





Annual report 2011

About the Bendigo Business Council

Values

Integrity	Innovation
Sustainability	Inclusiveness
Professionalism	Transparency

Mission

To work with businesses, governments and their agencies, education providers, research facilities other organisations and stakeholders to support, strengthen and encourage business in Bendigo and central Victoria.

Vision

For Bendigo to be the Regional Business Capital of Australia

Directors

Margaret O'Rourke (chair) Herbert Hermens (deputy chair) Erin Delahunty Stan Liacos Marika McMahon Peter Murphy Warren Sinnott Margot Spalding Rod Thomson Robert Toon

Company secretary and executive officer

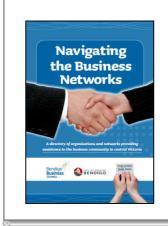
Kevin de Vries

Bendigo Business Council

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The "Navigating the Business Networks" guide assists business to understand the many organisations and networks that serve business in Bendigo. Produced with grateful assistance from City of Greater Bendigo and launched in 2011.

The BBC reviewed its strategic plan during 2011, producing a strategic statement to guide its activities over the next 2-3 years. The BBC thanks Bill O'Neil for assistance with facilitation.



Directors of the Bendigo Business Council 2010-11

Margaret O'Rourke (Chair)

Margaret O'Rourke is an independent business consultant and formerly the General Manager of Telstra Country Wide Bendigo and Central Victoria.

Margaret has over 30 years experience with Telstra in a variety of management roles, and had also been involved on a number of Government Boards

Margaret was previously a board member of the Bendigo Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and brings a depth of experience to the board.

Marika McMahon

Marika McMahon is a solicitor, family law specialist and partner at O'Farrell Robertson McMahon. She joined the board of the BBC in 2010.

Marika has extensive experience on public boards including as chair of Bendigo Health, chair of Ambulance Victoria and director of Bendigo UFS Pharmacies. She was the 2001 Victorian Young Business Person of the Year.

Marika brings a passion for her community and for the people who contribute to community life. With Margot Spalding, Marika is a key driver of the Womeni.s.e. chapter.

Erin Delahunty

Erin Delahunty is public relations consultant with Regional Public Relations (a division of SASI Marketing).

Erin has a background as a journalist and professional writer. She has worked for newspapers from the Bendigo Advertiser to London's Daily Mail.

Originality and passion are Erin's strengths and she brings both of these to the BBC board.

Herbert Hermens (Deputy Chair)

Herbert Hermens is CEO of Keech Australia. Representing a significant manufacturer in Bendigo and coming from a background in marketing, Herbert believes in the potential for the BBC to be a strong voice for business.

This year Herbert chaired the City's Inventor of the Year awards and is passionate about the community's potential to build on its education, manufacturing and services strengths.

Stan Liacos

Stan Liacos is the Director of City Futures at the City of Greater Bendigo. Stan has extensive experience in both the public and private sector having worked in local and state government, a statutory authority, and small, medium and large private enterprise.

Stan's contribution as a director assists the BBC to connect more effectively into government advocacy and programs.

Rod

Thomson

Rod Thomson is the

qualifications in

engineering and

over 30 years.

Group and the

managing director of

Bendigo Pottery. With

business management

Rod has been involved

in manufacturing for

Rod is a member of

Australian Industry

Group North Central

and Goulburn Valley

selection committee. He

served on the board of

the BCCI prior to the

formation of the BBC.

Goldfields Tourism, the

Bendigo Manufacturing

Peter Murphy

Peter Murphy is a partner and director at Strategem Financial Group. He is an experienced advisor and advocate for local business having supported local companies for over 18 years.

Peter is enthusiastic about encouraging local businesses to better connect with each other and building the role of small business within the BBC.

Robert Toon

Robert Toon is an architect and principal of Toon Architects Group. Since 1990 Robert has seen Bendigo transform itself from a struggling manufacturing based economy to a strong services and tourism based one.

Robert brings to the board a professional understanding of the issues facing small business in the region and the desire to broaden the economic base for success of business generally.

He has been actively involved in many local and government committees addressing the region's issues and future.

Warren Sinnott (Treasurer)

Warren Sinnott is a partner at local accounting firm Richmond, Sinnott & Delahunty. Warren is passionate about developing business in Bendigo, and also of fostering an environment that supports local businesses.

Warren is actively involved working with many organisations including sporting groups, church and community groups. He is the chairman of the Bendigo International Madison committee. Margot Spalding

Margot Spalding is coowner and director of Jimmy Possum. Margot constantly extols the benefits of living and doing business in Bendigo and is a strong believer in the contribution that businesses make to the strength of communities.

Margot has a passion for increasing the status of women in business and the community. Winner of the 2006 Telstra Australian Business Woman of the Year,

Margot's passion for people is evident in her leadership of the BBC's womeni.s.e. chapter.

BBC staff

The Executive Officer of the Bendigo Business Council is **Kevin de Vries**, who was appointed in November 2008. Kevin comes from a health and retail background, having previously owned and managed a pharmacy in central Bendigo.

During 2010-11 the Bendigo Business Council is shared the services of administrative staff with Continuing Education Bendigo, with **Sally Patten** and **Jessica Singe** providing the Bendigo Business Council's points-of-contact, assisting with correspondence, events and organisation.

Report from the Chair



The 2010/2011 year has again presented its challenges to business and particularly for the Retail Sector. The Bendigo Business Council this year has maintained a membership of 210. We have welcomed a number of new sponsors with O'Farrell Robertson McMahon, CVGT, State Trustees and the ANZ Bank joining the many

businesses and organisation that demonstrate their leadership through support of the Bendigo Business Council. I know that business in Bendigo and our Board are extremely appreciative of the wonderful support and partnerships that you all provide.

This year the board underwent a review of the Bendigo Business Council Strategic Plan and enhanced it further to develop what the Business Council will focus through to 2015. The Advocacy and Service components will be further developed to provide more for members. We will also look to the leaders of business in our community to assist in guiding the Council as participants on a number of forums that will be held in the coming 12 months working on business issues and advocacy. This we believe will shape our priorities for what business requires into the future; by drawing on the expertise of not just our board but industry experts relevant to the topics of discussion.

Again, this year the Business Council was called upon by Government and Business Groups seeking advice and comment on behalf of business in Bendigo. Our future is exciting for this region what with \$630mil committed for a new hospital, \$25mil for a new A grade Performing Arts Theatre utilizing the old gaol site and \$15mil for a new multi storey car park with an anchor tenant of the State Trustees; just to name a few high profile projects.

On many occasions through discussions and comments from other regional communities have business leaders wanting to know the recipe for what we are doing here in Bendigo. The perception by our regional cousins in Ballarat, Geelong, Shepparton and beyond is that the gap is widening; what were once our regional competitors for business are now seeing us as regional leaders. Bendigo is moving ahead and what better compliment than when it comes from our peers.

As I mentioned earlier, Retail is where the battle for many still remains. What with on-line competition, high rents and increasing competition for the consumer dollar. Enabling businesses to be more equipped and not just a "one trick pony" is critical. The Bendigo Business Council are pleased to be partners with the City of Greater Bendigo and Workspace Australia and Design Experts to assist in making Business to Business seminars available to businesses free of charge. Assisting businesses to develop their people further, to equip and differentiate themselves through these difficult times. We were also extremely pleased this year to partner with the City and develop a booklet to help navigate Bendigo's business networks. This booklet is available on-line and through the Bendigo Business Council and Economic Development team at the City to assist in understanding the departments and groups in our community and how business can access them more easily.

On the speakers circuit for this year following our AGM we will have, through the generosity of RDA Loddon Mallee, guest Paul Budde, renowned telecommunications commentator address the business community about the benefits of high speed broadband and the NBN rollout. Through Paul's vast experience he will share his experience of how broadband can assist the economy, and enhance how our business operations, education and health sectors can create more innovation. In Bendigo and the Loddon Mallee Region a group of key business leaders of which the Bendigo Business Council is a part of; are working together to bring high speed broadband to this region sooner. Paul Budde heads up our list of interesting and relevant speakers to our business community for the 2011/2012 year. The Business Council sees this as a one of our key planks in our strategic plan and our role to bring the experts and partner with key sponsors so we can continue to share knowledge in our community.

I would like to thank our members and sponsors for their support again this year. Also to Kevin, Jess and Sally for their assistance. I take the opportunity to say thank you also to three board members who are stepping down this vear. Rod Thomson has been a board member since the amalgamation of CVBN and the Bendigo Chamber of Commerce. Rod was a board member of the Chamber prior to amalgamation. Also to Erin Delahunty and Robert Toon who have been member for the last two years. Erin, Robert and Rod have been strong contributors and I thank you for the knowledge, experience and time you have given. These roles are voluntary, and the commitment given can often be undervalued by the wider business community. I personally would like to take this opportunity to recognise what you have both been able to do for the Business Council and business in Bendigo.

A strong business community is pivotal to a city the size of Bendigo. We are now beginning to see the rewards of the contribution that the Bendigo Business Council makes alongside and in partnership with other key groups such as Tourism, Manufacturing, Professional Services, the Economic Development team of the City of Greater Bendigo and state and federal agencies and employer organisations. A vibrant, growing city, which is fast becoming the Regional Business Capital of Australia.

WO Romke.

Margaret O'Rourke Chair

Executive Officer's Report



The year to 30 June has been one of consolidation for the Bendigo Business Council. In a continuingly trying business environment, our membership remains steady and we have secured a number of new major sponsors, while maintaining existing sponsors.

The BBC trialled and tested a

variety of new events and activities to bring business together during the year. We completed a review of our strategic plan to shape our future activities. Importantly our profile has grown such that we are a respected voice for business in central Victoria and clearly the largest representative body for business in Bendigo.

Our relevance comes from our services to members: our weekly e-news published 51 times a year and delivered to over 400 individuals in Bendigo; our business networking events that bring people together to learn about topical issues; and our support of chapters such as womeni.s.e. and the Young Professionals Network.

The BBC continues to bring Bendigo relevant business networking events featuring topics and speakers of genuine interest. Our event topics included the new Bendigo Hospital, the future of regional news reporting, the tourism sector and Bendigo's regional future. Speakers included John Mulder, Moira Rayner, Craig Niemann and Jenny Dawson.

Two candidates' forums were held in the second half of 2010 - prior to the Federal and State elections respectively. These were well attended and well received with strong participation from across the political spectrum.

In August 2010 we assisted in bringing a business expo to Bendigo. We also partnered in May 2011 when Rural Finance brought Saul Eslake to Bendigo, and assisted in bringing the Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commissioner Helen Szoke to our city.

The success story of the past 12 months has been the launch and development of Womeni.s.e. BBC director Margot Spalding has assembled a highly effective team to organise and drive these unique events. To all of Margot's helpers, especially Margot Falconer, Marika McMahon and Margaret O'Rourke, sincerely acknowledgement must be paid.

Likewise, the continued development of the Young Professionals Network is to be commended under first the leadership of David Hughes and secondly Briana Cowan. The YPN committee plays an important role in connecting like-minded young people and identifying and developing Bendigo's future business and community leaders. I extend considerable thanks to the Bendigo Advertiser for their promotion of all our events and activities, including those of womeni.s.e. and the Young Professionals Network. The BBC is also proud to be featured in the Bendigo Advertiser's Enterprise magazine each quarter.

With Commerce Ballarat the BBC has taken a leadership role in bringing local Chambers of Commerce together across the state. In Victoria there are only four local business organisations with sufficient income to sustain a paid executive officer. In the absence of a peak-body for chambers of commerce we are helping to establish Business Networks Alliance Victoria to unite chambers, share knowledge and resources, and address problems of mutual concern.

I wish to extend my thanks to each of the directors of the Business Council, and in particular to the two chairs who have led the organisation over the past 12 months – Doug Buerger and Margaret O'Rourke. Doug and Margaret have invested considerable personal time into leading the Business Council and I have found working with each of them most rewarding.

While I am pleased with the growth in membership and sponsorship the BBC has achieved this year, I am a little disappointed that the year ended in a small financial loss of \$963. While this must be balanced in the context of what we have achieved in service delivery, building the profile of the organisation and the launch of Womeni.s.e; it is also a reminder of the need to continually demonstrate value to maintain our membership and sponsorship.

The year ahead will bring many challenges for business: the introduction of a Carbon Tax, ongoing global financial uncertainty, continuing technology and social changes and a volatile and difficult retail landscape. This presents an opportunity for strong business leadership and the creation of a cohesive business community. Having outlined our new strategic direction this year, I believe our organisation is strongly positioned to further develop over the coming 12 months.

Kin detine

Kevin de Vries Executive Officer

Bendigo Business Council Activities

Publications and advocacy

The Bendigo Business Council advocates and argues ardently for the role of business as a driver of innovation, entrepreneurship, employment and investment in our community.

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Increasingly the Bendigo Business Council's passionate advocacy for business is sought out by media, politicians and decision makers in our community. Our leadership role is recognised and respected. The BBC has again provided assistance to regulatory and parliamentary committees, assisted with local planning and policy consultations and been prominent across a range of

media in response to matters of business interest.

eNews

The BBC weekly eNews is Bendigo's must read compendium of information for business. The eNews is the BBC's communication medium for its members, sharing news of upcoming events and activities, news from members, business resources, member and sponsor profiles and more. The eNews features the activities of the Bendigo Young Professionals Network and womeni.s.e., as well as reports from past events.

The BBC weekly e-News is produced using the Correspond platform developed by The Web Company for which we extend our grateful appreciation. Correspond makes the eNews quicker and easier to compile, looks more professional and is easier to read and addresses requirements related to electronic mail and spam legislation.

Networking events and business promotion

The Bendigo Business Council's networking events are the best in Bendigo. We have brought businesses together with a range of engaging speakers and experimented with panel forums as well as traditional breakfasts and dinners. Speakers hosted included Chris Buckingham, Jenny Dawson, Peter Kennedy, John Mulder, Craig Nieman, Anthony Radford, Moira Rayner and Jonathan Ridnell.

Website

The BBC offers a range of electronic means to be kept informed of BBC activities, events and media releases. The Bendigo Business Council website features details of upcoming events, news, press releases, contact details, membership information, business links, newsletters, and more at: **www.bendigobusinesscouncil.com.au**



Facebook and Linked-in

A relevant social media presence is of growing importance as vital means of being connecting with existing and future customers. Bendigo's leading business community has a presence on two prominent social networks: Facebook and Linked-In where members can join, subscribe or follow BBC news.

These will be developed a means for BBC members to share news and keep in touch with business matters and opportunities in the city and region. The organisation is presently formalising its social media policy and intends to establish a presence on Twitter in 2012.

www.facebook.com/bendigobusinesscouncil



Members Business Directory

A feature of the BBC website is the Members' Business Directory, featuring information about member businesses including areas of expertise, contact details, and providing an easy click-through link to each business' website, and allowing visitors to send a secure email message to each member's business.

The Business Directory can be reached from the Bendigo Business Council website.



Chapters, relationships and alliances



Bendigo's **Young Professionals Network** has been operating since 2005 and now has over 400 contacts with young professionals in our city. The Bendigo Business Council is proud to support the Young Professionals Network in Bendigo and provide to administration support and

website and other IT assistance with support from BBC corporate partner The Web Company.

An active professional network is important for business, young people and the community of Bendigo. It provides young people with social opportunities to mix with their peers, develop networking, mentoring and career building skills. It supports young people at the start of their careers and provides them with a sense of belonging. It assists businesses in attracting professional workers to our region, and it identifies future leaders and provides pathways for young business leaders to emerge and develop.



This year the YPN was led by David Hughes from Jimmy Possum from July 2010 to March 2011 and from April 2011 by Briana Cowan of Telstra. David and Briana (and their respective employers) have been most generous with their time and along with the YPN committee are helping the YPN to become a welcoming organisation with elements of professional development as well as being a great opportunity for friends to catch-up socially.

This year the YPN events included discussions on leadership, wealth management and persuasion, as well as a young entrepreneurs' dinner, a 'dining with the stars' event featuring Kelly Cartright. Social activities included movie fundraisers, barefoot bowls, comedy, cocktail nights, winery tours and the monthly after work drinks.

With a number of regular social events also happening, Bendigo Young Professionals Network has established itself as an effective and fun way to develop both social and professional networks across the Bendigo region. We look forward to seeing what the year ahead holds!



For more information or to join the Young Professionals Network, visit **www.ypn.net.au** or email **info@ypn.net.au**

WOMENI.S.C.

Womeni.s.e. has been the success story of the past year, gathering crowds of women and men to its fun, interesting and inspiring events.



The impetus for launching womeni.s.e. came following the successful "3 Margots of Bendigo East' dinner held in May 2010. Following this, Margot Spalding gathered together a dozen or so of her pals to form a start-up group for a new connection point for women in Bendigo. Womeni.s.e. represents women: inspire, support and encourage and has captured the imagination of many across Bendigo.

The launch event was a 'fortnight in the diary of' dinner which featured Amy Doak, Dr Diana Badcock and Marika McMahon. Following this have been the unique $3\times4\times5$ dinners where 12 of Bendigo's most inspiring women are profiled. The womeni.s.e. group also presented a unique insight into social media presented from a women's perspective.



When the womeni.s.e.rs are not celebrating the achievements of Bendigo's women they relax and spend time together with fantastic 'bubbles and a schmooze' events. The emphasis at these gatherings is fun, chat and spending time together. So far these have been supported by businesses such as O'Farrell Robertson McMahon, Jimmy Possum, La Piazza and Bendigo TAFE.

Womeni.s.e. has established a strong momentum which has carried into the new financial year with many exciting events planned. With over 200 on the circulation list and over 100 Facebook followers womeni.s.e. events are always popular and are frequently fully booked.

Special acknowledgement and thanks are extended to Margot Spalding, Marika McMahon, Margot Falconer and Margaret O'Rourke for their continuing leadership and support of womeni.s.e.

The best way to maintain contact with womeni.s.e. activities is to visit the womeni.s.e. webpage (follow the links from the BBC page), follow **www.facebook.com/womenise** or email **womenise@bendigobusinesscouncil.com.au**



The Bendigo Professional

Services Group (BPSG) is a reference group that provides advice to the City of Greater

Bendigo Economic Development Unit for the sector to work with Business Development to aid the growth of professional services in Bendigo.

The aim of the BPSG is to increase the understanding of the contribution of the Business and Professional Services sector to the Bendigo economy and promote the expansion of the sector.

The Bendigo Business Council is represented on this reference group by executive officer Kevin de Vries.

The **Bendigo Manufacturing Group** is an action-oriented group focused on the needs and issues of local manufacturing businesses. The Objectives are: To establish the best possible environment and infrastructure for manufacturing industries; to encourage and promote manufacturing industries; to explore initiatives that facilitate development in the manufacturing sector.

The Bendigo Business Council is represented on this reference group by directors Rod Thomson, and Herbert Hermens.



The Bendigo Business Council was an active participant in Community Reference Group of the **Bendigo** +25 **Community Plan**, which evolved into the **Bendigo** 2036

plan in early 2011.

A number of new projects and developments will emerge from the 2036 plan and including the concept of making Bendigo a Thinking City. The BBC continues to work closely in support of these community expanding initiatives.

The Bendigo Business Council very proudly works with many divisions of the **City of Greater Bendigo** and has close dialogue with many local bodies including the City's planning, strategy and economic development units, Bendigo Tourism, Capital Theatre, Art Gallery, Goldfields Library Corporation, Bendigo Trust and Bendigo Motels Association.

In October 2010 a joint networking luncheon was held with Bendigo Tourism and featured Chris Buckingham from Destination Melbourne.



The Bendigo Business Council takes a special interest in the activities and health of the retail sector. During 2010-11 maintained dialogue with the **Bendigo Traders Association** and the Strathfieldsaye Business Network.

The retail sector has experienced particularly challenging times in the past 12-24 months with some businesses falling on hard-times. The BBC notes that the Bendigo Traders Association was unable to renew its promotional levy within the Bendigo CBD, throwing the future of that organisation into doubt. The BBC reaffirms its commitment to be the representative organisation for all business in Bendigo and looks to extend its services to the B2C sector in the coming year.

The BBC has also developed close links to the Bendigo Rotary clubs, having addressed a number of Rotary meetings over the past 12 months.



Exporters Network

In previous years the Bendigo Business Council (and previously CVBN) acted as an auspice body for the **Central Victorian Exporters Network**. It is pleasing to report that in the past year the Central Victorian Exporters Network (CVEN) incorporated and is

now a self-standing body serving export manufacturers across central Victoria.

Still ably administered by Scott McGillivray and Rofer Yu the Exporters Network provides a range of training and networking opportunities to understand the global marketplace; identify opportunities; and undertake trade in international markets.

Visit: www.cven.com.au

Bendígo.

Sponsors



GOLD PARTNER

Bendigo Bank delivers retail banking products and services to more than 1.4 million retail customers via a national network of 400 plus branches and agencies.

Its focus on customer and community dates back more than 150 years and has seen the bank become a real force in branch banking and a popular alternative to larger banks.

Why? Because the Bendigo Bank believes successful communities are great places to run a successful business.

www.bendigobank.com.au



GOLD PARTNER

RSD Chartered Accountants is a leading Chartered Accounting firm based in Bendigo. They have built a professional and progressive firm based on independence, integrity and objectivity.

RSD is proud of its strong reputation and ability to deliver clear and practical advice to help their clients succeed and grow. They put their clients first, listening to their clients' needs, concerns and business objectives.

RSD makes sure they understand their clients' business challenges and address the issues.

www.rsdadvisors.com.au



GOLD PARTNER

Fox Personnel is Central and Northern Victoria's leading Private Recruitment Consultancy. They have been operating since 1999 and have offices in Shepparton and Bendigo.

They are providers of a professional Permanent and Temporary Staff Recruitment service and are proud of their continuing success in the region. Fox Personnel provides a wide range of services for Employers and pride ourselves on our ability to understand our client's needs and provide them with quality candidates every time.

www.foxpersonnel.com.au



GOLD PARTNER

Telstra is the only communications company in Australia that can provide customers with a truly integrated telecommunications experience across fixed line, mobiles, broadband, information, transaction and search and pay TV.

As Australia's leading telecommunications provider and one of its largest companies, Telstra knows the positive impact its business can have on community life and wellbeing. Telstra takes an active interest in the issues facing all Australians, from capital cities to the remotest parts of our country.

www.telstra.com.au



GOLD PARTNER

La Trobe University has been one of Australia's pioneering universities for forty years. With learning, teaching and research designed to enrich the world and a history of academic innovation, La Trobe is leading the way in higher education.

Today La Trobe University is renowned for its academic excellence and research achievements. Over 100,000 students have graduated from La Trobe University thus far and have gone on to achieve great things in all walks of life, giving the University its well-deserved reputation.

www.latrobe.edu.au



PROJECT PARTNER

One of the many roles of the **City of Greater Bendigo** is to support economic development within the municipality. The Council's Business and Economic Development Unit works to support business and drive investment in our region.

The City of Greater Bendigo provides support to business through a number of industry sectors, groups and clusters.

www.bendigo.vic.gov.au



SILVER PARTNER

One of Australia's 'big four' banks, the **ANZ** provides a range of banking and financial products and services to around 8 million customers worldwide.

ANZ Bank has specialists in small business, agribusiness and offers a full suite of business services. It provides online business insights and an online small business hub, as well as locally based business bankers including small business specialists.

The ANZ is also well connected to Asian and Pacific markets and the extensive knowledge in the markets it serves is of value to businesses exporting or expanding internationally.

www.anzbank.com



An Australian Government Initiative AusIndustry

SILVER PARTNER

AusIndustry is the Australian Government's principal business program delivery division in the Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research.

AusIndustry provides incentives to help Australian businesses: conduct research and development; grow small business; take up new technology; undertake industry-specific manufacturing and production; and commercialise a new technology or venture.

www.ausindustry.gov.au

bankmecu responsible banking

SILVER PARTNER

bankmecu is a Australia's first customer owned bank. bank**mecu** is respected in Australia and internationally for developing a sustainable and socially responsible approach to banking. It designs banking products and services that support our customers to achieve their financial goals while also helping them take steps to live more sustainably.

bank**mecu** also invests its customers' money in responsible ways that generate benefits for them as well as create stronger communities and a healthier environment. At the heart of bank**mecu** is a belief that strong synergies exist between social and environmental responsibility and a cooperative approach to banking.

www.bankmecu.com.au



SILVER PARTNER

Bendigo TAFE delivers vocational training, education and assessment services to over 12,000 students every year. Its students have a range of flexible study options available to them - full-time, part-time, off-campus, in your home or work place. They can be at senior secondary level, school leavers, mature age, international students or people upgrading their skills as part of their employer's own training program. Bendigo TAFE is highly flexible in order to meet the needs of all students.

www.bendigotafe.edu.au



Continuing Education Bendigo

SILVER PARTNER

Continuing Education Bendigo is one of the larger regional adult and community education providers in Victoria. Since 1973 CEB has offered quality learning, training and development opportunities to the Bendigo community and surrounding regions through a range of collaborative partnerships, innovation and government funded programs.

www.cebendigo.com.au



SILVER PARTNER

CVGT Australia Ltd is a not for profit unlisted company that manages more than 10 state and federal government programs. With an annual turnover of over \$35 million and more than 300 staff employed in 25 locations across Australia, CVGT Australia is a growing presence in the market for employment and training programs.

Having operated for more than 25 years, CVGT Australia knows how to retain its mission and values while facilitating the relationships between government, clients and consumers that result in better, more positive outcomes for individuals, employees and businesses.

Working together, CVGT Australia, individuals and businesses identify credible employment and training options, take steps to bring them into reality, and monitor outcomes to ensure their sustainability over time.

www.cvgt.com.au

W the web company

SILVER PARTNER

The Web Company is a Website Design, Online

The Web Company is part of the SASI Marketing

www.thewebcompany.com.au

Marketing and Software Development business that services clients across Victoria, Australia.



SILVER PARTNER

SASI Marketing is a leading Victorian full-service marketing and advertising agency with a focus on delivering results for business.

With its strategic focus, cutting edge creativity and industry-best methods, SASI makes every dollar of your marketing budget work harder.

www.sasi.com.au

Bendigo Advertiser

MEDIA PARTNER

Published since 1853, The Bendigo Advertiser has

The Advertiser is published by Rural Press Ltd with

been delivering the news to central Victorians for

over 150 years.

and classifieds.



SILVER PARTNER

State Trustees is owned by the State of Victoria and has been operating for more than 70 years.

State Trustees is prominent in both the commercial and community sectors providing services to all Victorians including Will preparation, Enduring Power of Attorney (Financial, Medical Treatment and Guardianship), deceased estate administration, trust administration, compensation administration, genealogical services, legal, taxation and financial planning services and personal administration services

www.statetrustees.com.au



RADIO Ten-71am - Central Victoria

MEDIA PARTNER

Covering Bendigo and central Victoria, Easymix radio transmits on both AM 1071kHz and FM 98.3MHz. Part of the Grant Broadcasters network, Easymix is a family-owned radio network.

Easmix presents local news, local information and local entertainment and features the inimitable Bruce Lees for breakfast.

www.easymix/com/au/centralvictoria



owned regional television network and reaches more than 5.2 million viewers across six states of Australia and the nation's capital.

WIN Television provides a comprehensive news service across Australia, producing 18 individual 30 minute local WIN News bulletins every weekday.

www.wintv.com.au

11.

access to the resources of Fairfax Media. "The Addy" keeps Bendigo updated with the latest local news and events, property, cars, jobs, radio, machinery,

www.bendigoadvertiser.com.au



98.3fm - Bendigo

MEDIA PARTNER WIN Television is the world's largest privately

group of companies.



CORPORATE SPONSOR

10X is a company that works hard to make a difference to businesses and business operators.

10X business coaches have a passion for people; a passion for business; an understanding of business and how business works and what a business can produce for the people involved; and a strong desire to make a real difference in people's lives and the world in general.

www.10x.com.au

OUNTANTS **BUSINESS ADVISERS FOR LIFE**

CORPORATE SPONSOR

MGR Accountants is based in Bendigo

professional and independent services

and operates additional offices in

Echuca, Castlemaine and Elmore.

MGR provides a wide range of

to business. Its diverse clientele

reflects MGR's ability to recognise

that every business holds its own

they find the ultimate solution to

achieving their business success.

unique needs and complexities. MGR

works closely with its clients to ensure

www.mgr.com.au

CORPORATE SPONSOR ADROIT is one of the largest Insurance Brokers in Victoria.

As an Austbrokers member its national buying power ensures competitive premiums and superior products. The Adroit client service commitment "we listen, we

INSURANCE GROU

deliver" backs every one of its products with a promise to provide full insurance solutions - tailored to your individual needs and delivered through trusted local relationships.

www.adroitig.com.au



CORPORATE SPONSOR

Mine Services Victoria provides a range of services for the mining industry in Victoria including Labour hire; engineering; construction; electrical services; off Site maintenance; capital works; shut down support; project management; operational staff support; design and drafting and building maintenance

mineservicesvictoria.com.au



CORPORATE SPONSOR

Formed in 1992 following the amalgamation of three smaller community organisations, Bendigo Access Employment Inc. has grown into a large, diverse not-forprofit community based organisation.

accessemployment.com.au



CORPORATE SPONSOR

Bart'n'Print is Central Victoria's leading printing business offering a full range of commercial printing solutions as well as graphic design, and web page design. The various forms of work carried out by the Bart 'n' Print team varies from basic one colour business cards right thru to multi colour, multi page financial reviews. Bart 'n' Print also offer rubber stamps and laser engraving

www.bartnprint.com.au

Northgate USTRALIAN VENTURES

CORPORATE SPONSOR

Northgate completed the acquisition

of Perseverance Corporation Ltd., in

February 2008, adding the Fosterville

currently has a 5-year mine life plan at

www.northgateminerals.com

km east of Bendigo. It is an

underground gold mine which

100,000+ ounces of gold per year.



CORPORATE SPONSOR

The Commonwealth Bank is one of Australia's leading providers of integrated financial services. The Commonwealth Bank is focused on understanding our customers' needs, then meeting and exceeding their expectations.

www.commbank.com.au



CORPORATE SPONSOR

O'Farrell Robertson McMahon is a leading local law firm specialising in business law, leases. conveyancing, family law, wills, estates and farming issues ..

We are delighted to have OFRM and its four Directors Marika McMahon (Accredited Family Law Specialist), Russell Robertson (Accredited Wills and Estate Specialist), Mark O'Farrell (conveyancing and property) and Sam McGee (Family Lawyer) supporting BBC.

www.ofrm.com.au

CHERPTY LTD

CORPORATE SPONSOR

Graeme and Trish Pilcher of G A & P A Pilcher Building Contractors are living examples of their Business philosophy. They believe in building liveable homes that suit individual customer's needs. With twenty one years in operation they have gained extensive knowledge and expertise with in the building industry.

pilcherbuilders.com.au

CORPORATE SPONSOR

PowerAV provides Bendigo the ultimate in professional audio visual experiences. With an event or an installation of any size. PowerAV provides the very best product and service available

Specialising in professional AV only and with over 18 years in the industry they can be trusted to do it well every time. PowerAV staff are highly trained and best of all friendly and helpful, nothing is an inconvenience.

www.powerav.com.au



portfolio.

CORPORATE SPONSOR

Powercor Australia is Victoria's largest electricity distributor, supplying electricity to regional and rural centres in central and western Victoria, and Melbourne's outer western suburbs. Powercor services more than 683,000 distribution customers, and operates successful nonregulated businesses.

www.powercor.com.au



CORPORATE SPONSOR

Rural Finance offers finance to the rural sector for a range of purposes and has played a major role in the development of rural Victoria Rural Finance also administers schemes on behalf of the Commonwealth and Victorian Governments.

As a specialist provider of finance to the rural sector for more than 60 years, Rural Finance has assisted many families to invest wisely in their future.

www.ruralfinance.com.au

Sandhurst Trustees

CORPORATE SPONSOR

Since 1888, Sandhurst Trustees has provided Australian families with estate management and financial services Sandhurst Trustees is the Trustee of Bendigo Bank's charitable arm, the Community Enterprise™ Foundation.

sandhursttrustees.com.au

and Stawell Gold mines to its mining The Fosterville Gold mine is located 20

Members of the Bendigo Business Council as at 30 June 2011.

10X Bendigo

About Sustainability Ace Body Corporate Management

Adroit Insurance Group

Advice Plus AFS & Associates Pty Ltd Allstate Logistics Allweld Constructions Amicus

ANZ Bank

AusIndustry

Australian Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government Australian Institute of

Company Directors Bank West

Barnard Mind Therapy Bart'n'Print

Bartercard Central Victoria Beck Legal Bendigo Access

Employment

Bendigo Advertiser

Bendigo Bank Academy of Sport

Bendigo Bank

Bendigo Boarding Cattery Bendigo Business Solutions Bendigo Classic & Custom Autos Bendigo Community Health Services

Bendigo Community Telco

Bendigo Engineering Services Bendigo Executive Group Bendigo Health Bendigo Insurance Brokers Bendigo IT Bendigo Jockey Club Bendigo Pottery Bendigo Property Services Bendigo Radiology

Bendigo Removals and Storage

Bendigo TAFE

Bendigo Spirit Women's Basketball

Bendigo Stadium Limited Bendigo Tourism Board

Bendigo Towbar and TJM Megastore Bendigo Weekly

Bendimail

BEST Community Development BIG4 BENDIGO Ascot Holiday Park Bluesky Financial Solutions

Bolton's Office National Books + Blocks Childcare **Broadspring Consulting Buerger Consulting** Campaspe Asset Management Services Care Beyond Measure Cartridge World Bendigo Central Victorian Medical **Recruitment Taskforce Central Victorian Mobile** Cranes Central Victorian Technology Services **Challenges Accepted** Christians Bus Co. **City of Greater Bendigo Coates Hire** Coliban Water **Commonwealth Bank** Community Leadership Loddon Murray Inc. Community Telco Australia **Compelling Economics Continuing Education Bendigo** Corporate Express CPG **CRS** Australia CSG Demining Consultants **CSR Bradford Insulation** Cubiq CVGT **Design Experts**

Doxa Youth Foundation Dr Michael Langdon Dungey Carter Ketterer Dwyer Thoroughbred Racing Pty Ltd E+ Architecture

Easymix Ten 71

Eco Success EPA Victoria Fairbrother Fencebuild Foundry Hotel Complex Fox Personnel

GA & PA Pilcher

Garry Ford Engineering GE Silos Pty Ltd GPO Restaurant Grace Records Management Graffiti Publications Hip Pocket Workwear & Safety

Intervet Schering Plough

Animal Health Jax Quickfit Tyres Jim Boyer and Associates Jimmy Possum JL King

Keech Castings

Kevin de Vries Pharmacy Services Krutop Media Production

La Trobe University

Lift Truck Services Live Ecological LMHA Network Ltd Local Employment and Training Services

Look Security Macquarie Homes

Mainland Finance

Mawby Properties McCaig Airconditioning McCormick Harris Insurance Brokers

MECU

Midland Irrigation Mileage Creative Modus Insight Monash University, Bendigo Regional Clinical School

MSV Group Pty Ltd

MGR Accountants National Australia Bank

North Central Catchment Management Authority Northgate Australian

Ventures Objectify Services

O'Farrell Robertson McMahon

Organisational Learning Australia O'Rourke Prestige Cleaning Service Outdoor Steel Solutions Pty Ltd Pack & Send Pallas Athena Pty Ltd People Potential Unlimited Petersen Westbrook Cameron Petstock Bendigo **Power Audio Visual**

Powercor Australia Ltd

Poyser Motors

Precision Formworking Priceline Pharmacy Bendigo Propel Business Services Pty Ltd Purcell Communications

PUSH Coaching

Quality Resort All Seasons Bendigo

Radius Disability Services Regional Development Victoria Reilly's Retravision

Richmond Sinnott &

Delahunty Righteous Pups Australia RMCG

Robertson Hyetts

Rural Finance

Safety Systems Sandhurst Trustees

Santons of Bendigo

SASI Marketing

SED Consulting Shed 7 Sign-A-Rama Bendigo Sorted Business Admin Services

Sportsco Bendigo

St John of God Health Care

St Luke's Anglicare Stanford Marketing Pty Ltd

State Trustees

Stewarts Accountants

Strategem Financial Group

Stubberfield Group Bendigo Sureway Employment and Training

Tanner Couch Calendars & Promotional Products

Telstra Central Victoria & Sunraysia

Thales Australia The Bendigo Trust The BMS Retail Group The Meat Master The Petal Factory

The Web Company Tomkinson Group

Toon Architects Group Tracy the Placement People Tweed Sutherland Real Estate UFS Pharmacies Unity Mining Limited VATMI Industries -Sandhurst Enterprises Recycling VEA Group

VECCI

Viatek

Vicsuper

Vid-Net Productions WaterStore Poly Tanks

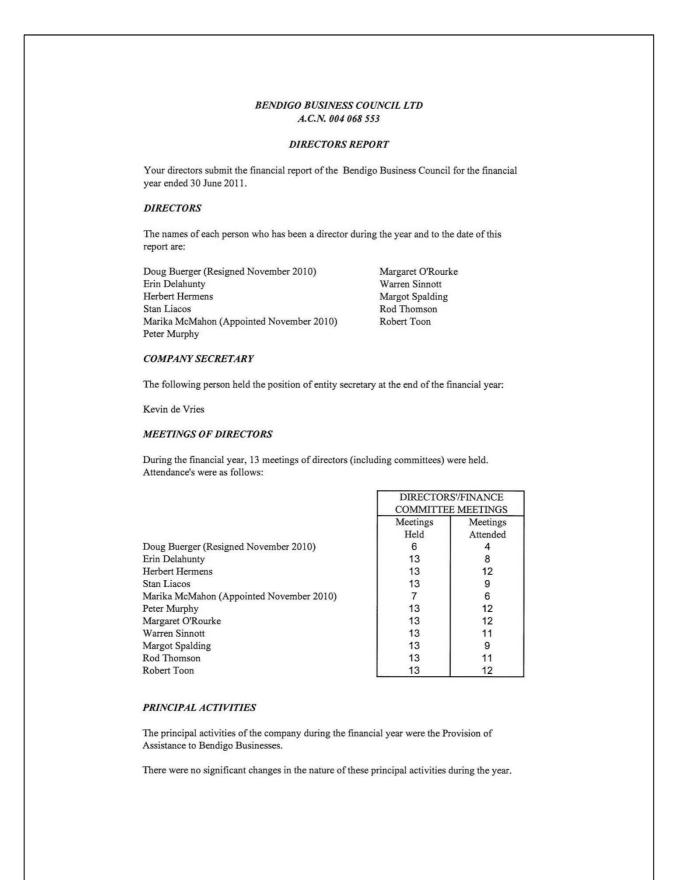
Westpac Banking Corp -Bendigo

WFI

Wild Plumbing William Farmer

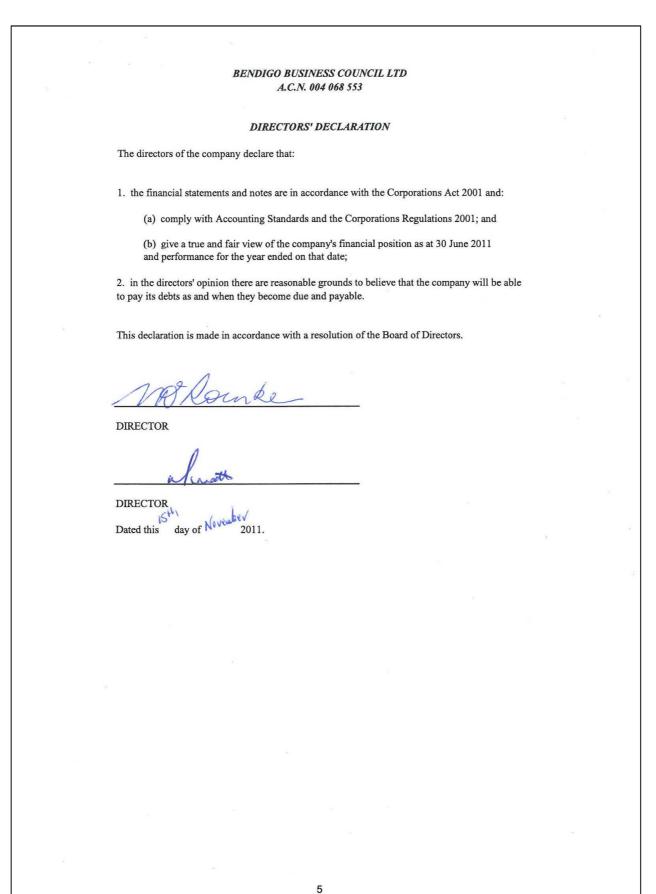
WIN Television

Workspace Australia Xpresso Delight Bendigo Youngblood Ink





16.





Independent Audit Report to the Members of

BENDIGO BUSINESS COUNCIL LTD.

Scope

We have audited the financial report of the Bendigo Business Council Ltd, which comprises the Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2011 and the Statement of Comprehensive Income, Statement of Changes in Equity and Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended on that date, a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes and the directors' declaration.

Directors' Responsibility for the Financial Report

The directors of the company are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations) and the *Corporations Act 2001*. This responsibility includes establishing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditors Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These Auditing Standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to auditing engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

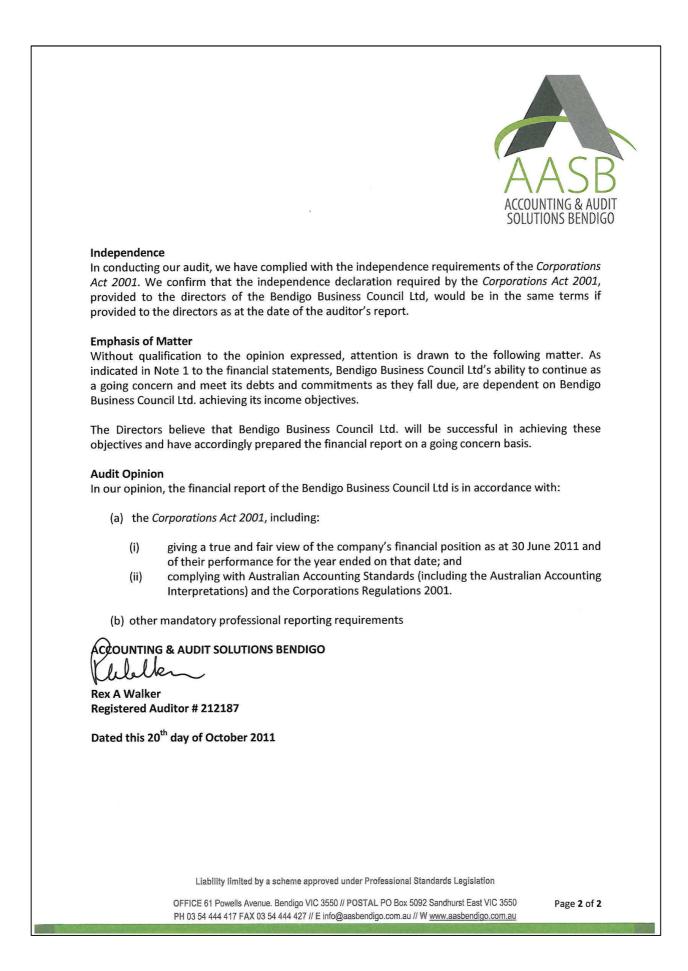
An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report 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 entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the directors, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

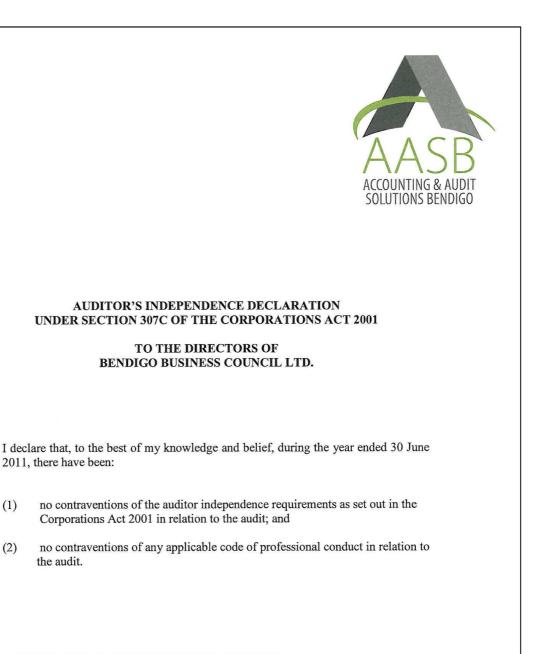
We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation

OFFICE 61 Powells Avenue. Bendigo VIC 3550 // POSTAL PO Box 5092 Sandhurst East VIC 3550 PH 03 54 444 417 FAX 03 54 444 427 // E info@aasbendigo.com.au // W www.aasbendigo.com.au

Page 1 of 2





COUNTING & AUDIT SOLUTIONS BENDIGO

Rex A Walker

2011, there have been:

the audit.

(1)

(2)

Dated this 13th day of October 2011

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OFFICE 61 Powells Avenue. Bendigo VIC 3550 // POSTAL PO Box 5092 Sandhurst East VIC 3550 PH 03 54 444 417 FAX 03 54 444 427 // E info@aasbendigo.com.au // W www.aasbendigo.com.au

BENDIGO BUSINESS COUNCIL LTD STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2011

	Note	2011 \$	2010 \$
Revenue	(2)	154,106	160,353
Operational Expenses	(3)	(55,074)	(66,237)
Labour Costs	(4)	(99,995)	(86,225)
Profit attributable to the Company	-	(963)	7,891

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

BENDIGO BUSINESS COUNCIL LTD STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 2011

	Note	2011 \$	2010 \$
CURRENT ASSETS		v o	-
Cash & Cash Equivalents	(5)	16,321	7,124
Trade & Other Receivables	(6)	11,651	11,795
TOTAL ASSETS	-	27,972	18,919
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade & Other Payables	(7)	14,929	5,688
Employee Benefits	(8)	3,719	2,944
TOTAL LIABILITIES	-	18,648	8,632
NET ASSETS	=	9,324	10,287
EQUITY			
Retained Earnings		9,324	10,287
TOTAL EQUITY	-	9,324	10,282
Commitments for Expenditure	(11)		
Contingent Assets & Liabilities	(11)		

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

BENDIGO BUSINESS COUNCIL LTD STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2011

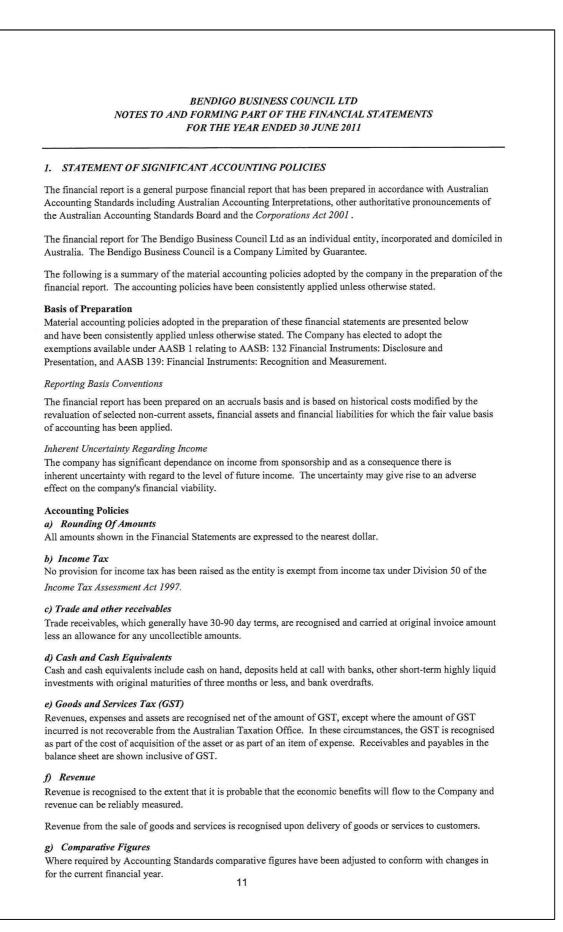
	Retained Earnings \$	TOTAL S
Balance at 1 July 2009	2,396	2,396
Profit attributable to the Company	7,891	7,891
Balance at 30 June 2010	10,287	10,287
Profit attributable to the Company	(963)	(963)
Balance at 30 June 2011	9,324	9,324

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

BENDIGO BUSINESS C STATEMENT OF CA AS AT 30 JUNE	SH FLOWS		
	Note	2011 \$	2010 \$
CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Receipts From Grants, Members & Events		169,207	163,846
Interest Received		860	577
Payments for Employee Services Payments to Suppliers		(93,770) (59,214)	(83,281) (83,276)
Net GST Paid/(Refunded) to ATO		(7,886)	(3,372)
NET CASH PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES	(10)	9,197	(5,506)
NET INCREASE/(DECREASE) IN CASH HELD		9,197	(5,506)
CASH AT BEGINNING OF YEAR		7,124	12,630
CASH AT END OF YEAR	- (9)	16,321	7,124

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

23.



BENDIGO BUSINESS COUNCIL LTD NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2011

	Note	2011 \$	2010 \$
2. REVENUE			
Membership Fees		33,642	20,555
Functions & Events		36,937	28,186
Sponsorship		82,667	85,342
Project Delivery Income		-	8,000
Interest		860	577
Other Income		-	17,693
TOTAL REVENUE	-	154,106	160,353
3. OPERATIONAL EXPENSES	-		
Accounting & Audit Fees		886	1,940
Administration		17,355	15,268
Advertising and Promotions		554	759
Bank Charges		888	487
Functions & Events		31,046	28,823
Insurances		932	339
Meeting Expenses		739	773
Project Delivery		-	16,531
Subscriptions		50	447
Sundry		86	870
Training & Development	-	2,538	-
TOTAL OPERATIONAL EXPENSES	=	55,074	66,237
4. LABOUR COSTS			
Contract Wages		17,885	17,458
Salaries & Wages		75,844	63,332
Superannuation		6,266	5,435
TOTAL LABOUR COSTS	-	99,995	86,225
5. CASH & CASH EQUIVALENTS			
Cash at Bank		16,321	7,124
	-		

BENDIGO BUSINESS COUNCIL LTD NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2011

	2011 \$	2010 \$
6. TRADE & OTHER RECEIVABLES		
Trade Receivables	11,651	11,795
TOTAL RECEIVABLES	11,651	11,795
7. TRADE & OTHER PAYABLES		
Trade Creditors	2,146	25
Accrued Expenses	5,450	-
GST Payable	1,258	1,391
PAYG Payable	6,075	4,272
TOTAL PAYABLES	14,929	5,688
8. EMPLOYEE BENEFITS		
Annual Leave	3,719	2,944
TOTAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	3,719	2,944
9. CASH FLOW INFORMATION		
	ivalents comprise the following a	at 30 June 2011
For the purpose of the Cash Flow Statement, Cash and Cash Equ.		
For the purpose of the Cash Flow Statement, Cash and Cash Equ	2011 \$	2010 \$
Cash & Cash Equivalents		2010
	\$	2010 \$
Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$ 16,321 	2010 \$ 7,124
Cash & Cash Equivalents TOTAL CASH	\$ 16,321 	2010 \$ 7,124
Cash & Cash Equivalents TOTAL CASH	\$ 16,321 16,321 16,321 1005 TO NET RESULT 2011	2010 \$ 7,124 7,124 2010
Cash & Cash Equivalents TOTAL CASH 10. RECONCILIATION OF CASH FLOW FROM OPERAT.	\$ 16,321 16,321 16,321 10NS TO NET RESULT 2011 \$	2010 \$ 7,124 7,124 2010 \$ 7,891
Cash & Cash Equivalents TOTAL CASH 10. RECONCILIATION OF CASH FLOW FROM OPERAT Net Result (Increase)/Decrease in Trade & Other Receivables Increase/(Decrease) in Trade & Other Payables	\$ 16,321 16,321 16,321 10005 TO NET RESULT 2011 \$ (963) 144 9,241	2010 \$ 7,124 7,124 2010 \$ 7,891 (7,038 (9,303
Cash & Cash Equivalents <i>TOTAL CASH</i> <i>10. RECONCILIATION OF CASH FLOW FROM OPERAT.</i> Net Result (Increase)/Decrease in Trade & Other Receivables	\$ 16,321 16,321 16,321 1005 TO NET RESULT 2011 \$ (963) 144	2010 \$ 7,124 7,124 2010 \$

NOTES TO THE	BUSINESS COUNCIL LTD E FINANCIAL STATEMENTS BAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2011	
	2011 S	201 \$
11. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIE	2S	
Capital Commitments As at the date of this report the company has not	entered into any agreement for further capita	1
<i>Contingent Assets & Liabilities</i> There are no known contingent assets or liabilities as at the date of this report.	es to the Bendigo Business Council Ltd	
12. DIRECTOR AND EXECUTIVE DISCLOS	URES	
(a) Directors' Remuneration		
Income received or due and receivable by all dire of the company from the company and any relate corporations		Ni
The names of the directors who held office durin financial year were:	g the	
Doug Buerger (Resigned November 2010) Erin Delahunty Herbert Hermens Stan Liacos Marika McMahon (Appointed November 2010) Peter Murphy	Margaret O'Rourke Warren Sinnott Margot Spalding Rod Thomson Robert Toon	
(b) Executive Officers Remuneration		
Executive Officers remuneration is paid under no	ormal commercial terms and conditions.	
13. SEGMENT INFORMATION		
The company's activities are the provision of ass	istance to the businesses of Bendigo, Victoria	1.
14. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURE		
(a) Director-Related Entities		
There were no transactions with director-related	entities.	
15. EVENTS AFTER THE BALANCE SHEL	ET DATE	
No matters or circumstances have arisen since th affected or may significantly affect the operation operations, or the state of affairs of the company	s of the company, the results of those	У

Our vision is for Bendigo to be the Regional Business Capital of Australia





PROJECT PARTNERS

