

# Annual Report 2020



## **SPELD Victoria**



Specific Learning Difficulties Association of Victoria Trading as SPELD-Victoria Inc

ABN 51178974489

Acknowledgements:

Kate Dilger, photography; Sasha Heath, Hello Tomato mural image; and Chris (Roy) Taylor; *BE Yourself* 50th Anniversary poster

# 51 YEARS SPELD Victoria

## President's Report

Like so many organisations, the story of FY2020 can best be told as a tale of two narratives – the pre-COVID-19 story, and the post. It is also a timely reminder that sometimes, despite the best of planning, you can be at the mercy of events which you have no control over.

And in this situation, the true performance of an organisation is not always measured by traditional metrics, but rather in the way its people rise to the wave of challenges, pivot the operations of the organisation to help it adapt and survive, and the daily sacrifices they make to continue to help those who SPELD Victoria serves.

We started this financial year with high hopes, celebrating our  $50^{th}$  birthday and with a clear pathway to finally delivering an operating profit, completing a hard-won turnaround of this great organisation. Yet by late March our offices were closed, our services all but stopped, key contracts cancelled and, inevitably our income streams having dried up.

As a result, our operating loss this year is substantial, but not terminal. Our cash reserves, combined with the support we received through the Australian Government's Job Keeper program, along with measures offered by the Victorian Department of Education to bring forward revenue, were vital in keeping the "doors open and the lights on".

However, as we come out of this pandemic, our stable position is in no small part due to the way our people responded during this crisis, moving quickly to adapt our services and delivery models as well as way of doing business.

If there is a silver lining to COVID-19, it is that through necessity we have been forced to rethink how we deliver our services. Some of these adaptations may well revolutionise the way we help all Victorians with specific learning difficulties into the future.

Our staff and educational psychologists developed and launched a series of telehealth services to ensure a range of diagnostic assessments could at least partially continue under lockdown. This has made our diagnostic assessments more accessible, while giving parents greater confidence in their ability to provide the necessary assistance for their children.

Similarly, the extraordinary work done by our team in transitioning our in-person workshops to an online learning environment saw an explosion of interest in our parent and professional learning workshops. In all, 53 workshops were delivered to almost 1,300 parents, teachers and other professionals across Victoria, a 38.5% increase on the prior year.

We know there is still a long way to go, and like all Australians, we are now adapting to what we think will be the "new normal". However, I believe we are once again seeing the green shoots of a recovery, and I think we are well placed to once again provide opportunities for people with learning difficulties to reach their full potential.

Matt Foran

President, SPELD Victoria

## **CEO Report**



#### Introduction

What a roller coaster ride FY2020 has been! We began the year planning for and celebrating SPELD Victoria's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in August at the State Library of Victoria. We finished the year with our office closed and all manner of business adaptation and service innovations underway to survive COVID-19. In between there had been bushfires, Black Lives Matter; plenty of hard work, steady growth and financial consolidation.

Like so many others, SPELD Victoria was hit hard by the impacts of the pandemic finishing the year with an operating deficit of \$191,829. When we were well and truly on target to achieve an operating surplus for the first time in seven years, words can't describe how profoundly disappointing an outcome this was for our historic milestone year.

Even so, it is precisely this historic context and circumstances which has driven staff and Committee commitment to service innovation. This is in effect our investment beyond COVID-19, to improve the learning journeys of all Victorians with Specific Learning Disorders, and eliminate the education gaps that have persisted for far too long.

#### Who we helped

The story of FY2020 shows two prevailing narratives which can best be described as pre-COVID-19 and post, by which I mean from March 2020 onwards.

Over the year the number of Victorians our services reached increased with over 5,000 individuals, families and organisations supported through our assessments; workshops; professional learning; tutoring; consultancy, information, and advocacy services.

Pre COVID-19 our diagnostic services trended consistently with the prior year with families coming from 247 postcodes across the state, from interstate and with a 15% increase in regional families coming to Melbourne to access our services. However, with the arrival of COVID-19, the service was completely suspended in March until service innovations were able to be implemented. This began with a new Online Literacy Assessment service in June. As a consequence, the year showed a 16% decline in the number of families benefiting from the service.

The story with workshops was different. Pre-COVID-19 we had a 42% increase in attendances at our parent and professional learning workshops and we increased regional outreach to include Ballarat, Geelong, Shepparton, Traralgon, Warrnambool, Wodonga and Wonthaggi. In the last quarter, staff worked incredibly hard to adapt all in person workshops to the online learning environment. In all, 53 workshops were delivered (a 26% increase on the prior year), to 1,278 parents, teachers and other professionals across Victoria (a 38.5% increase on the prior year).

Take-up of our information services offered through our Infoline, online chat facility and office grew by 12% with some 2,400 callers receiving support and advice. This was particularly noticeable as parents were confounded by some of the learning challenges their students were facing in a remote learning situation.

#### Learning from families' COVID-19 experience

In May 2020, with families dealing with the closure of schools, we undertook a survey on the experience of remote learning, and incorporated the results into our response into the *Inquiry into the Victorian Government's Response to COVID-19 Pandemic.* The results were informative and showed precisely where improvement needed to be made. Most strikingly, it showed that 41% of students with diagnosed Specific Learning Disorders did not receive the reasonable learning adjustments they were entitled to under the Disability Discrimination Act.

#### SPELD Victoria's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – 26<sup>th</sup> August 2019



On Monday 26<sup>th</sup> August 2019 SPELD Victoria celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary at the State Library of Victoria with the help of Parbin-ata Carolyn Briggs AM, Mr Tim Richardson, MP, Parliamentary Secretary of Schools; Anna Burkey, A/g Head of Audience Engagement, State Library; Russell Fletcher and The Decent People; Michelle Wood and James Foster from Melbourne Symphony, SPELD Victoria Committee, Members; Supporters and Staff.

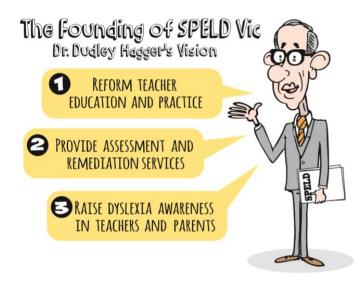
A fun night was had by all as we looked back over the last 50 years and then heard from James Foster, with his lived experience of moving from South Africa to Australia with dyslexia. His story was then instantly transformed and performed in musical form by *The Decent People* in multiple musical genres nominated by the audience. Hilarious, moving and thought provoking.



The night concluded with our first digital auction organised by volunteer Melissa Roberts and Talia North as we enjoyed some refreshments and conversation in a way we would not have been able to do in 2020!

My thanks to the whole extended team that made this event such a memorable occasion and to all those who supported it.

In addition, to mark the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, researcher Susan Read collaborated with Chris (Roy) Taylor to delve into the archives and produce a humorous retrospective on SPELD Victoria's not so humorous 50-year journey.



50 Years of SPELD Victoria, Building on the Legacy of the Past

Susan's narrative focuses on the Reading Wars – that fierce, long-running ideological battle between reading scientists and educators.

#### As Susan notes:

"In contention is one point; the importance of phonics in early literacy development. It is as fierce and irrational as any other science denial battle in history."

Susan's retrospective also confirms that founder Dr Dudley Hagger's original vision

articulated in 1969, remains largely consistent with SPELD Victoria's efforts today. The gaps identified then, are sadly still here today.

#### **Partnerships and Consultancies**

#### **AUSPELD**

Collaborative efforts with AUSPELD included: a national tour with Carol Allen on *Creative Literacy* in August 2019; continuation of the AUSPELD McDonald's promotional campaign featuring Roald Dahl books with fun activities; and preparations for AUSPELD's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary year. Although COVID-19 interrupted all workshops and events that involved travel; zoom meetings kept us all connected and feeling supported.

#### Department of Education & Training (DET)

We were thrilled to succeed as collaborative partners in two DET tenders with Scanner Pen and Valad Consulting in the first half of the year, and equally disappointed when neither of them came to fruition. However, in line with our two-year grant we delivered 15 in person Parent workshops in Melbourne and online; and 9 in regional Victoria in FY 2019/2020. When COVID-19 arrived, it was DET that assisted us to adapt to the online environment by bringing forward our grant to invest in some technology. The rapid adjustment occurred in April/May when we were meant to be visiting Bendigo and Echuca. These workshops became the test runs for future online workshops. When the world settles to a new COVID-19 normal – we will be sure to visit these two places first. Demand for SPELD Vic's information and advisory services via Infoline and the online chat facility grew as parents, teachers and other professionals sought guidance through the expertise of Mim Davidson, Education Specialist; and Yasotha V; Senior Psychologist. We continued to participate in the DET Disability Stakeholder Reference Group meetings both in person and then via zoom as the whole education sector undertook a rapid adjustment to home learning.

#### Graham Withers Charity Ltd

Another casualty of COVID-19 came with the conclusion of our partnership with the Graham Withers Charity Ltd. Over the last year, the Graham Withers Charity Ltd had been supporting diagnostic assessments for students at risk or without the means to obtain an assessment. In FY2020, 7 students benefited through the Charity's support. We thank Graham Withers most sincerely for this support, and know that his intervention is making all the difference to these young lives.

#### City of Melbourne

Another bright moment at the end of the year came with the announcement of a grant from the City of Melbourne to support three projects. Underway in June was the purchasing of more IT equipment and software to create and enable a virtual online campus; and a professional development opportunity for our Marketing & Events Coordinator, Ellen Hooper who participated in a 10-week General Assembly digital marketing course. Lastly, the grant is supporting the development of an online shop a project for FY2021.

#### Swinburne University

Our MOU with Swinburne University continued via an internship with Masters IT student Rupinder Kaur in the first half of the year. With the arrival of COVID-19, further internships and activities were suspended and we engaged Rupinder on a part-time basis to support our IT integration work and business support albeit working from home along with everyone else.

#### University of New England

In the first half of FY2020 SPELD Vic and UNE collaborated on three projects to support students on entry to the university namely: a screener tool package; a self-help toolkit; and an introductory webcast on SLDS. Unfortunately, with the arrival of COVID-19, UNE cancelled the contract which meant that the planned online learning modules for faculty and support staff did not proceed.

#### Advocacy and outreach



We began our year with outreach of a different kind. SPELD Victoria participated in Melbourne Open House over the weekend of 27-28 July along with other Donkey Wheel House tenants.

In the space of 5-6 hours we introduced over 650 visitors to Donkey Wheel House and SPELD Victoria's services. We were delighted to see far more than 10% of this number walk out the door with pamphlets on our services.

Beyond this we participated in events hosted by Bentleigh West Primary School and Learning Difficulties Australia's tour of David Kilpatrick.

#### **Our members**

#### Membership services

Engagement with Members over the year began with our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event; and through Dyslexia Awareness Month in October; four seasonal E-News and supplementary updates; lots of social media which saw our Facebook activity reaching nearly 5,500 followers, and close to 28,000 Engaged Page Users, and 924,000 Reach.

We continued to offer Members discounts on workshops, events, books and resources like C-Pens and offered C-Pen demonstrations. We began to extend free memberships to those families having a full diagnostic assessment.

Some of the planned enhancements for the membership system were implemented by March, with more planned for FY2021.

#### Our team

FY2020 was a year of comings and goings amongst the Team as we changed to accommodate new or extended services and then contracted in response to COVID-19.

I thank all those whose time with SPELD Victoria concluded over the year for their commitment and good humour in the face of challenges. Our thanks particularly to Amy Ryan; Avani Sorathia, Celeste Aguardo; Isabella Falkiner; Jo-Ann Spataro; Leah Philpott, Maureen Younan; Talia North; and Tara Watson. We also welcomed the Findex team, Lisa Whitehead, Luanne Remin, and Rupinder Kaur just prior to the COVID-19 journey.

I also acknowledge here the contribution of Committee Member Graham Holdaway who resigned from the Committee in March. His support to SPELD Victoria's operations and counsel was greatly appreciated by all and me in particular.

#### **Governance**

The Committee and Sub-Committee composition confirmed at the AGM2019 was augmented in March 2020 with a new COVID-19 Sub-Committee made up of Matt Foran, President, Ian McCubbing, Treasurer and myself. This Sub-Committee has met monthly from Quarter four onwards. Tasked with oversight of changes in Government Guidelines; subsidies; scenario planning; budget revision; modified staffing structure; new service delivery models; COVID-19 Plan and business continuity planning.

In addition, the Research Committee welcomed Matt Brett, Deakin University who joined the Research Committee in September.

		pership from July 2019 to 3	
Risk & Audit	Operations	Communications & Public Relations	Remuneration & Nominations
Chair to 30/10/19	Chair to 27/3/2020	Stephanie de Campo,	Matt Foran
Claire Britchford	Graham Holdaway,	(Chair)	(Chair)
Chair from 30/10/19	Chair from 27/3/2020		All 0 '11
Ian McCubbing	Jenny Ward	Matt Foran	All Committee
		Melissa Roberts	members as
Matt Foran	Deirdre Hardy		required
Fiona Hinrichsen			
	Ashraf Samsudin		
	Yasotha V	Ellen Hooper	
Claire Stonier-Kipen	Claire Stonier-Kipen	Claire Stonier-Kipen	
	Research (	Committee	
	Emeritus Professor K	eith Houghton (Chair)	
Matt Brett; Dr Cathy (		elle Ronksley-Pavia; Dr Neil Alex	ander-Passe; Laura
•	Uebergang, Clai	re Stonier-Kipen	
	5 5.	·	
	COVID-19 Sub-Committee	e (established March 2020)	
	Matt Foran; 1	an McCubbing	
	Claire Sto	onier-Kipen	

A summary of the work focused on by the Sub-Committees was as follows:

Communications & PR	50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year events
Operations	Tutoring services modelling; integration of back office systems
Research	Ethical considerations, data gathering, surveys, and research partnerships
Remuneration & Nominations	No meetings in FY2020
Risk and Audit	Risk reviews including revised financial modelling for COVID-19
COVID-19	Monthly meetings on reforecast budget, adapting services & staffing structure; changing Government Guidelines & compliance; COVID-19 plans

#### **Financial Position**

I recorded at the start of this report the disappointing financial outcome for the FY2020 year which in no way reflected the efforts of the entire SPELD Victoria team in the face of COVID-19. Further commentary on the financial position can be read in the financial statements and Treasurer's report.

I will say however, that the support through Government subsidies such as Job Keeper and the level of service adaptation gives us some confidence that even in an environment of much uncertainty - FY2021 will produce a better outcome. It must.

#### **Events subsequent to the end FY2020**

As FY2020 closed we had implemented a staggered return to office complete with COVID-19 hygiene measures in place – only to close again with Stage 4 lockdown which lasted months. The key lesson for everyone this year has been in learning to live with greater uncertainty and constant change; to spot emerging opportunities; to grab them when possible – and breathe in between - with a mask on!

My thanks to the whole SPELD Victoria team – Committee, staff, contractors, volunteers, interns, presenters, consultants and suppliers – it has been quite a journey – and we wouldn't be where we are without everyone's efforts in pursuit of improving life for those with Specific Learning Difficulties.

Claire Stonier-Kipen, CEO

Colonin Sipon

#### **Acknowledgements**

SPELD Victoria is grateful to all donors and partners for their support. We acknowledge that this assistance is making a difference to the achievement of SPELD Victoria's Mission to help all Victorians with Specific Learning Difficulties.

#### **Donors**

Adele Lorensene Heather Fronsko Mary O'Shaughnessy Aliaksandr Darozhka Georgie Smith Matthew Peters Ian Filby Melanie McIntosh Ambrie Tracy Angela Cafarella Jane Allen Melissa Reed Anne Davidson Joanna Carr Mim Davidson Anne Stonier Julia Selkirk My Giving Circle Antonella Aloisio Julie Jankovic Nanette Shiels Anya Harrison Julie Kun Rebecca Valenti Celeste McMillan Kalwindi Muchengwa Mbele Rebekah Raftopoulos Chris Davidson, OAM (Late) Katrina Gillett Rosemarie Foulkes Craig Danswan Kelly Galvin Russell Koehler Debra Phippen Ken & Marjory Butterworth Ruth Hynes Donna Keating Kerryn Williams Sally Cheater Erin Mellifont Kim Roach Sacre Coeur Fay Tran Leonie McLinden Sarah Powell Fiona Waters Lindy Thomas Sharen Scerri Gail Di Bartolo Linda Cox Sophia Kostava Gardiner & Field Lisa Armitage St Bede's College Georgie Smith Lisa Blaney Sue Headlam Graham Holdaway Lynette Male Tammie Fish Graham Withers Charity Ltd Maral Mara Thi Nguyen Gwelda Weghorn Mark Tainsch Trish Hili Hazel Lekkas Marni Simpson Anonymous 2

#### **Organisational Supporters, Partners and Collaborators**

AUSPELD Norton, Rose & Fulbright

Bentleigh West Primary School

Boon Wurrung Foundation

Chris (Roy) Taylor

Sasha Heath

Scanner Pen Inc

Senate SHJ

Digital Philosophy State Library of Victoria

DSF Literacy & Clinical Services Susan Read

Department of Education & Training Swinburne University of Technology

Graham Withers Charity Ltd The Age

Learning Difficulties Australia University of New England

Melissa Roberts Vision Australia Nessy, UK Vision & Case

#### **Workshop and Events Presenters**

Alex Percival, UK John Walker, UK Judy Hornigold, UK Alison Clarke Anthony Gartner & Swinburne Uni students Laura Uebergang Ashraf Samsudin Lisa Watts, DSF Brooke Purdy, DSF Mandy Nayton, OAM Carol Allen, UK Melinda Schambre Claire Stonier-Kipen Nathalie Parry David Campbell Susie Hillard, DSF Emily Jackson, DSF Tessa Calder Jack Churchill, UK Yasotha V



## **Specific Learning Difficulties of Victoria Incorporated**

Trading as SPELD Victoria Inc ABN 51 178 974 489

**Annual Report - 30 June 2020** 

## Specific Learning Difficulties of Victoria Incorporated Trading as SPELD Victoria Inc Officers' report 30 June 2020

Your committee members submit the financial report of the Specific Learning Difficulties of Victoria Incorporated for the financial year ended 30 June 2020.

#### Committee members

The names of Committee members throughout the year and at the date of this report are:

Matt Foran
Fiona Hinrichsen
Ian McCubbing
Stephanie De Campo
Jenny Ward
Deirdre Hardy (appointed on 30.10.19)
Claire Britchford (resigned on 30.10.2019)
Graham Holdaway (resigned on 27.3.2020)

#### **Principal activities**

The principal activity of the association during the financial year was to provide professional assessment, educational assistance and information services for children and adults with specific learning difficulties.

#### Significant changes

No significant change in the nature of these activities occurred during the year.

#### Operating results

The loss for the year amounted to \$191,829 (2018: \$101,237).

#### Impact of COVID-19 pandemic

Since the onset of the Coronavirus pandemic in March 2020, the overall, business operations of SPELD Victoria were significantly impacted with assessments halted and a number of key service delivery contracts cancelled. Several strategic measures were undertaken to significantly reduce costs, keep our staff employed and maintain healthy cash flows while looking at new and innovative ways to maintain aspects of our service delivery.

The pandemic has, and will continue to, impact cash flow, and government funding remains essential in the current challenging environment. Pleasing though, the transition to online services has produced positive results for parent and professional workshops, which has experienced a growth in revenue.

On behalf of the officers

Matthew Foran
Matthew Foran (Nov 12, 2020 15:19 GMT+11)

Matt Foran President

Dated: 17/11/2020

Ian McCubbing
Ian McCubbing (Nov 17, 2020 09:44 GMT+11)

Ian McCubbing Treasurer

## Specific Learning Difficulties of Victoria Incorporated Trading as SPELD Victoria Inc Contents 30 June 2020

Statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income	3
Statement of financial position	4
Statement of changes in equity	5
Statement of cash flows	6
Notes to the financial statements	7
Officers' declaration	15
Independent auditor's report to the members of Specific Learning Difficulties of Victoria Incorporated	16

#### **General information**

The financial statements cover Specific Learning Difficulties of Victoria Incorporated as an individual entity. The financial statements are presented in Australian dollars, which is Specific Learning Difficulties of Victoria Incorporated's functional and presentation currency.

Specific Learning Difficulties of Victoria Incorporated is a Public Benevolent Institution, incorporated and domiciled in Australia. Its registered office and principal place of business is:

Front Level 3 Donkey Wheel House 673 Bourke Street, Melbourne VIC 3000

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

The financial statements were authorised for issue on 17/11/2020

#### Specific Learning Difficulties of Victoria Incorporated Trading as SPELD Victoria Inc Statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income For the year ended 30 June 2020

	Note	2020 \$	2019 \$
Revenue	4	1,338,055	1,223,225
Interest revenue		9,252	13,752
Expenses Direct costs Administration expenses Employee benefits expense Communication costs Depreciation and amortisation expense Accommodation costs Other expenses Finance costs		(317,348) (38,526) (1,017,615) (20,261) (80,858) (37,743) (17,353) (9,432)	(516,012) (21,634) (636,017) (12,672) (12,634) (109,849) (29,396)
Deficit before income tax expense		(191,829)	(101,237)
Income tax expense	-		<u> </u>
Deficit after income tax expense for the year attributable to the members of Specific Learning Difficulties of Victoria Incorporated  Other comprehensive income for the year, net of tax		(191,829)	(101,237)
Total comprehensive income for the year attributable to the members of Specific Learning Difficulties of Victoria Incorporated		(191,829)	(101,237)

#### Specific Learning Difficulties of Victoria Incorporated Trading as SPELD Victoria Inc Statement of financial position As at 30 June 2020

Note	2020 \$	2019 \$
Assets		
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents 5	503,655	697,372
Trade and other receivables 6	25,916	50,711
Other 7	12,365	19,497
Total current assets	541,936	767,580
Non-current assets		
Property, plant and equipment 8	63,625	39,864
Right-of-use assets 9	117,016	-
Intangibles 10	15,246	16,811
Total non-current assets	195,887	56,675
Total assets	737,823	824,255
Liabilities		
Current liabilities		
Trade and other payables 11	63,625	138,399
Lease liabilities 12	69,450	-
Employee benefits 13	38,157	28,290
Other 14	60,520	20,871
Total current liabilities	231,752	187,560
Non-current liabilities		
Lease liabilities 15	61,136	-
Employee benefits 16	6,316	6,247
Total non-current liabilities	67,452	6,247
Total liabilities	299,204	193,807
Net assets	438,619	630,448
Equity		
Retained surpluses	438,619	630,448
Total equity	438,619	630,448

# Specific Learning Difficulties of Victoria Incorporated Trading as SPELD Victoria Inc Statement of changes in equity For the year ended 30 June 2020

	Retained surpluses \$	Total equity
Balance at 1 July 2018	731,685	731,685
Deficit after income tax expense for the year Other comprehensive income for the year, net of tax	(101,237)	(101,237)
Total comprehensive income for the year	(101,237)	(101,237)
Balance at 30 June 2019	630,448	630,448
	Retained surpluses \$	Total equity \$
Balance at 1 July 2019		
Balance at 1 July 2019  Deficit after income tax expense for the year Other comprehensive income for the year, net of tax	surpluses \$	\$
Deficit after income tax expense for the year	surpluses \$ 630,448	<b>\$</b> 630,448

#### Specific Learning Difficulties of Victoria Incorporated Trading as SPELD Victoria Inc Statement of cash flows For the year ended 30 June 2020

	Note	2020 \$	2019 \$
Cash flows from operating activities			
Receipts from assessment fees and other services and products		1,217,406	1,183,944
Grants and stimulus receipts from government		268,471	94,500
Interest paid		(9,432)	-
Contributions (members) received		11,918	9,688
Donations received		10,785	9,262
Interest received		9,252	13,752
Payments to suppliers and employees (inclusive of GST)		(1,612,633)	(1,334,286)
Net cash used in operating activities	18	(104,233)	(23,140)
Cash flows from investing activities Payments for property, plant and equipment Payments for intangibles		(2,039) (37,188)	(4,530) (11,061)
Net cash used in investing activities		(39,227)	(15,591)
Cash flows from financing activities Repayment of lease liabilities		(50,257)	
Net cash used in financing activities	-	(50,257)	
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year		(193,717) 697,372	(38,731) 736,103
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year	5	503,655	697,372

#### Note 1. Significant accounting policies

The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

#### New or amended Accounting Standards and Interpretations adopted

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

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

The adoption of these Accounting Standards and Interpretations did not have any significant impact on the financial performance or position of the incorporated association.

The following Accounting Standards and Interpretations are most relevant to the incorporated association:

#### AASB 16 Leases

The incorporated association has adopted AASB 16 from 1 January 2019. The standard replaces AASB 117 'Leases' and for lessees eliminates the classifications of operating leases and finance leases. Except for short-term leases and leases of low-value assets, right-of-use assets and corresponding lease liabilities are recognised in the statement of financial position. Straight-line operating lease expense recognition is replaced with a depreciation charge for the right-of-use assets (included in operating costs) and an interest expense on the recognised lease liabilities (included in finance costs). In the earlier periods of the lease, the expenses associated with the lease under AASB 16 will be higher when compared to lease expenses under AASB 117. However, EBITDA (Earnings Before Interest, Tax, Depreciation and Amortisation) results improve as the operating expense is now replaced by interest expense and depreciation in profit or loss. For classification within the statement of cash flows, the interest portion is disclosed in operating activities and the principal portion of the lease payments are separately disclosed in financing activities. For lessor accounting, the standard does not substantially change how a lessor accounts for leases.

#### Basis of preparation

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

These are special purpose financial statements that have been prepared for the purposes of complying with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and Victorian legislation the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012, the Fundraising Act 1998 and associated regulations. The officers have determined that the accounting policies adopted are appropriate to meet the needs of the members of Specific Learning Difficulties of Victoria Incorporated.

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

#### Historical cost convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, except for, where applicable, the revaluation of financial assets and liabilities at fair value through profit or loss, financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income, investment properties, certain classes of property, plant and equipment and derivative financial instruments.

#### Critical accounting estimates

The preparation of the financial statements requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise its judgement in the process of applying the incorporated association's accounting policies. The areas involving a higher degree of judgement or complexity, or areas where assumptions and estimates are significant to the financial statements, are disclosed in note 2.

#### Note 1. Significant accounting policies (continued)

#### Revenue recognition

The incorporated association recognises revenue as follows:

#### Revenue from contracts with customers

Revenue is recognised at an amount that reflects the consideration to which the incorporated association is expected to be entitled in exchange for transferring goods or services to a customer. For each contract with a customer, the incorporated association: identifies the contract with a customer; identifies the performance obligations in the contract; determines the transaction price which takes into account estimates of variable consideration and the time value of money; allocates the transaction price to the separate performance obligations on the basis of the relative stand-alone selling price of each distinct good or service to be delivered; and recognises revenue when or as each performance obligation is satisfied in a manner that depicts the transfer to the customer of the goods or services promised.

Variable consideration within the transaction price, if any, reflects concessions provided to the customer such as discounts, rebates and refunds, any potential bonuses receivable from the customer and any other contingent events. Such estimates are determined using either the 'expected value' or 'most likely amount' method. The measurement of variable consideration is subject to a constraining principle whereby revenue will only be recognised to the extent that it is highly probable that a significant reversal in the amount of cumulative revenue recognised will not occur. The measurement constraint continues until the uncertainty associated with the variable consideration is subsequently resolved. Amounts received that are subject to the constraining principle are recognised as a refund liability.

#### Grants

Non-reciprocal grant revenue is recognised in profit or loss when the Association obtains control of the grant and it is probable that the economic benefits gained from the grant will flow to the Association and the amount of the grant can be measured reliably.

If conditions are attached to the grant which must be satisfied before the entity is eligible to receive the contribution, the recognition of the grant as revenue will be deferred until those conditions are satisfied.

When grant revenue is received whereby the Association 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.

#### Rendering of services

Revenue from the rendering of a service (such as seminars and workshops) is recognised upon the delivery of the service to the customers.

#### Interest

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

#### Membership fees

Membership fees and donations are recognised as revenue when received.

#### Other revenue

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

#### Income tax

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

#### **Current and non-current classification**

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

#### Note 1. Significant accounting policies (continued)

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

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

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are always classified as non-current.

#### Cash and cash equivalents

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

#### Trade and other receivables

Trade receivables are initially recognised at fair value.

Collectability of trade receivables is reviewed on an ongoing basis. Debts which are known to be uncollectable are written off by reducing the carrying amount directly. A provision for impairment of trade receivables is raised when there is objective evidence that the incorporated association will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

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

#### Property, plant and equipment

Plant and equipment is stated at historical cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment. Historical cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to the acquisition of the items, net of grants received.

Depreciation is calculated on a diminishing value basis to write off the net cost of each item of property, plant and equipment (excluding land) over their expected useful lives as follows:

Office equipment

15% to 50%

The residual values, useful lives and depreciation methods are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at each reporting date.

Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful life of the assets, whichever is shorter.

An item of property, plant and equipment is derecognised upon disposal or when there is no future economic benefit to the incorporated association. Gains and losses between the carrying amount and the disposal proceeds are taken to profit or loss.

#### Right-of-use assets

A right-of-use asset is recognised at the commencement date of a lease. The right-of-use asset is measured at cost, which comprises the initial amount of the lease liability, adjusted for, as applicable, any lease payments made at or before the commencement date net of any lease incentives received, any initial direct costs incurred, and, except where included in the cost of inventories, an estimate of costs expected to be incurred for dismantling and removing the underlying asset, and restoring the site or asset.

Right-of-use assets are depreciated on a straight-line basis over the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful life of the asset, whichever is the shorter. Where the incorporated association expects to obtain ownership of the leased asset at the end of the lease term, the depreciation is over its estimated useful life. Right-of use assets are subject to impairment or adjusted for any remeasurement of lease liabilities.

#### Note 1. Significant accounting policies (continued)

The incorporated association has elected not to recognise a right-of-use asset and corresponding lease liability for short-term leases with terms of 12 months or less and leases of low-value assets. Lease payments on these assets are expensed to profit or loss as incurred.

#### Intangible assets

Website

Significant costs associated with the development of the revenue generating aspects of the website, including the capacity of placing orders, are deferred, net of grants received, and amortised on a straight-line basis over the period of their expected benefit, being their finite life of 4 years.

#### Trade and other payables

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

#### Lease liabilities

A lease liability is recognised at the commencement date of a lease. The lease liability is initially recognised at the present value of the lease payments to be made over the term of the lease, discounted using the interest rate implicit in the lease or, if that rate cannot be readily determined, the incorporated association's incremental borrowing rate. Lease payments comprise of fixed payments less any lease incentives receivable, variable lease payments that depend on an index or a rate, amounts expected to be paid under residual value guarantees, exercise price of a purchase option when the exercise of the option is reasonably certain to occur, and any anticipated termination penalties. The variable lease payments that do not depend on an index or a rate are expensed in the period in which they are incurred.

Lease liabilities are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method. The carrying amounts are remeasured if there is a change in the following: future lease payments arising from a change in an index or a rate used; residual guarantee; lease term; certainty of a purchase option and termination penalties. When a lease liability is remeasured, an adjustment is made to the corresponding right-of use asset, or to profit or loss if the carrying amount of the right-of-use asset is fully written down.

#### **Employee benefits**

#### Short-term employee benefits

Liabilities for wages and salaries, including non-monetary benefits, annual leave and long service leave expected to be settled wholly within 12 months of the reporting date are measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled.

#### Other long-term employee benefits

The liability for annual leave and long service leave not expected to be settled within 12 months of the reporting date are measured at the present value of expected future payments to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the reporting date using the projected unit credit method. Consideration is given to expected future wage and salary levels, experience of employee departures and periods of service. Expected future payments are discounted using market yields at the reporting date on national government bonds with terms to maturity and currency that match, as closely as possible, the estimated future cash outflows.

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

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

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

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

#### Note 1. Significant accounting policies (continued)

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

#### New Accounting Standards and Interpretations not yet mandatory or early adopted

Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations that have recently been issued or amended but are not yet mandatory, have not been early adopted by the incorporated association for the annual reporting period ended 30 June 2020. The incorporated association has not yet assessed the impact of these new or amended Accounting Standards and Interpretations.

#### Note 2. Critical accounting judgements, estimates and assumptions

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts in the financial statements. Management continually evaluates its judgements and estimates in relation to assets, liabilities, contingent liabilities, revenue and expenses. Management bases its judgements, estimates and assumptions on historical experience and on other various factors, including expectations of future events, management believes to be reasonable under the circumstances. There are no critical accounting judgements, estimates and assumptions that are likely to affect the current or future financial years.

#### Note 3. Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic

Since the onset of the Coronavirus pandemic in March 2020, the overall, business operations of SPELD Victoria were significantly impacted with assessments halted and a number of key service delivery contracts cancelled. Several strategic measures were undertaken to significantly reduce costs, keep our staff employed and maintain healthy cash flows while looking at new and innovative ways to maintain aspects of our service delivery.

The pandemic has, and will continue to, impact cash flow, and government funding remains essential in the current challenging environment. Pleasing though, the transition to online services has produced positive results for parent and professional workshops, which has experienced a growth in revenue.

2020

2010

#### Note 4. Revenue

	2020 \$	2019 \$
Fees and charges	932,764	1,049,760
Grants (state) operating	147,390	94,500
Donations received	11,918	9,262
Contributions (members)	10,785	9,688
Activities	24,832	32,214
Books sales	4,775	27,801
Learning aid	84,510	-
COVID stimulus	121,081	-
Revenue	1,338,055	1,223,225
Note 5. Current assets - cash and cash equivalents		
	2020 \$	2019 \$
Cash on hand	1,031	302
Cash at bank	424,215	107,484
Cash on deposit	78,409	589,586
	503,655	697,372

#### Note 6. Current assets - trade and other receivables

	2020 \$	2019 \$
Trade receivables Other receivables	23,085 2,831	7,687 43,024
	25,916	50,711
Note 7. Current assets - other		
	2020 \$	2019 \$
Prepayments	12,365	19,497
Note 8. Non-current assets - property, plant and equipment		
	2020 \$	2019 \$
Office equipment - at cost Less: Accumulated depreciation	111,868 (48,243)	74,680 (34,816)
	63,625	39,864
Note 9. Non-current assets - right-of-use assets		
	2020 \$	2019 \$
Land and buildings - right-of-use Less: Accumulated depreciation	180,843 (63,827)	<u>-</u>
	117,016	-
Note 10. Non-current assets - intangibles		
	2020 \$	2019 \$
Website - at cost Less: Accumulated amortisation	24,600 (9,354)	22,561 (5,750)
	15,246	16,811
Note 11. Current liabilities - trade and other payables		
	2020 \$	2019 \$
Trade payables Other payables	13,294 50,331	66,175 72,224
	63,625	138,399

#### Note 12. Current liabilities - lease liabilities

	2020 \$	2019 \$
Lease liability	69,450	
Note 13. Current liabilities - employee benefits		
	2020 \$	2019 \$
Annual leave	38,157	28,290
Note 14. Current liabilities - other		
	2020 \$	2019 \$
Rental incentive Deferred revenue	60,520	12,805 8,066
	60,520	20,871
Note 15. Non-current liabilities - lease liabilities		
	2020 \$	2019 \$
Lease liability	61,136	
Note 16. Non-current liabilities - employee benefits		
	2020 \$	2019 \$
Long service leave	6,316	6,247

#### Note 17. Events after the reporting period

No matter or circumstance has arisen since 30 June 2020 that has significantly affected, or may significantly affect the incorporated association's operations, the results of those operations, or the incorporated association's state of affairs in future financial years.

### Note 18. Reconciliation of deficit after income tax to net cash used in operating activities

	2020 \$	2019 \$
Deficit after income tax expense for the year	(191,829)	(101,237)
Adjustments for: Depreciation and amortisation	80,858	12,634
Change in operating assets and liabilities: Decrease/(increase) in trade and other receivables Decrease in other operating assets Increase/(decrease) in trade and other payables Increase in employee benefits Increase in other operating liabilities	24,795 7,132 (74,774) 9,936 39,649	(38,873) 33,213 55,032 13,382 2,709
Net cash used in operating activities	(104,233)	(23,140)

#### Specific Learning Difficulties of Victoria Incorporated Trading as SPELD Victoria Inc Officers' declaration 30 June 2020

#### In the officers' opinion:

- the incorporated association is not a reporting entity because there are no users dependent on general purpose financial statements. Accordingly, as described in note 1 to the financial statements, the attached special purpose financial statements have been prepared for the purposes of complying with the Australian Charities and Not-forprofits Commission Act 2012 and Victorian legislation the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012, the Fundraising Act 1998 and associated regulations;
- the attached financial statements and notes comply with the Accounting Standards as described in note 1 to the financial statements;
- the attached financial statements and notes give a true and fair view of the incorporated association's financial position as at 30 June 2020 and of its performance for the financial year ended on that date; and
- there are reasonable grounds to believe that the incorporated association will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

On behalf of the officers

Matthew Foran (Nov 12, 2020 15:19 GMT+11)

Matt Foran President

Dated: 17/11/2020

Ian McCubbing
Ian McCubbing (Nov 17, 2020 09:44 GMT+11)

Ian McCubbing Treasurer



#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF SPECIFIC LEARNING DIFFICULTIES OF VICTORIA INC.

#### **Opinion**

We have audited the financial report of Specific Learning Difficulties of Victoria Inc. (the Association), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2020, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies and the officer's declaration.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of Specific Learning Difficulties of Victoria Inc. is in all material aspects, in accordance with the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 and with Division 60 of the Australian Charites and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012, including:

- giving a true and fair view of the Association's financial position as at 30 June 2020 and of its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended on that dated and;
- complying with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 1 and Division 60 the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013 and Victorian legislation; the Associations Incorporated Reform Act 2012 and associated regulations.

#### **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 Company 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 responsibilities in accordance with Code.

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

#### Emphasis of Matter-Basis of Accounting and Restriction on Distribution and Use

Without modifying our conclusion, we draw attention to Note 1 to the financial statements, which describe the basis of accounting. The financial statements are prepared to assist Specific Learning Difficulties of Victoria Inc. to comply with the financial reporting of the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 and Australian Charities and the Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012. As a result, the financial statements may not be suitable for another purpose. Our report is intended solely for Specific Learning Difficulties of Victoria Inc. and should not be distributed to or used by parties other than Specific Learning Difficulties of Victoria Inc.

#### **Emphasis of Matter-Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic**

We draw attention to Note 3 in the financial statements, which describes the actions and impacts on the entity arising from its management of the on-going issues related to COVID-19. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

#### Responsibilities of Officers' for the Financial Report

The officers of the Association 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 needs of the members. The officers' responsibility also includes such internal control as the officers determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the officers are responsible for assessing the Association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Association or have no realistic alternative to do so.

PO Box 130

#### Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

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

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

We communicate with the officers 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.

**LOREN DATT** 

Registered Company Auditor

Registration: 339204 Dated: 17/11/2020



Donkey Wheel House Level 3, 673 Bourke St Melbourne VIC 3000