



**The Scarlet Alliance National Training Program (SANTP)** | Comprehensive training for peer educators within the sex worker community, enabling them to deliver a nationally recognised standard of peer education.



**The Communications Project** | A pivotal role in disseminating Scarlet Alliance's work to the sex worker community and allies.

As reflected in the Policy and Advocacy report, the National Programs work also encompasses;



**The Policy Project** | Consults and articulates our policy positions through submissions, papers and resources.

## THE RED BOOK ONLINE

Our Red Book Policy Officer, Alex, and Communications Coordinator, Matthew, orchestrated the ongoing effort to update the Red Book Online in 2022-23. This period was characterised by a considerable shift in the project's primary focus, transitioning from content to design and taking the ongoing “glow-up” to the next level. This involved rewriting, updating, creating, and translating over thirty pages of fresh website content.

Our unwavering commitment to keeping sex workers at the forefront of the Red Book Online was the guiding principle as we approached the redesign process. We conducted consultation sessions with various stakeholders, including the sex worker community, SANTP participants, Asian Migrant Sex Worker Advisory Group (AMSWAG), and peer outreach workers from member organisations.

During consultations, it was highlighted that Red Book Online was needed to provide quick access to client symptom images, accurate plain language information on harm reduction, and non-judgmental advice for informed decision making. Red Book was emphasised as an important foundational resource for new workers and peers, with mobile optimisation, improved accessibility, translated content and an appealing design. The consultation has resulted in a clear and coherent vision, placing emphasis on usability, accessibility and aesthetics.

Our efforts culminated with successfully launching the Clapback and Work Bag print resource at the 2022 Scarlet Alliance National Forum. These innovative resources have been translated into Simplified Chinese, Thai, Korean, and Vietnamese. They are a significant deliverable for the Clapback project, which aims to reduce rates of chlamydia and gonorrhoea among sex workers across the country.

As we approach the focus testing stage of Red Book Online, our commitment to community consultation remains strong. We look forward to continuing this journey with our community's support and collaboration, ensuring Red Book Online adapts to the evolving needs of all sex workers.



## THE SCARLET ALLIANCE NATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAM

Our National Training Program Officer Ari, continued the facilitation of SANTP in the period of 2022-23. Building on past efforts, we experimented with various delivery methods to enhance the learning experience. The introduction of group learning sessions proved to be the most effective. Starting in 2023, we scheduled guest speakers and community leaders from the sex worker community to share their expertise during monthly group sessions. Each month, these informative sessions drew approximately four to ten participants. In addition, SANTP has also facilitated module delivery to member organisations and provided training to both SWOP NSW and Vixen staff throughout the year.

This financial year, we also revamped our learning platform and implemented new strategies to maximise capability, foster engagement and facilitate an online learning community. We also updated the 'Community Development', 'Anti-Trafficking Policy and Sex Work', and 'Peer Education' modules. These updates included new audiovisual resources featuring the voices of sex workers affected by the issues, sharing their expertise exclusively for the training.

The support of 'The Friends of SANTP' group, comprised of representatives from sex worker organisations and individual sex workers, played a key role in guiding and reviewing the updated materials. Additionally, we conducted consultations with Scarlet Alliance members, including AMSWAG and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sex Worker Advisory Group (ASTSISWAG), as well as other community members with expertise in the specific module topics.

**“...we scheduled guest speakers and community leaders from the sex worker community to share their expertise during monthly group sessions.”**

Twenty new participants joined the program in 2022-23. After completing each module, learners submitted evaluations, with a total of thirty one feedback forms received across the nine modules during this period. Impressively, 93% of all responses indicated increased knowledge and understanding. Furthermore, all respondents expressed appreciation for enhanced learning support, program updates and the value of group learning sessions in supporting their education.



## THE COMMUNICATIONS PROJECT

The last twelve months has seen us devoting significant time to developing our communications strategy - and we're already seeing the results. Our strategy not only approaches communications on a reactive basis, but also with an overarching messaging framework and dissemination plan. Over the past year our audiences on social media have grown exponentially, not just in followers but also in engagement.



On **Instagram** our posts have reached 466,177 unique accounts, up a giant 501% from this time last year. We've also seen our followers increase exponentially up 127% from the twelve months proceeding.



**Twitter** has also delivered strong results with 781,662 impressions of our tweets, up 26%, and our followers increasing by 165%.



**Facebook** has seen a 5% increase in our followers and 126,459 overall impressions.

These results demonstrate the strength of our approach taken with communications to create fresh, exciting and informative content that speaks to and for our community with a unique blend of activism, health and legal information.

While these results are promising and take us confidently into 2023-24, we are also aware that we need to diversify the way we connect with our audiences due to the historically hostile nature of social media platforms to sex workers. This is particularly evident with the direction Twitter has taken as a platform since it was purchased by a new owner. As such, this year saw the setup of a Scarlet Alliance Mailchimp to enable us to talk directly to supporters, members and community via EDM. While this is still in preliminary stages, the initial results are promising with above industry average open and click-through rates.

Finally, we were thrilled to launch our new website earlier this year. This was a mammoth undertaking and we'd like to thank our former National Programs Manager, Gala, the former Communications Officer, Lola, and the IT support team who saw this project all the way from inception to completion.

# The year 2022-23 continued a significant chapter for National Programs, characterised by a profound spirit of collaboration and transformation.

We amped up our community engagement and drew upon the diverse talents of the National Programs Team. We are full of appreciation for the peer outreach workers, member organisations and advisory groups who have supported our work this year. Additionally, we thank all the incredible peer translators who worked closely with our dedicated IT support team who have made our work accessible to a wider range of sex workers. We extend our gratitude to all those who dedicated their time, expertise, and energy to help shape the blueprint for this year's monumental undertaking.

As the year closes, we express our thanks to Gala who handed her role to myself, Katia in July 2023. Gala's leadership, commitment to the sex worker rights movement and dedication to Scarlet Alliance is reflected through the immense work produced in 2022-23.





# LUTRUWITA PROJECT

*by Andrew Mitchell and Sarai Sipriano*

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Despite funding restrictions in 2022-23, the lutruwita Sex Worker Project successfully continued to provide support services, undertake outreach, build community and advocate for decriminalisation and anti-discrimination protections for sex workers in lutruwita.

## COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Over the past year, we've continued to build upon the foundations laid by our current and former outreach workers. Further easing of COVID-19 restrictions also meant we have been able to do more face-to-face work with local sex workers.

Since the levels of engagement from local and fly-in fly-out workers remains robust and consistent, we focused our outreach efforts on marginalised sex worker communities, and more isolated and vulnerable workers. To build rapport with these communities, we utilised strategies such as translators to prioritise an individual's comfort and safety. In response to this, we've experienced an influx of marginalised workers reaching out for support when dealing with police, immigration and discrimination.

We had two successful events catered to local workers, both taking place in June. The first was a gathering to celebrate International Whores' Day. The event was well attended and an opportunity for sex workers to network and build community. The second was a training hosted by Touching Base. This training has greatly benefited both our local sex worker community, disabled sex workers and the wider disabled community.

## ADVOCACY

"If you're not at the table, you're on the menu", a concept attributed to many advocates and politicians since the 1990s is a philosophy we have applied to our advocacy work this year. We attended several meetings with politicians to advocate the acknowledgement of our work and to discuss the current laws in lutruwita.

In an effort to ensure we are not overlooked in decision making, we have gained “seats at the table” on the Tasmanian\* Health Senate, where we are currently debating the future of virtual healthcare in lutruwita; and the Department of Justice’s Gender Respect and Fairness Reference Group, where we are working on a raft of policy. Particular interest to us is the working group we are participating in that is reviewing the Family Violence Act (2004) in order to make recommendations for potential reform or systemic changes in response to it.

Our Project Coordinator, Andrew, also remains a member of the Tasmanian\* Suicide Prevention Community Network and will soon be stepping up to co-chair the Tasmanian\* Sexual and Reproductive Health Working Group, establishing ourselves as a strong presence in the sector.

**“We continue to assist mainstream service providers to grow in sex worker awareness.”**

## **GROWING AWARENESS**

We continue to assist mainstream service providers to grow in sex worker awareness. In addition to providing training for professionals in the mental health space, we’ve also established connections with sexual assault response services, women’s legal service, the needle and syringe program and the alcohol and other drugs sector. They have all highly valued our education and ongoing advice around our work and around the harmful impacts of stigma and discrimination.

A highlight of our awareness campaigning this year was receiving an invitation to participate in a panel at the Women’s Legal Service conference. We were involved with discussions around workplace sexual harassment and violence, and addressed many questions, and raise awareness of our sector and the systemically imposed barriers that keep sex workers from reporting.

**\* WE HAVE USED TASMANIA(N) IN THE CONTEXT OF IT BEING THE TITLE OF THE GROUP (ETC), AND DO NOT ACCEPT IT AS THE RIGHTFUL NAME OF LUTRUWITA.**

# **MEMBER ORGANISATION REPORTS**

# RESPECT INC.

## Queensland



Respect continues to provide peer education and support to our sex worker community across Queensland via our three offices in Meanjin (Brisbane), Gimuy (Cairns) and Yugambeh (Gold Coast). This year we have added chair lifts to our Meanjin and Yugambeh offices to increase access to our drop-in spaces and enhance workplace safety.

A current primary focus is succession planning for both our Management Committee and State Coordinator. We have added secondary peer educators to our Yugambeh and Gimuy offices, and recruited four casual employees in our Meanjin office. Respect also passed our mid-term quality assurance accreditation with great feedback about our work.



We proudly delivered sex worker sensitivity training to 18 different services including police, mental health, alcohol and other drugs services, doctors and nurses across the state. In addition to this, we created a new working with male and trans masc sex workers' resource for peer educators, and published the results of our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander survey.

The work of the #DecrimQLD committee has paid off with the Queensland Law Reform Commission report recommending the end of licensing and abolition of the Prostitution Licensing Authority and a government commitment to present the decriminalisation Bill to parliament before the end of 2023. As a first step police covert powers (including entrapment) and move-one notices have been repealed. We continue to attend multiple events to promote decriminalisation and had an amazing turn out of peers and allies for our Labour Day event, where we were invited to be at the front of the 2023 parade. We also had a stall at the International AIDS Society conference and took over the stage to protest for decriminalisation and sex worker rights with sex workers from Kenya and Uganda.

***Thank you to everyone who contributed over the year to our work.***



During the 2022/2023 financial year our organisation and the broader sex worker community in South Australia, faced ongoing barriers. Our state continues to be the only jurisdiction nationally still working under the full criminalisation of the sex industry, which leads to poorer health and safety outcomes for our community locally. We have continued throughout the year to offer best practice service delivery to sex workers through outreach, advocacy, education, and information sharing both face-to-face and online.

Throughout the year we assessed our organisational structure and consulted with community about whether we were staying contemporary in that space. As a result, we have slightly restructured to ensure we are keeping up with the changing landscape of our community. In practice, this means that all staff are now formally recognised as peer educators, regardless of whether they are project leaders, to better acknowledge the many hats our team wears.

We hosted several successful events over the year including a sexual health focused workshop titled 'Hooker Forensics'. In addition we also hosted a 'Car Maintenance 101' event facilitated by a sex worker peer who is a qualified mechanic. This event taught community the basics of car maintenance.

We continue to embrace the ideology of "we are interested in whatever interests sex workers" and seek to offer training and education that speaks to a broad and diverse range of topics.

**"We have continued throughout the year to offer best practice service delivery to sex workers through outreach, advocacy, education, and information sharing both face-to-face and online."**

In October 2022 we were successful in securing a Red Umbrella Fund grant enabling the development of a handbook specifically for sex workers in Western Australia. This wholly peer run and led project will span over a two year period, and involves extensive and ongoing consultation with our local sex worker community; including paid peer consultation sessions and paid peer art contributions to feature in the handbook. Once launched in mid-2024, the handbook will be available in hard copy and online; with the latter serving as a legacy resource to be periodically updated beyond the life of the project.

We have continued to be involved in peer community events and happenings throughout the year:



Marching with Magenta in the **Perth Pride Parade** in November 2022.



Ongoing involvement with the **DecrimWA campaign**.



**Meetings** with members of parliament, union officials and other persons of interest.



Attending **National Cabinet of Whores** online monthly meetings.



Attending the 2022 **Scarlet Alliance National Forum**, with our President Emma and Vice President Brandy flying to Melbourne as delegates.



Participating in two **state government consultations** regarding proposed changes to sexual offence laws and the potential impact of legislative changes on sex workers.



This year we have welcomed many new staff and committee members elected at our annual general meeting in November and seen a marked increase in sex workers visiting our office post COVID.

During outreach, we visited sex work workplaces across Sydney and travelled to the Northern Rivers, Mid North Coast, the Hunter, New England, Central Coast, Illawarra, Shoalhaven, Riverina, Murrumbidgee, and Central West regions. Our peer education focused on knowledge and skill sharing, providing targeted information in response to monkeypox and syphilis as well as other STI/BBVs. Workshops and campaign topics included alcohol & drug safety, anal play, mental health, relationships, financial management, taxes, and immigration laws. We conducted many workshops in Thai and Chinese at parlours to increase reach and accessibility within our community.

Our team and Governance Committee have worked together on advocacy for sex worker anti-discrimination and vilification protections and removal of the Summary Offences Act Part Three, which criminalises some aspects of sex work. We participated in a campaign to achieve commitments in the lead up to the 2023 state election and consulted our members and the broader sex work community on the barriers sex workers experience to reporting sexual and/or domestic violence. We continue to work to improve how local councils can improve planning policies and compliance procedures.

We have also taken time to celebrate sex work and our beautiful community with a float (in partnership with Scarlet Alliance) at Sydney World Pride in March, and our Annual Hookers & Strippers Ball in honour of International Whores Day in June. Our social media content has increased, and our Aboriginal Project worker held stalls at Koori Knockout and Yabun Festival, and represented us at various NAIDOC week events.



# SWOP NT

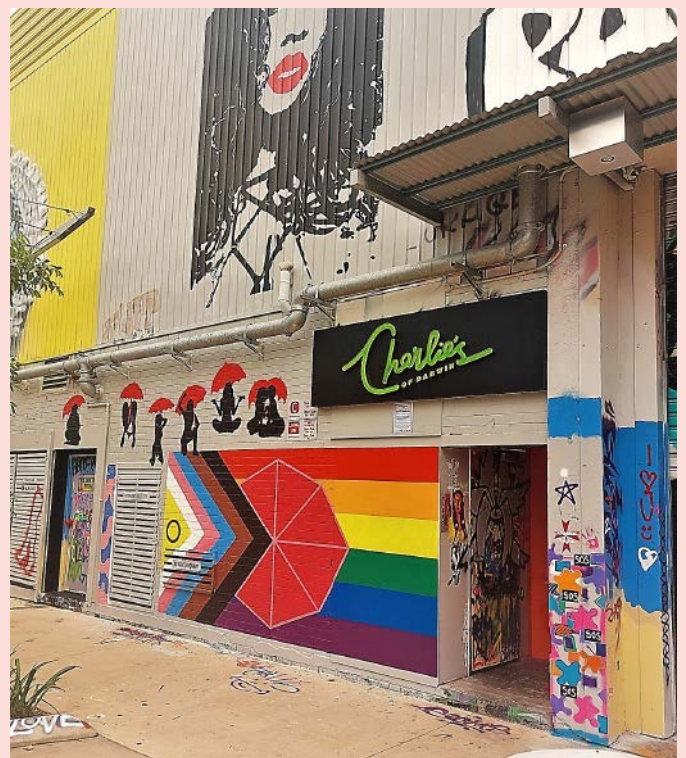
## *Northern Territory*



We continued our work this year to ensure all sex workers in the Northern Territory are connected through advocacy, peer education and support, health promotion, outreach, and broader programming for sex worker rights. We shared skills and knowledge in relation to the local laws, peer strategies and resources for work health and safety, provided access to safer sex supplies, information and sex worker friendly referrals. SWOP NT also provided ways for workers to engage in advocacy through the Sex Worker Reference Group, Scarlet Alliance membership and national forums. We provided information on how to contribute to parliamentary submissions, co-deliver presentations and represent at stakeholder meetings.

We were proud to become the first global jurisdiction to introduce and legislate specific protections for current and former sex workers in our anti-discrimination Act. We want to thank all of the tireless activists, sex workers, community organisations and others who fought for decades to achieve this.

The Northern Territory Sex Industry Work, Health and Safety Guidelines will be finalised by December 2023.





This year, the socio-political environment in Victoria has impacted sex worker communities in challenging ways. Complimenting the mainstreaming of SWERF/TERF rhetoric, mobilisations by the far-right continue to manifest. This has resulted in sex workers being doxxed, public attacks on trans people, increasing harassment of migrants, and Nazis rallying on the steps of state parliament. Asian migrant sex workers were harassed by a Victorian journalist, including the non-consensual publishing of hidden camera footage of sex workers in Victoria and Queensland. Through all of this we were on the frontline resisting these attacks on our community.

We completed our first financial year as a funded sex worker organisation. After many delays, in February 2023, we moved into our shared Brunswick office alongside Harm Reduction Victoria. The building is slowly becoming the vibrant and colourful community-owned space that Victorian sex worker and drug user communities deserve.

In recognition that our biggest asset is a mobilised and capable sex worker community, over the past 12 months, we have attempted to embed our approaches and values within all aspects of our work. This has involved focusing on the capacity building of our team and the Vixen Transition Committee.

We have facilitated over three community development events per month, including skillshares, whore-drobes, zine-making, barbeques for street-based sex workers, the Gender Blender event, and more.

On December 1, 2023, the second phase of Victoria's (partial) decriminalisation reforms take effect. Although we celebrate this, we recognise that there is still much work to undertake in ensuring that

**“...through all of this we were on the frontline resisting these attacks on our community.”**

decriminalisation is extended to all in our community, including street-based sex workers who will remain criminalised under the new system. We recognise there are a myriad of institutional and systemic issues that impact our communities, and we will continue to address these issues in our advocacy.

# **ASSOCIATE MEMBER ORGANISATION REPORTS**



During the 2022-2023 financial year, we have been busy, continuing to strongly advocate for the decriminalisation of sex work. We have attended events, created new allies and will be attending the state conference at the end of 2023.

Community education is ongoing and continues to be well received. Our team have also travelled to regional areas to visit more isolated workers. Our outreach goals have been to offer support, create new contacts and strengthen established connections.

A highlight of our year was marching in the 2022 Pride Parade. This was an amazing experience, that increases in support yearly.

Our team were also proud to present at Curtin University for forensic sexology students, and participated in a symposium with Notre Dame University for the Population and Preventative Health Medi 200 – Public Health Aspects of Sex Work.

To celebrate International Sex Worker Rights Day, we held a community meet-up where we celebrated with pizza and laughs. This is in addition to our monthly 'sex worker only' catch-ups for workers to grow their support network, share tips and tricks, and generally have a good chat and connect with community.







## REFERRALS

Our referral officers report their busiest year yet handling referral requests from clients with disability seeking disability-friendly sex workers. We look forward to publishing a range of data about our referral activities with our 2023 annual report.



## TRAINING

We've had 46 sex workers attend our PDAT workshops this year. Touching Base has also had international requests for our sex worker training, which followed on from our collaboration in NZ creating pilot workshops about supporting older people to access sex services.

Touching Base collaborated with the New Zealand Prostitutes Collective and Massey University to deliver pilot workshops in NZ for sex workers about working with older clients in aged care residences, and training for aged care staff about supporting older people to access sex services.



## LOBBYING

Touching Base made a 22 page Submission to the Joint Standing Committee on the National Disability Insurance Scheme which was published under Parliamentary privilege.

Touching Base continues to play a leading role in a national Roundtable on the NDIS and Sex Services and we have also been invited to be part of a National Disability and Sexuality experts group.



## OUR TEAM

We have welcomed several new volunteers to our team over the last year and greatly appreciate all the work they are doing. We have started having bimonthly all-in volunteer meetings to enhance our connectedness.



## NDIS

In a reply from the NDIA on behalf of Minister Shorten, they provided a clear acknowledgement that the law is - in limited circumstances - sex services may be funded under the NDIS.

We also recently published our NDIS Invoicing and Receipts resource for sex workers, to assist sex workers navigate some of the issues and concerns around invoicing and safety, and were pleased to see HireUp issue a Statement on Sexual Activity Support.



# WITH ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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With gratitude, we would also like to acknowledge our member organisations 'Debby doesn't do it for free' and 'SWOP ACT' for their contribution to the sex worker rights movement in 2022-23.



# FINANCIAL REPORTS

# TREASURER REPORT

*by Tia*

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We present a set of accounts for the financial year July 2022 to June 2023, audited by an independent auditor, Portman Newton. The auditor's report shows Scarlet Alliance to be a going concern as of June 30, 2023, and that our accounting practices comply with the Australian Accounting Standards. The financial report has been prepared in accordance with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012.

A big thank you to management and finance staff for their cooperation in the preparation of this report, enabling a seamless process.

This is the second year we are providing general purpose financial statements instead of special purpose statements, on advice from our auditor.

Our reports show a total income of \$2,030,550, which is mostly government funding. We received \$600,000 in funding from the Commonwealth Department of Health for the strengthening of the national response to BBV and STI as a key peak body, down from \$660,000 in the previous financial year. National programs staff hours were reduced to account for this decrease and the lack of indexation, to cover inflationary pressures and increased wages. The Commonwealth Department of Health grant funds our Red Book online and national training projects, our national forum, and representation and coordination

of the national response to BBV and STI.

The lack of sustained, multi-year funding with indexation continues to be a challenge for the organisation, and it is hoped that we will be able to secure longer term contracts that give us more certainty and stability.

Our contract for the Tasmanian Sex Worker Project was renewed for a three year term, to

**“A big thank you to management and finance staff for their cooperation in the preparation of this report.”**



December 31, 2025. Whilst this gives meaningful security to the project, the annual funding has been frozen at \$120,000 per calendar year for many years now, with inflation and wage increases resulting in a reduction of funding in real terms. We hope advocacy to government in this space leads to a change in policy and indexation of the project.

This year we continued our auspicing relationship with Victorian member organisation Vixen, and received \$973,325.06 in funding from the Victorian government for the 2022-23 financial year. \$116,275 of other revenue was generated from professional services, membership fees, interest, one-off grants and donations.

This financial year our total expenditure was \$2,066,309. We incurred a small deficit of \$35,759 because of an unexpected strata levy for the much needed upgrade of the air conditioning system of the building that our head office is located in. Our reserves are still healthy, and had we not incurred this levy we would have had a small surplus. Our overall equity is sitting at 1,223,421. Scarlet Alliance continues to meet its financial obligations on time.

The \$200,146.80 bequest from Roberta Perkins, which has been allocated for developing a set of ethics guidelines for sex worker research, will begin to be expended in the 2023-2024 financial year once our new research consultant begins their contract. As the bequest was recognised as income when it was received, any expenditure from it will appear as a loss on our financial statements. This means we expect to incur a small loss in the 2023-2024 financial year.

As we transitioned to a new CEO in early 2023, we have also been able to refresh and revitalise our risk management and financial systems. This has allowed for greater clarity on roles, expectations, and parameters; greater alignment of system and processes with best practice; and improved efficiency, transparency and accountability between management, our risk and audit subcommittee, and the committee.

**I'd like to thank our staff for their ongoing management of the organisation's finances and the Committee for their strategic decisions and oversight for this financial year.**

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**FINANCIAL YEAR ENDING 30TH JUNE 2023**

# SCARLET ALLIANCE, AUSTRALIAN SEX WORKERS ASSOCIATION INC

ABN: 86 612 112 065

## Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2023

# SCARLET ALLIANCE, AUSTRALIAN SEX WORKERS ASSOCIATION INC

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For the year ended 30 June 2023

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## Auditor's independence declaration to the members of SCARLET ALLIANCE, AUSTRALIAN SEX WORKERS ASSOCIATION INC

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2023, there have been:

- no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in section 60-40 of the Australian Charities and Not for Profits Commission Act 2012 in relation to the audit; and
- no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.



Wei Chong CA

Signed this 27 October 2023 , in Sydney.

# SCARLET ALLIANCE, AUSTRALIAN SEX WORKERS ASSOCIATION INC

## Statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income

For the year ended 30 June 2023

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
Revenue	5	1,968,090	1,558,245
Finance income	6	22,503	1,444
Other income	5	39,957	20,952
Administrative expenses		(123,647)	(132,406)
Depreciation expenses		(18,866)	(2,487)
Employee benefit expenses		(1,469,426)	(960,471)
Occupancy costs		(150,846)	(49,784)
Travel & accommodation		(72,957)	(50,305)
Project & program expenses		(206,599)	(243,231)
Other expenses		(23,968)	(9,158)
<b>Profit (loss) before income taxes</b>		<b>(35,759)</b>	<b>132,799</b>
Income tax		-	-
<b>Profit (loss) from continuing operations</b>		<b>(35,759)</b>	<b>132,799</b>
<b>Profit (loss) for the year</b>		<b>(35,759)</b>	<b>132,799</b>
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year</b>		<b>(35,759)</b>	<b>132,799</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.



# SCARLET ALLIANCE, AUSTRALIAN SEX WORKERS ASSOCIATION INC

## Statement of financial position

As at 30 June 2023

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
<b>Assets</b>			
<b>Current assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	9	1,005,804	1,382,212
Trade and other receivables	10	9,771	2,100
Other assets	13	4,370	3,192
<b>Total current assets</b>		1,019,945	1,387,504
<b>Non-current assets</b>			
Property, plant and equipment	12	603,163	587,167
<b>Total assets</b>		1,623,108	1,974,671
<b>Liabilities</b>			
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Trade and other payables	14	50,176	123,099
Employee benefits	15	75,839	129,680
Contract liabilities	11	273,672	462,712
<b>Total current liabilities</b>		399,687	715,491
<b>Total liabilities</b>		399,687	715,491
<b>Net assets</b>		1,223,421	1,259,180
<b>Equity</b>			
Retained earnings		692,361	1,059,034
Reserves	18	531,060	200,146
<b>Total equity</b>		1,223,421	1,259,180

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

# SCARLET ALLIANCE, AUSTRALIAN SEX WORKERS ASSOCIATION INC

## Statement of changes in equity For the year ended 30 June 2023

<b>2022</b>	<b>Retained earnings \$</b>	<b>Reserves \$</b>	<b>Total equity \$</b>
Balance 1 July 2021	1,126,381	-	1,126,381
Transfer to/from	(200,146)	200,146	-
Surplus after income tax expense for the year	132,799	-	132,799
<b>Closing balance</b>	<b>1,059,034</b>	<b>200,146</b>	<b>1,259,180</b>

<b>2023</b>	<b>Retained earnings \$</b>	<b>Reserves \$</b>	<b>Total equity \$</b>
Balance at 1 July 2022	1,059,034	200,146	1,259,180
Transfer to/from	(330,914)	330,914	-
Surplus/ (deficit) after income tax expense for the year	(35,759)	-	(35,759)
<b>Closing balance</b>	<b>692,361</b>	<b>531,060</b>	<b>1,223,421</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

# SCARLET ALLIANCE, AUSTRALIAN SEX WORKERS ASSOCIATION INC

**Statement of cash flows**  
For the year ended 30 June 2023

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
<b>Cash flows from operating activities:</b>		
Receipts from customers	54,421	49,735
Payments to suppliers and employees	(2,350,969)	(1,616,923)
Donations received	30,502	206,754
Interest received	22,503	1,444
Receipt from grants	1,901,997	1,474,775
<b>Net cash flows from/(used in) operating activities</b>	<b>(341,546)</b>	<b>115,785</b>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities:</b>		
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(34,862)	(69,654)
<b>Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>(376,408)</b>	<b>46,131</b>
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	1,382,212	1,336,081
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year</b>	<b>1,005,804</b>	<b>1,382,212</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

# SCARLET ALLIANCE, AUSTRALIAN SEX WORKERS ASSOCIATION INC

## Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 30 June 2023

### 1. Introduction

The financial statements cover SCARLET ALLIANCE, AUSTRALIAN SEX WORKERS ASSOCIATION INC as an individual entity. SCARLET ALLIANCE, AUSTRALIAN SEX WORKERS ASSOCIATION INC is a not-for-profit Association incorporated in the Australian Capital Territory under the *Associations Incorporations Act (ACT) 1991* ('the Act').

The principal activities of the Association for the year ended 30 June 2023 were health promotion for sex workers.

The functional and presentation currency of SCARLET ALLIANCE, AUSTRALIAN SEX WORKERS ASSOCIATION INC is Australian dollars.

The financial report was authorised for issue by the committee of management on 27 October 2023.

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

### 2. Basis of preparation

The financial statements are general purpose financial statements that have been prepared in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards - Simplified Disclosures and the Act.

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs modified, where applicable, by the measurement at fair value of selected non-current assets, financial assets and financial liabilities.

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

### 3. Summary of significant accounting policies

#### a. Income tax

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

#### b. Goods and services tax (GST)

Revenue, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST), except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

Receivables and payable are stated inclusive of GST.

Cash flows in the Statement of cash flows are included on a gross basis and the GST component of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities which is recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is classified as operating cash flows.

# SCARLET ALLIANCE, AUSTRALIAN SEX WORKERS ASSOCIATION INC

## Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 30 June 2023

### c. Impairment of non-financial assets

At the end of each reporting period the Association determines whether there is evidence of an impairment indicator for non-financial assets.

Where an indicator exists and regardless for indefinite life intangible assets and intangible assets not yet available for use, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated.

Where assets do not operate independently of other assets, the recoverable amount of the relevant cash-generating unit (CGU) is estimated.

The recoverable amount of an asset or CGU is the higher of the fair value less costs of disposal and the value in use. Value in use is the present value of the future cash flows expected to be derived from an asset or cash-generating unit.

Where the recoverable amount is less than the carrying amount, an impairment loss is recognised in profit or loss.

Reversal indicators are considered in subsequent periods for all assets which have suffered an impairment loss.

### d. Financial instruments

Financial instruments are recognised initially on the date that the Association becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

On initial recognition, all financial instruments are measured at fair value plus transaction costs (except for instruments measured at fair value through profit or loss where transaction costs are expensed as incurred).

#### i. Financial assets

All recognised financial assets are subsequently measured in their entirety at either amortised cost or fair value, depending on the classification of the financial assets.

##### *Classification*

On initial recognition, the Association classifies its financial assets into the following categories, those measured at:

- amortised cost
- fair value through profit or loss - FVTPL
- fair value through other comprehensive income - equity instrument (FVOCI - equity)
- fair value through other comprehensive income - debt investments (FVOCI - debt)

Financial assets are not reclassified subsequent to their initial recognition unless the Association changes its business model for managing financial assets.

##### *Amortised cost*

The Association's financial assets measured at amortised cost comprise trade and other receivables and cash and cash equivalents in the statement of financial position.



# SCARLET ALLIANCE, AUSTRALIAN SEX WORKERS ASSOCIATION INC

## Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 30 June 2023

Subsequent to initial recognition, these assets are carried at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method less provision for impairment.

Interest income, foreign exchange gains or losses and impairment are recognised in profit or loss. Gain or loss on derecognition is recognised in profit or loss.

### *Trade receivables and contract assets*

Impairment of trade receivables and contract assets have been determined using the simplified approach in AASB 9 which uses an estimation of lifetime expected credit losses. The Association has determined the probability of non-payment of the receivable and contract asset and multiplied this by the amount of the expected loss arising from default.

The amount of the impairment is recorded in a separate allowance account with the loss being recognised in finance expense. Once the receivable is determined to be uncollectable then the gross carrying amount is written off against the associated allowance.

Where the Association renegotiates the terms of trade receivables due from certain customers, the new expected cash flows are discounted at the original effective interest rate and any resulting difference to the carrying value is recognised in profit or loss.

### *Other financial assets measured at amortised cost*

Impairment of other financial assets measured at amortised cost are determined using the expected credit loss model in AASB 9. On initial recognition of the asset, an estimate of the expected credit losses for the next 12 months is recognised. Where the asset has experienced significant increase in credit risk then the lifetime losses are estimated and recognised.

## **ii. Financial liabilities**

The Association measures all financial liabilities initially at fair value less transaction costs, subsequently financial liabilities are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

The financial liabilities of the Association comprise trade payables, bank and other loans and lease liabilities.

## **e. Adoption of new and revised accounting standards**

The Association has adopted all standards which became effective for the first time at 30 June 2023, refer to the Change in accounting policy note, for details of the changes due to standards adopted.

## **f. New accounting standards and interpretations**

The AASB has issued new and amended Accounting Standards and Interpretations that have mandatory application dates for future reporting periods. The Association has decided not to early adopt these Standards.

# SCARLET ALLIANCE, AUSTRALIAN SEX WORKERS ASSOCIATION INC

## Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 30 June 2023

### 4. Critical accounting estimates and judgements

The Board make estimates and judgements during the preparation of these financial statements regarding assumptions about current and future events affecting transactions and balances.

These estimates and judgements are based on the best information available at the time of preparing the financial statements, however as additional information is known then the actual results may differ from the estimates.

The significant estimates and judgements made have been described below.

#### a. Key estimates - impairment of property, plant and equipment

The Association determines the estimated useful lives and related depreciation and amortisation charges for its property, plant and equipment and finite life intangible assets. The useful lives could change significantly as a result of technical innovations or some other event. The depreciation and amortisation charge will increase where the useful lives are less than previously estimated lives, or technically obsolete or non-strategic assets that have been abandoned or sold will be written off or written down.

#### b. Key estimates - Performance obligations under AASB 15

To identify a performance obligation under AASB 15, the promise must be sufficiently specific to be able to determine when the obligation is satisfied. Management exercises 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 and services. In making this assessment, management includes the nature/type, cost/value, quantity and the period of transfer related to the goods and services promised.

#### c. Key estimates - Employee benefits provision

The liability for employee benefits expected to be settled more than 12 months from the reporting date are recognised and measured at the present value of the estimated future cash flows to be made in respect of all employees at the reporting date. In determining the present value of the liability, estimates of attrition rates and pay increases through promotion and inflation have been taken into account.

### 5. Revenue and other income

#### a. Accounting policy

##### i. Revenue from contracts with customers

The core principle of AASB 15 is that revenue is recognised on a basis that reflects the transfer of promised goods or services to customers at an amount that reflects the consideration the Association expects to receive in exchange for those goods or services.

Generally, the timing of the payment for sale of goods and rendering of services corresponds closely to the timing of satisfaction of the performance obligations, however where there is a difference, it will

# SCARLET ALLIANCE, AUSTRALIAN SEX WORKERS ASSOCIATION INC

## Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 30 June 2023

result in the recognition of a receivable, contract asset or contract liability.

None of the revenue streams of the Association have any significant financing terms as there is less than 12 months between receipt of funds and satisfaction of performance obligations.

### ii. Statement of financial position balances relating to revenue recognition

#### Contract assets and liabilities

Where the amounts billed to customers are based on the achievement of various milestones established in the contract, the amounts recognised as revenue in a given period do not necessarily coincide with the amounts billed to or certified by the customer.

When a performance obligation is satisfied by transferring a promised good or service to the customer before the customer pays consideration or the before payment is due, the Association presents the contract as a contract asset, unless the Association's rights to that amount of consideration are unconditional, in which case the Association recognises a receivable.

When an amount of consideration is received from a customer prior to the entity transferring a good or service to the customer, the Association presents the contract as a contract liability.

#### Contract cost assets

The Association recognises assets relating to the costs of obtaining a contract and the costs incurred to fulfil a contract or set up / mobilisation costs that are directly related to the contract provided they will be recovered through performance of the contract.

##### *Costs to obtain a contract*

Costs to obtain a contract are only capitalised when they are directly related to a contract and it is probable that they will be recovered in the future. Costs incurred that would have been incurred regardless of whether the contract was won are expensed, unless those costs are explicitly chargeable to the customer in any case (whether or not the contract is won).

The capitalised costs are amortised on a straight line basis over the expected life of the contract.

##### *Set-up / mobilisation costs*

Costs required to set up the contract, including mobilisation costs, are capitalised provided that it is probable that they will be recovered in the future and that they do not include expenses that would normally have been incurred by the Association if the contract had not been obtained. They are recognised as an expense on the basis of the proportion of actual output to estimated output under each contract. If the above conditions are not met, these costs are taken directly to profit or loss as incurred.

##### *Costs to fulfil a contract*

Where costs are incurred to fulfil a contract, they are accounted for under the relevant

# SCARLET ALLIANCE, AUSTRALIAN SEX WORKERS ASSOCIATION INC

## Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 30 June 2023

accounting standard (if appropriate), otherwise if the costs relate directly to a contract, the costs generate or enhance resources of the Association that will be used to satisfy performance obligations in the future and the costs are expected to be recovered then they are capitalised as contract costs assets and released to the profit or loss on an systematic basis consistent with the transfer to the customer of the goods or services to which the asset relates.

### iii. Other income

Other income is recognised on an accruals basis when the Association is entitled to it.

### iv. Volunteer services

No amounts are included in the financial statements for services donated by volunteers.

## b. Revenue from continuing operations

	2023 \$	2022 \$
<b>Revenue from contracts with customers (AASB 15)</b>		
<b>Grants</b>		
Grants (Commonwealth)	600,000	712,740
Grants (State)	1,314,275	561,677
Rollover	-	49,011
<b>Total Grants</b>	<b>1,914,275</b>	<b>1,323,428</b>
Member subscriptions	18,219	25,003
	<b>1,932,494</b>	<b>1,348,431</b>
<b>Revenue recognised on receipt (not enforceable or no sufficiently specific performance obligations - AASB 1058)</b>		
Donations	30,502	206,754
Other revenue from other sources	5,094	3,060
	<b>35,596</b>	<b>209,814</b>
	<b>1,968,090</b>	<b>1,558,245</b>

## c. Other income

	2023 \$	2022 \$
<b>Other income</b>		
Miscellaneous Income	39,957	20,952
	<b>39,957</b>	<b>20,952</b>

# SCARLET ALLIANCE, AUSTRALIAN SEX WORKERS ASSOCIATION INC

## Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 30 June 2023

### 6. Finance income and expenses

Finance income	2023	2022
	\$	\$
<b>Interest income</b>		
Other interest income	22,503	1,444
	22,503	1,444

### 7. Result for the year

The result for the year includes the following specific expenses:

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Depreciation expenses	18,866	2,487
Superannuation contributions	136,039	82,837
Donations	5,000	-

### 8. Auditor's remuneration

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
<b>Remuneration of the auditor of the Association, Audit firm, for:</b>		
Auditing or reviewing the financial statements	8,990	8,990
Fees for assurance services and agreed upon procedures not required by legislation to be provided by the auditor	380	-
	9,370	8,990

### 9. Cash and cash equivalents

#### a. Accounting policy

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

# SCARLET ALLIANCE, AUSTRALIAN SEX WORKERS ASSOCIATION INC

## Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 30 June 2023

### b. Cash and cash equivalent details

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Cash at bank	185,750	1,382,069
Cash on hand	81	143
Short-term deposits	815,590	-
Other cash and cash equivalents	4,383	-
	1,005,804	1,382,212

### c. Reconciliation of cash

Cash at the end of the financial year as shown in the statement of cash flows is reconciled to items in the statement of financial position as follows:

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Cash and cash equivalents	1,005,804	1,382,212

### 10. Trade and other receivables

Current	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Trade receivables	9,771	2,100
	9,771	2,100

### 11. Contract balances

The Association has recognised the following contract assets and liabilities from contracts with customers:

Current contract liabilities	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Grant monies received in advance	243,263	462,712
Other contract liabilities	30,409	-
	273,672	462,712

### 12. Property, plant and equipment

#### a. Accounting policy

Each class of property, plant and equipment is carried at cost or fair value less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation and impairment.

# SCARLET ALLIANCE, AUSTRALIAN SEX WORKERS ASSOCIATION INC

## Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 30 June 2023

### i. Land and buildings

Land and buildings are measured using the cost model.

### ii. Plant and equipment

Plant and equipment are measured using the cost model.

### iii. Depreciation

Property, plant and equipment, excluding freehold land, is depreciated on a straight-line and reducing balance basis over the asset's useful life to the Association, commencing when the asset is ready for use.

Leased assets and leasehold improvements are amortised over the shorter of either the unexpired period of the lease or their estimated useful life.

The estimated useful lives used for each class of depreciable asset are shown below:

Fixed asset class	Useful life
Plant and equipment	0-7 years
Motor vehicles	5-7 years

At the end of each annual reporting period, the depreciation method, useful life and residual value of each asset is reviewed. Any revisions are accounted for prospectively as a change in estimate.

When an asset is disposed, the gain or loss is calculated by comparing proceeds received with its carrying amount and is taken to profit or loss.

### b. Property, plant and equipment details

Summary	2023 \$	2022 \$
<b>Buildings</b>		
Buildings at Cost	520,000	520,000
<b>Plant and equipment</b>		
Plant & Equipment at cost	103,379	68,517
Accumulated depreciation	(32,144)	(17,616)
<b>Total Plant and equipment</b>	<b>71,235</b>	<b>50,901</b>
<b>Motor vehicles</b>		
Motor vehicles at cost	17,350	17,350
Accumulated depreciation	(5,422)	(1,084)
<b>Total Motor vehicles</b>	<b>11,928</b>	<b>16,266</b>
	<b>603,163</b>	<b>587,167</b>



# SCARLET ALLIANCE, AUSTRALIAN SEX WORKERS ASSOCIATION INC

## Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 30 June 2023

<b>2022</b>	<b>Buildings</b>	<b>Plant and equipment</b>	<b>Motor vehicles</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
Balance at 1 July 2021	520,000	-	-	520,000
Additions	-	52,304	17,350	69,654
Depreciation	-	(1,403)	(1,084)	(2,487)
Balance at 30 June 2022	520,000	50,901	16,266	587,167

<b>2023</b>	<b>Buildings</b>	<b>Plant and equipment</b>	<b>Motor vehicles</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
Balance at 1 July 2022	520,000	50,901	16,266	587,167
Additions	-	34,862	-	34,862
Depreciation	-	(14,528)	(4,338)	(18,866)
Balance at 30 June 2023	520,000	71,235	11,928	603,163

### 13. Other assets

<b>Current</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>Other assets</b>		
Prepayments	4,370	3,192

### 14. Trade and other payables

<b>Current</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
Trade payables	2,747	15,932
GST payable	(20,536)	44,535
Employee benefits	16,535	22,934
Accrued expenses	51,430	39,698
	50,176	123,099

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

# SCARLET ALLIANCE, AUSTRALIAN SEX WORKERS ASSOCIATION INC

## Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 30 June 2023

### 15. Employee benefits

#### a. Accounting policy

Provision is made for the Association's liability for employee benefits, those benefits that are expected to be wholly settled within one year have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled, plus related on-costs.

#### i. Defined contribution schemes

Obligations for contributions to defined contribution superannuation plans are recognised as an employee benefit expense in profit or loss in the periods in which services are provided by employees.

#### b. Employee benefit details

Current	2023 \$	2022 \$
Long service leave	4,402	39,261
Annual leave	68,325	90,419
Other employee benefits	3,112	-
	75,839	129,680

### 16. Financial risk management

Financial assets	2023 \$	2022 \$
<b>Held at amortised cost</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	1,005,804	1,382,212
Trade and other receivables	9,771	2,100
Other assets	4,370	3,192
	1,019,945	1,387,504

Financial liabilities	2023 \$	2022 \$
Trade and other payables	50,176	123,099
Contract liabilities	273,672	462,712
	323,848	585,811

The Association does not subsequently measure any liabilities at fair value on a recurring basis and has no assets or liabilities that are measured at fair value on a non-recurring basis.

# SCARLET ALLIANCE, AUSTRALIAN SEX WORKERS ASSOCIATION INC

## Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 30 June 2023

### 17. Key management personnel remuneration

#### Compensation

The aggregate compensation made to officers and other members of key management personnel of the Association is set out below:

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Aggregate compensation	218,721	204,267

### 18. Reserves

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
<b>Other reserves</b>		
Operational Reserves	330,000	-
Restricted Reserves	201,060	200,146
<b>Total Other reserves</b>	<b>531,060</b>	<b>200,146</b>
	531,060	200,146

#### a. Other reserves

##### Restricted reserves

Restricted reserves are tied to particular purposes specified by donors or as identified at the time of public appeal; but with no obligation or no capacity to return unspent funds to donors.

##### Operational reserves

Operational reserves are funds set aside to support future development and meet operational requirements, and fulfill staff entitlement payouts.

### 19. Contingencies

In the opinion of the Directors, the Association did not have any contingencies at 2023 (2022: None).

### 20. Related parties

#### a. The Association's main related parties are as follows:

Key management personnel Disclosures relating to key management personnel are set out in note 17.

#### b. Transactions with related parties

There were no transactions with related parties during the current and previous financial year.

# SCARLET ALLIANCE, AUSTRALIAN SEX WORKERS ASSOCIATION INC

## Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 30 June 2023

### 21. Cash flow information

Reconciliation of net income to net cash provided by operating activities:

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Profit/(loss) for the year	(35,759)	132,799
<b>Add / (less) non-cash items:</b>		
Depreciation and amortisation	18,866	2,487
<b>Changes in assets and liabilities:</b>		
(increase) / decrease in receivables	(7,671)	(1,814)
(increase) / decrease in other assets	(1,178)	84
increase / (decrease) in payables	(72,923)	(1,548)
increase / (decrease) in employee benefits	(53,841)	5,509
increase / (decrease) in contract liabilities	(189,040)	(21,732)
<b>Cash flows from operations</b>	<b>(341,546)</b>	<b>115,785</b>

### 22. Economic dependence

The Association is dependent on the government and private grants for the majority of its revenue used to operate the business. At the date of this report the Board has no reason to believe the Government will not continue to support the Association.

### 23. Events occurring after the reporting date

No matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the Association, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the Association in future financial years.

### 24. Statutory information

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

SCARLET ALLIANCE, AUSTRALIAN SEX WORKERS ASSOCIATION INC  
203/ 1 Erskineville Road  
Newtown NSW Australia  
2042

# SCARLET ALLIANCE, AUSTRALIAN SEX WORKERS ASSOCIATION INC

## Statement by members of the Board

The Board of the Association declare that:

The financial statements and notes for the year ended 30 June 2023 are in accordance with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and the *Associations Incorporations Act (ACT) 1991, Charitable Fundraising Act 1991* and:

- comply with Australian Accounting Standards - Simplified Disclosures; and
- give a true and fair view of the financial position as at 30 June 2023 and of the performance for the year ended on that date of the Association.

In the Board's opinion, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Association will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable with the continuing support of creditors.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors.



Jenna Love  
Acting President

Dated: 27 October 2023



Tia Maria  
Treasurer

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT  
TO THE MEMBERS OF  
SCARLET ALLIANCE, AUSTRALIAN SEX WORKERS  
ASSOCIATION INC**



**ABN 86 612 112 065**

**Report on the Financial Report**

Opinion:

Level 17, 123 Pitt Street  
Sydney NSW 2000  
Ph: 02 9090 4772  
www.portmannewton.com  
ABN 51 131 458 118

We have audited the financial report of Scarlet Alliance, Australian Sex Workers Association Inc, which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2023, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the statement by members of the Board.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of Scarlet Alliance, Australian Sex Workers Association Inc has been prepared in accordance with Div 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012, including:

- (i) giving a true and fair view of the registered entity's financial position as at 30 June 2023 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and
- (ii) complying with Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosure Requirements and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013.

**Basis for Opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the registered entity in accordance with the ACNC Act, the 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 directors 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 June 2023, 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.

**Responsibilities of The Members of the Board for the Financial Report**

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

In preparing the financial report, the directors are responsible for assessing the 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 directors either intend to liquidate the company 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 is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

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

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

We communicate with the Board 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.

**Portman Newton**



Wei Chong CA

Sydney  
Date :

27-Oct-23