

A large, stylized tree graphic in a light orange color, positioned in the background of the top half of the page. The tree has a thick trunk and many thin, radiating branches that form a fan-like shape at the top.

ANNUAL REPORT 2018-19



RRR NETWORK

CHAIR'S REPORT

Lyn Farrell

CHAIR

The 2018/19 year has been a defining time for the RRR Women's Network. Through the hard work and commitment of our CEO and her small team the RRR Women's Network was successfully launched as a Non for Profit organisation.

There has been a need for both vision and effort to navigate the transition of the RRR Network from a Ministerial reference group to an independent organisation. It has not been an easy transition and we have all had to display a level of determination in taking on the challenge to establish ourselves as an organisation with a clear strategic direction. We have come through this year with a greater sense of how the RRR Network can add value to the lives and communities of RRR women. Importantly we have developed a range of services for our members and other rural, regional and remote women to assist them in their role of community capacity building.

We have held many successful events including the prestigious 2019 Rural Women's Awards. We have clearly established the RRR Network as the host of this event and held the 'best ever' Award night this year. Our partnerships with Muresk Institute and Curtin Business School have helped us develop the women's leadership program which is now being taken into other regional areas. We have a range of other course offerings and have established a youth network to connect young people moving to the city for the first time with other young people.



CHAIR'S REPORT CONTINUED

We also held our inaugural conference. Entitled, 'Stronger' this professional development and networking opportunity attracted 150 people. We received overwhelmingly positive feedback from everyone who attended the event.

Perhaps the theme of the conference is a theme also for the RRR Network; we are definitely getting stronger.

We continue to grow our membership and we reached out to women across the State through our Regional Roadshow. This roadshow provided opportunities for women to engage with us and we also provided community forums to discuss barriers to women's full economic and social participation on behalf of the WA Department of Communities. We continue also to engage in issues of importance to our constituency having made a submission to the National Inquiry into Sexual Harassment in Australian Workplaces.

Thanks to the work of Jackie Jarvis and her team, the RRR Women's Network has consolidated its position as the premier women's organisation in Western Australia. We have achieved this through our partnerships with government and other organisations, and the services we provided to our membership and women throughout the State of Western Australia.

I acknowledge the work of my fellow Board members through this last year and welcome Megan to the RRR Network. As outgoing Chair and Board member I want to express how privileged I feel to have had the opportunity to be part of this network of incredibly strong, capable women who are so committed to their rural, regional and remote communities.



Lyn Farrell

CHAIR

TREASURER'S REPORT

Sarah Lang

TREASURER

The attached financial statements for the Rural Remote Regional Women's Network of WA for year ending 30th June 2019.

Operating Surplus:

The operating surplus for the year was **\$35,474**.

Opening Bank Balance:

Opening Bank Balance at Bendigo Bank as at 01/07/2018: **\$594,637**

Revenue:

Total Revenue for the financial year: **\$533,177**

Major items;

- Grants **\$260,041** (Final payment)
- Membership Fees **\$13,293**
- Leadership Courses **\$93,645**
- Events **\$62,780**
- Research Project **\$16,784**

Total expenses for the financial year: **\$517,704**

Major items;

- Wages & Salaries **\$185,265**
- Printing Magazine **\$23,067**
- Event Expenses **\$84,349**
- Training Provider **\$54,754**

Profit:

Profit for 2018/19 Financial Year: **\$35,474**

Closing Bank Balance:

Community Saver **\$589,259**

Qantas Pre-Paid Mastercard – used for booking hotels etc. **\$88**

Women's Support Fund **\$94**

Closing Bank Balance at Bendigo Bank as at 30/06/2019: **\$589,442**

Conclusion:

A very successful year for RRR with many successful programs delivered to rural, remote and regional women across WA including the Leadership Masterclass, the Rural Women's award and the #USTOO lunch. The final grant monies have been received and the current cash balances allow RRR to exist for circa two years even if we didn't generate any revenue. Therefore, the challenge is for RRR to be self sufficient and generate sufficient cash flows to cover expenses without reliance on grant monies. The success of this past financial year has put the RRR in a strong position to achieve this in the future.

CEO'S REPORT

Jackie Jarvis

CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER (OUTGOING)

The 2018/19 financial year was a period of frenetic activity as, with the unwavering support of the board, we worked to create programs and undertake activities that would fulfill the charter to transition of the RRR Network into a “sustainable, independent organisation” as a requirement of the Royalties for Regions funding agreement.

The financial support of the Muresk Institute in enabling the RRR Network to trial a number of new training programs was a critical factor in the successful delivery of several pilot personal and professional development programs. Such as the Regional Leadership Masterclass delivered in partnership with Curtin University and the Agrifood Entrepreneurs Program delivered in partnership with private business coaching company Blow Your Own Mind. The transition to delivery of training programs, in rural and regional locations, independent of Muresk funding support, did prove challenging in the later part of the year and it may be that ongoing delivery of training programs across rural and regional WA may not be financially viable for the RRR Network in locations where small population can make marketing these programs more difficult.



CEO'S REPORT CONTINUED

The delivery of events in Perth, but targeted towards RRR women, proved successful and these included the Agrifutures Rural Women's Award announcement event, the inaugural RRR conference, an International Women's Day literary event featuring Jane Caro, and the #USTOO lunch. None of these events would have been possible without the help of a small but dedicated RRR team and I take this opportunity to publicly thank Sian Pladdy-Kett; Kendall Galbraith, and Madison Jarvis for their hard work and for all providing me with enormous support.

Perhaps most importantly the RRR Network found its voice in 2018/19, with a detailed, well researched, submission in the National Inquiry on Sexual Harassment in Australia Workplaces. A new partnership with the Department of Communities also enabled the RRR Network to play a critical role in the WA government's Women's Voices report.

The RRR Network as a voice for WA women living outside of Perth will remain, in my opinion, the most important, ongoing role for the RRR Network in coming years, with the challenge being the ability to generate income to support this role. The opening of a RRR Network Perth office in 2019/20 will be an important step towards being a vocal and visible presence on behalf of all WA RRR women.

It is with some sadness that I stepped down as RRR CEO in August 2019, but the time was right. I welcome Megan MacNeill to the CEO position knowing that her branding and marketing expertise, along with strong rural and regional networks will prove to be a successful combination for the RRR Network. I will remain a committed and engaged financial member of the RRR Network and look forward to watching the evolution of the organisation.



Jackie Jarvis

CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER
(OUTGOING)



RRR NETWORK