



National  
Justice  
Project

2018

FINANCIAL REPORT



# Message from the Chief Executive Officer

As we enter the fourth year of our operations, I am proud to report that 2018 has been an extremely successful year for the National Justice Project (NJP).

During the year we experienced an enormous increase in our human rights caseload and our team of lawyers and support staff continues to grow. Most importantly, the combination of strategic litigation and advocacy that we promote has led to all the children on Nauru being evacuated to Australia.

Over 2018 we have worked hard to build steady funding sources for our work. Our supporters gave generously via our crowd funding campaigns, our website and a fundraising dinner held in conjunction with the Australian Lawyers for Human Rights.

One of our strategic goals in 2019 is to secure more regular and diverse funding sources while continuing to welcome, with immense gratitude, donations from our supporters.

As CEO, I have been overwhelmed by the commitment of our supporters and volunteers. Our team of lawyers and volunteers work tirelessly in pursuit of our goals. Often their work is carried out in the context of significant trauma and even death, but their dedication to achieving real systemic change never waivers.

Among our many successes, was the first-ever legal challenge against the Australian Government to secure appropriate medical care for a refugee child on Nauru. The young girl - catatonic at the time we intervened - was brought to Australia to be treated. This case set a precedent for another 96 children to be transferred from Nauru to Australia, for medical reasons, during 2018. To ensure NJP had the capacity to dedicate to these cases, two full-time solicitors and further support staff were added to our team.

NJP also ran a lengthy but successful legal challenge to stop the Minister for Home Affairs taking mobile phones from immigration detainees. The return of detainees' phones maintained their only effective link to the outside world and their support networks. The feedback we received from refugee advocates and detainees, was that the decision changed their lives and significantly improved their conditions of detention.

Throughout 2018, NJP represented grieving families in coronial matters and at coronial inquests; including the tragic deaths of Junior Fenika (Togatuki), Pamela Ashley, Hemat Chegini Nejad, Wayne Morrison, Khamsani Jackamara, David Dungay Jr and Naomi Williams and others. NJP continues to work hard to influence Coroners to make findings that will ensure lasting and systemic change in Australia's health care, immigration detention and prison systems.

2018 saw the launch of our Copwatch app, which is intended to be used by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to safely and legally record interactions with police. The app has been a huge success and is now used by communities as far away as Papua New Guinea.

NJP also ran two successful crowdfunding campaigns in 2018 and is committed to increasing donor funding throughout 2019, and the years to come. A huge note of thanks to all who have donated to NJP: without your vision, to seek justice for all, just would not be possible.

I look forward to another busy and successful year.



**George Newhouse**  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

# Directors' Report

30 June 2018

The directors present their report on The National Justice Project for the financial year ended 30 June 2018.

## Information on Directors

The names of each person who has been a director during the year and to the date of this report are:

### **David Radcliff** (*appointed 30 November 2017*)

**Experience and expertise** David's origins were in the construction industry as a loss adjuster, before moving into management and leadership roles. David was the CEO of Cunningham Lindsey Australia and then appointed as the Global Chief Operating Officer of the Cunningham Lindsey Group. Since leaving in 2013, David has been working as a Strategic Planning Consultant.

**Special responsibilities** Chairman of the Board

### **George Benjamin Newhouse**

**Experience and expertise** George is well known for fighting for justice for vulnerable Australians, including the mentally ill, LGBTI Australians, survivors of domestic violence, immigrants, prisoners, asylum seekers, youth detainees, and Aboriginal Australians.

In 2006 he secured a legal victory for Vivian Solon, who was illegally deported from Australia to the Philippines and for Cornelia Rau who was wrongfully detained in an Australian detention centre for 10 months.

As an advocate for Aboriginal rights, George has contested government and corporate actions against Aboriginal communities. He is experienced in coronial legal practice and has appeared in many coronial inquests into Aboriginal and asylum seeker deaths in custody.

George is committed to improving access to justice for the most vulnerable in Australia and in neighbouring countries. He is active in projects that make it easier for Aboriginal litigants to exercise their rights and that help stamp out racism.

George is an Adjunct Professor of Law at Macquarie University.

### **Duncan Fine**

**Experience and expertise** Duncan has been a lawyer for over 30 years and is also an author, journalist, media advisor and social commentator. He has worked on Aboriginal Land Claims in the Northern Territory and for the Aboriginal Legal Service.

### **Elizabeth O'shea**

**Experience and expertise** Lizzie is a public interest lawyer, working on cases which address issues of community concern and further the public good.

## **Directors' Report**

**30 June 2018**

### **Information on Directors (*continued*)**

**Steven Castan**

Experience and expertise Steve is an experienced Barrister based in Margaret River, Western Australia who also operates as a Nationally Accredited Mediator and Family Dispute Resolution Practitioner (FDRP) facilitating non-confrontational conflict resolution across civil, commercial and family law.

**Michael Dante Mori**

Experience and expertise Dan is an American lawyer who attained the rank of lieutenant colonel in the United States Marine Corps. Mori was the military lawyer for Australian Guantanamo Bay detainee David Hicks.

**Audrey Rodda De Lacey Sayers**

Experience and expertise Entrepreneur Audrey Rodda Frack, the founder of Phonelink Communications, is one of the youngest and most successful business owners within Australia's male-dominated telecommunication industry. Ms Rodda has also turned her strategic, organisational, and sales skills to other areas including philanthropy and creative business restructures.

**Jo Scard**

Experience and expertise Jo has played a unique role as a senior adviser in the Australian Federal Government for over a decade. She's also worked as a communications strategist in London, a TV political journalist (Australia/UK) and as strategic adviser to countless corporates and Not-For-Profits across the globe.

Directors have been in office since the start of the financial year to the date of this report unless otherwise stated.

## **Directors' Report**

**30 June 2018**

### **Principal Activities**

The principal activities of The National Justice Project during the financial year

*i.) advancing human rights through advocacy and litigation*

The NJP advances the rights of the most vulnerable in our community. Our work involves assisting the families of those who have died in custody in prisons and in immigration detention, of Aboriginal Youth in detention, and those with mental and physical disabilities.

We use our expertise in tort, administrative and constitutional law to overcome systemic injustice and discrimination.

In addition to providing legal advice and pastoral care to those in need we also represent our clients at inquests, tribunals and court hearings.

We have established an Aboriginal Health Justice Project to assist Aboriginal people in Far Western NSW to understand and enforce their legal rights, to help them make complaints when they experience discrimination in health care, and to hold clinicians and health workers accountable for their poor treatment and medical negligence.

*ii) advancing the education of the community with respect to the law, their rights and responsibilities*

During the year, with the assistance of crowd funding, The National Justice Project continued the rollout of the 'COPWATCH' Project. This project was designed to train Aboriginal Communities how to safely and responsibly record interactions with the Police and to use social media to expose injustice.

*iii) fundraising to support The National Justice Project's mission.*

Whilst The National Justice Project is a young legal practice, many of the matters and initiatives undertaken by it are unfunded. Unfortunately, our overheads are real. True to its focus on vulnerable people, the majority of our legal matters are undertaken on a pro bono basis as our clients do not have the capacity to pay us. From time to time, and depending upon the nature of the litigation, The National Justice Project may be entitled to an award for costs at the successful conclusion of a matter on a no win no fee basis, however, it is uncommon.

The community education projects undertaken by The National Justice Project do not attract any Government grant funding. Therefore, The National Justice Project is largely dependent upon our Partners, philanthropists and community support to fund its operations. During the year, The National Justice Project was able to attract community funding through a number of sources.

- Crowd funding: The National Justice Project undertook two crowd funding events during the year. The first was entitled 'Season for Justice', the second was for 'Copwatch'; and

## Directors' Report

30 June 2018

### Principal Activities (*continued*)

- Donations: The National Justice Project received General donations from the public.

The National Justice Project is cognisant of the need to preserve every available dollar for its purposes and has limited the direct costs of its fundraising initiatives. The costs associated with development of the firm's marketing materials have largely been donated by our Partners to whom we are ever grateful.

### How principal activities assisted in achieving the objectives

Our activities assisted vulnerable individuals in prison and detention obtain proper health care, justice and accountability. We assisted the families of individuals who died in detention or prison to deal with the Coroner or participate in the coronial process and we assisted Aboriginal Australians obtain better health outcomes by fighting against discrimination in the health system.

### Members' Guarantee

The National Justice Project is a company limited by guarantee. In the event of, and for the purpose of the winding up of the Company, the amount capable of being called up from each member in the year prior to the winding up is limited to \$20.

### Meetings of Directors

During the financial year, 4 meetings of directors were held. Attendances by each director during the year were as follows:

	Directors' Meetings	
	Number eligible to attend	Number attended
Jo Scard	4	4
George Benjamin Newhouse	4	4
Duncan Fine	4	4
Elizabeth O'shea	4	3
Steven Castan	4	4
Michael Dante Mori	4	3
Audrey Rodda De Lacey Sayers	4	2
David Radcliff ( <i>appointed 30 November 2017</i> )	3	2

**Directors' Report**  
30 June 2018

**Auditor's Independence Declaration**

The lead auditor's independence declaration for the year ended 30 June 2018 has been received and can be found on page 6 of the financial report.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Radcliff', written over a dotted horizontal line.

**David Radcliff**  
**Chairman**

Dated in Sydney this 28 day of November 2018



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## **Auditor's Independence Declaration under section 60-40 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* to the Board of Directors of The National Justice Project**

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2018, there have been:

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

**ECON AUDIT AND ASSURANCE SERVICES PTY LTD**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G Venardos".

**GEORGE VENARDOS**  
Partner

Dated in Sydney this 28<sup>th</sup> day of November 2018



# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The National Justice Project  
ABN 23 609 620 028

## Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income

For the Year Ended 30 June 2018

	Note	2018 \$	2017 \$
Revenue	2	454,793	272,915
Project expenses		(314,978)	(34,109)
Depreciation expense		(8,257)	-
Employee benefits expense		(40,518)	(6,914)
Other expenses	3	(60,634)	(17,458)
<b>Surplus before income tax</b>		<b>30,406</b>	214,434
Income tax expense		-	-
<b>Surplus for the year</b>		<b>30,406</b>	214,434
<b>Other comprehensive income / (loss) for the year</b>		-	-
<b>Total comprehensive surplus / (deficit) for the year</b>		<b>30,406</b>	214,434

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

## Statement of Financial Position

As at 30 June 2018

	Note	2018 \$	2017 \$
<b>ASSETS</b>			
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	4	243,041	234,309
Trade and other receivables	5	54,228	16,779
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		<u>297,269</u>	251,088
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, plant and equipment	6	41,282	-
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		<u>41,282</u>	-
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>338,551</u>	251,088
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and other payables	7	68,069	18,956
Employee benefits	8	12,099	4,155
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>80,168</u>	23,111
TOTAL LIABILITIES		<u>80,168</u>	23,111
NET ASSETS		<u>258,383</u>	227,977
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Retained earnings		<u>258,383</u>	227,977
TOTAL EQUITY		<u>258,383</u>	227,977

**Statement of Changes in Equity**  
For the Year Ended 30 June 2018

	<b>Retained Earnings</b> \$
<b>Balance at 1 July 2017</b>	<u>227,977</u>
<b>Surplus for the year</b>	<u>30,406</u>
<b>Balance at 30 June 2018</b>	<u><u>258,383</u></u>

  

	Retained Earnings \$
Balance at 1 July 2016	13,543
Surplus for the year	<u>214,434</u>
Balance at 30 June 2017	<u><u>227,977</u></u>

**Statement of Cash Flows**  
**For the Year Ended 30 June 2018**

	2018	2017
Note	\$	\$
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Receipts from grants and other revenue	414,881	257,720
Payments to suppliers and employees	(357,982)	(37,044)
Interest received	1,372	90
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>58,271</u>	<u>220,766</u>
	11	
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	<u>(49,539)</u>	-
Net cash used by investing activities	<u>(49,539)</u>	-
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Proceeds from borrowings	<u>-</u>	-
Net cash provided by financing activities	<u>-</u>	-
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents held	8,732	220,766
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	<u>234,309</u>	<u>13,543</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year	<u>4</u> <u>243,041</u>	<u>234,309</u>

## **Notes to the Financial Statements**

### **For the Year Ended 30 June 2018**

The financial statements are for The National Justice Project as a not-for-profit individual entity.

The functional and presentation currency of The National Justice Project is Australian dollars.

#### **1 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

##### **(a) Basis of Preparation**

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

Material accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are presented below and have been consistently applied unless otherwise stated.

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.

##### **(b) Income Tax**

No provision for income tax has been raised as the Company is exempt from income tax under Div 50 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*.

##### **(c) Revenue and Other Income**

Revenue is recognised when the amount of the revenue can be measured reliably, it is probable that economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the entity and specific criteria relating to the type of revenue as noted below, has been satisfied.

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable.

##### **Grant revenue**

Grant revenue is recognised in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income when the entity obtains control of the grant, it is probable that the economic benefits gained from the grant will flow to the entity and the amount of the grant can be measured reliably.

When grant revenue is received whereby the entity incurs an obligation to deliver economic value directly back to the contributor, this is considered a reciprocal transaction and the grant revenue is recognised in the statement of financial position as a liability until the service has been delivered to the contributor, otherwise the grant is recognised as income on receipt.

The National Justice Project receives non-reciprocal contributions of assets from various organisations for zero or a nominal value. These assets are recognised at fair value on the date of acquisition in the statement of financial position, with a corresponding amount of income recognised in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income.

## Notes to the Financial Statements

### For the Year Ended 30 June 2018

#### 1 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

##### (c) Revenue and Other Income (*continued*)

###### Interest revenue

Interest is recognised using the effective interest method.

###### Rendering of services

Revenue in relation to rendering of services is recognised dependent on whether the outcome of the services can be measured reliably. If this is the case then the stage of completion of the services is used to determine the appropriate level of revenue to be recognised in the period.

If the outcome cannot be reliably measured then revenue is recognised to the extent of expenses recognised that are recoverable.

###### Donations

Revenue arising from donations is recognised when control is obtained as it is impossible for the company to reliably measure these prior to this time. For example, cash donations are recognised when banked and other donations are recognised when title transfers to the company.

##### (d) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within short-term borrowings in current liabilities on the statement of financial position.

##### (e) Employee benefits

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

The Company reviewed the annual leave liability to determine the level of annual leave which is expected to be paid more than 12 months after the end of the reporting period. Whilst this has been considered to be long-term employee benefits for the purpose of measuring the leave under AASB 119, the effect of discounting was not considered to be material and therefore has not been calculated.

Employee benefits are presented as current liabilities in the statement of financial position if the Company does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after the reporting date regardless of the classification of the liability for measurement purposes under AASB 119.

## Notes to the Financial Statements

### For the Year Ended 30 June 2018

#### 1 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

##### (f) Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the Company has a legal or constructive obligation, as a result of past events, for which it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will result and that outflow can be reliably measured.

Provisions are measured at the present value of management's best estimate of the outflow required to settle the obligation at the end of the reporting period. The discount rate used is a pre-tax rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the liability. The increase in the provision due to the unwinding of the discount is taken to finance costs in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income.

Provisions recognised represent the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation at the end of the reporting period.

#### 2 Revenue and Other Income

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
Client fees received	116,142	96,609
Donations received	324,943	176,216
Grants received	11,878	-
Interest income	1,830	90
	<u>454,793</u>	<u>272,915</u>

#### 3 Other Expenses

Material items included as part of Other Expenses are as follows

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
Service fees	28,869	12,000
Advertising expense	5,796	-
Insurance expense	7,585	2,684

## Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2018

### 4 Cash and Cash Equivalents

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
Cash at bank	243,041	234,309
	<u>243,041</u>	<u>234,309</u>

The cash at bank balance includes a term deposit with maturity of three months and earning a 2.50% interest per annum.

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:

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
Cash and cash equivalents	243,041	234,309
	<u>243,041</u>	<u>234,309</u>

### 5 Trade and Other Receivables

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
Trade receivables	50,823	12,741
Other receivables- related parties	3,405	4,038
	<u>54,228</u>	<u>16,779</u>

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

### 6 Property, Plant and Equipment

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
Office furniture and fittings-at cost	49,539	-
Accumulated depreciation- Office furniture and fittings	(8,257)	-
	<u>41,282</u>	<u>-</u>



## Notes to the Financial Statements

### For the Year Ended 30 June 2018

#### 7 Trade and Other Payables

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
Trade payables	24,025	11,217
Sundry payables and accrued expenses	44,044	7,739
	<u>68,069</u>	<u>18,956</u>

#### 8 Employee Benefits

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
Provision for annual leave	12,099	4,155
	<u>12,099</u>	<u>4,155</u>

#### 9 Contingencies

In the opinion of the directors, the Company did not have any contingencies at 30 June 2018.

#### 10 Related Parties

Total remuneration paid to key management personnel was \$24,000 (2017: \$Nil) for the year ended 30 June 2018.

#### 11 Cash Flow Information

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

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
Surplus for the year	30,406	214,434
Cash flows excluded from profit attributable to operating activities		
Non-cash flows in surplus		
- depreciation	8,257	-
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
- (increase)/decrease in trade and other receivables	(30,139)	(12,742)
- increase/(decrease) in trade and other payables	41,170	14,919
- increase/(decrease) in employee benefits	7,944	4,155
Cashflow from operations	<u>57,638</u>	<u>220,766</u>

## **Notes to the Financial Statements**

### **For the Year Ended 30 June 2018**

#### **12 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 Company, the results of those operations or the state of affairs of the Company in future financial years.

#### **13 Company Details**

The registered office of the Company is:

The National Justice Project  
5/22 Cooper Street  
SURRY HILLS NSW 2010

## Directors' Declaration

For the Year Ended 30 June 2018

The directors of the Company declare that:

1. The financial statements and notes, as set out on pages 7 to 16, are in accordance with the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and:
  - a. comply with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013*; and
  - b. give a true and fair view of the financial position as at 30 June 2018 and of the performance for the year ended on that date of the Company.
2. In the directors' opinion, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

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



David Radcliff  
Chairman

Dated in Sydney this 28 day of Nov 2018

## **Independent Auditor's Report to the members of The National Justice Project**

### **Report on the Audit of the Financial Report**

#### **Opinion**

We have audited the accompanying financial report of The National Justice Project, which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2018, the statement of surplus or deficit 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 directors' declaration.

In our opinion the financial report of The National Justice Project is in accordance with Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 (ACNC Act)*, including:

- (a) giving a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 30 June 2018 and of its performance for the year ended on that date; and
- (b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards and Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013*.

#### **Basis for Opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of The National Justice Project in accordance with 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.

#### **Responsibility of Directors for the Financial Report**

The directors of the company are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and have determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 1 to the financial report is appropriate to meet the requirements of the *ACNC Act* and the needs of the members. The directors' responsibility also includes such internal control necessary to enable the preparation of a financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### **Responsibility of Directors for the Financial Report (*continued*)**

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

The directors are responsible for overseeing the company's financial reporting process.

### **Auditor's Responsibility 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 the financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with 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 company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by responsible entities.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the company'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 company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, 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 company to cease to continue as a going concern.



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### **Auditor's Responsibility for the Audit of the Financial Report (*continued*)**

- 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 directors 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.

### **ECON AUDIT AND ASSURANCE SERVICES PTY LTD**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G Venardos".

**GEORGE VENARDOS**  
**Partner**

Dated in Sydney this 28<sup>th</sup> day of November 2018

# Message from the Chair

**I am delighted with the development and achievements of the National Justice Project (NJP) during the 2018 financial year.**

Of greatest long-term significance, was NJP's work and contribution to the Australian community in achieving medical care for countless refugee children held in detention on Nauru. These children were suffering from severe physical or mental illness. In addition to the excellent work of our staff, NJP was superbly supported by an outstanding team of pro-bono doctors, nurses and barristers. On behalf of the Board I cannot thank them all enough.

Over the first few years of operations, we saw the alignment of community needs and our legal expertise clearly emerge. Identifying the areas of greatest need, the NJP Board has worked to clarify and focus NJP's mission of using the law to eliminate institutional discrimination and enable community empowerment.

NJP typically acts as a 'first responder', intervening with urgency in situations where institutional discrimination is causing physical or mental suffering. This was evident in 2018, when we secured the transfer of refugee children from Nauru to Australia, for essential medical treatment.

Strategically, NJP has centred its work into four programs; Aboriginal Health Justice; Police, Prisons & Youth Services; Asylum Seekers and Refugees; and Papua New Guinea Social Justice. Each program contains two streams; the use of law in cases of institutional racism or discrimination and projects enabling community empowerment through knowledge and training. The prioritisation of these programs has enabled clearer focus for fundraising and resourcing. This has resulted in growth in funding and expertise of our people.

Of course, none of our programs would be successful without the support of our donors and volunteers. So, I extend our thanks to you all for your generosity and invite you to continue your support in the years ahead.

Finally, during the year NJP engaged Wendy Brooks & Partners to provide advice on strategic impact and fundraising. NJP also extended its governance with decisions to engage a Company Secretary and implement Xero Accounting software.

The Directors, CEO and staff are looking forward to continuing and expanding our important programs through 2019.



**David Radcliff**  
CHAIR



National  
Justice  
Project

[www.justice.org.au](http://www.justice.org.au)