

INDIGENOUS  
ART CENTRE  
ALLIANCE

**IACA**



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# Annual Report

## 2014 - 2015







Inside cover photo: Elliot Koonutta, ghost net sculpture, Pormpuraaw 2015. Photo: Paul Jacobowski.

Cover Photo: Simon Norman, Second Croc Spirit Man, ghost net sculpture, Pormpuraaw 2015. Photo: Paul Jacobowski.



IACA programs and events receive financial assistance from the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland's Backing Indigenous Arts initiative and from the Federal Government's Ministry for the Arts through the Indigenous Visual Arts Industry Support program.

Contact IACA at [www.iaca.com.au](http://www.iaca.com.au)

# Contents

<b>Presidents Report</b> .....	4
<b>IACA Managers report</b> .....	5
<b>History</b> .....	6
<b>Service Delivery</b> .....	6
Art Centre Development Program.....	6
Membership communication.....	7
Storage facilities .....	7
Support at Art Fairs.....	7
IACA - CIAF Artists Welcome.....	7
Counselling service .....	7
Consultants register.....	7
<b>Planning</b> .....	8
Six year strategic planning workshop.....	8
<b>Professional Development</b> .....	10
IACA AGM and conference in Cardwell	
- October 2014.....	10
Cooktown/Hopevale IACA conference	
- April 2015.....	12
Story Art Money - SAM - training.....	13
IACA - Lucille Osborne Emerging	
Artist Memorial Fellowship .....	13
IACA International Artist Support Fund.....	13
<b>Operational</b> .....	14
IACA Staff .....	14
IACA Office .....	14
<b>Promotion and Marketing</b> .....	14
IACA News .....	14
IACA Rebranding.....	14
Website.....	15
Social Media .....	15
Advocacy .....	15
Telstra NATSIA Awards and DAAF.....	15
<b>The Organisation</b> .....	16
Corporate Governance.....	16
<b>Financial Report for the year ending</b>	
<b>30th June 2015</b> .....	17





## Presidents Report

My first year as President of the IACA Management Committee has been a very busy one, with IACA increasing staff numbers and moving into new premises it's an exciting time to lead this dynamic organisation. I've found it a fascinating learning curve, understanding the intricacies of the Indigenous Art Industry. Each IACA conference I attend I learn more and enjoy the dialogue that comes from the workshop sessions and conversations sharing the realities of the highs and lows of art centre life in remote communities.

In May 2015, I accompanied the IACA manager to Sydney to meet with the Australia Council together with the many other Indigenous arts organisations across the nation. This meeting was an eye-opener to where we sit in the national landscape, and the funding struggles that Indigenous arts organisations are facing at this time.

The IACA six year strategic planning workshop was a valuable exercise, working with the other members to discuss, decide and document the forward directions of IACA moving into the next six years. This new plan with the vision of *"Supporting culturally strong best practice Indigenous art enterprises"* has given a strong platform for the organisation as it progresses into the next decade.

The first *IACA Artists Welcome* held at CIAF 2014 was a great success, setting the scene for CIAF with a positive and warm start. The event gave due recognition to the real VIPs of CIAF, the artists. This event is one to keep on the CIAF calendar, and IACA will continue to host artists, stakeholders

and collectors and curators to meet in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere before each Art Fair kicks off. I look forward to developing stronger ties between CIAF and IACA through the inclusion of a representative of IACA on the CIAF board.

There has been a significant turnover of Art Centre Managers within the membership this year with vacancies occurring at five art centres. IACA has provided suitable interim managers for these art centres where required and then assisted the Art Centre boards and councils with the recruitment process and induction for new managers. Recruitment assistance is just part of the invaluable service IACA plays and demonstrates the vital role of a peak body when unexpected issues arise.

There are many challenges in this role, but I am excited about the future, and part of that excitement is addressing those challenges.

I wish to thank my fellow management committee members for their thoughtful and strategic input into the many decisions we've made over this year. Thank you also to the dedicated IACA team who are expert operators, all working hard to progress the careers and economic development of Indigenous artists across North Queensland.

### Phil Rist IACA President 2014/15

*Phil Rist is the current President of the IACA Management Committee and also the executive officer of the Giringun Aboriginal Corporation and Deputy Chair of the North Queensland Land Council. Phil is a widely respected Nywaigi leader whose skill and determination has played a key role in establishing the Giringun Aboriginal Corporation as one of the most successful Indigenous community-based organisations in Australia.*



## Managers Report

I am pleased to report that 2014/15 saw the Indigenous Art Centre Alliance significantly increased service delivery and support to members. An increase in staff enabled the implementation of the *IACA Art Centre Development Program*, a suite of tailored, extensive on the ground support, training and mentoring programs. Extra funds provided to IACA by the Ministry for the Arts enabled the appointment of three highly experienced staff. Brett Evans, formerly CEO of Mirndiyan Gununa Mornington Island Arts and Cultural Centre, is the new IACA Art Centre Development Officer. Edwina Circuitt, former Warakuna Art Centre Manager, is the new IACA Training Officer. Morag Gane, with solid administration experience, was appointed Administrative/Finance Officer. Artists, arts workers, boards and managers, have received expert assistance and training.

With this growth in staff, IACA required more office space. We found an ideal office and in April 2015 we moved into our Queenslander style offices in Scott St. Parramatta Park. The new IACA office offers a "hot desk" for members to use when visiting Cairns, a meeting room and offices for staff to work. IACA sincerely thanks, James Cook University and the staff of The Cairns Institute for their support and investment in the formation of IACA. IACA has refreshed its brand and logo. You will see our new look on all our publications, banners, signage, our website and on social media.

The new IACA team have been instrumental in providing high-level training and support to members. Brett and Edwina have travelled to Yarrabah Arts and Culture Precinct, Giringun Aboriginal Art Centre, Bana Yidinji Art and Cultural Centre, Badu Island Art

Centre, Moa Arts, Hopevale Arts and Culture Centre, Erub Arts, Yalanji Arts and Mornington Island Arts to provide assistance with all aspects of art centre operations. The funds for the IACA Art Centre Development Program were for one year only so we are now investigating methods to keep this successful program operating into the future.

Two member's conferences were held in 2014/15, in October 2014 and April 2015. The conferences were hosted by Giringun Aboriginal Art Centre in Cardwell in October and Hopevale Arts and Culture Centre in April 2015. A story Art Money - SAM database training workshop was organised by IACA and delivered in Cairns in February 2015.

In early 2015 IACA received a bequest from Lucille Osborne. These funds will fund professional development for an IACA member emerging artist fellowship.

In April 2015, we commenced a six-year strategic planning process. Members, management committee and IACA staff worked together to contribute their ideas to the plan. An agreed vision of *"Supporting culturally strong best practice Indigenous art enterprises"* emerged from the process.

I would like to thank the IACA Management Committee members under the leadership of President, Phil Rist. The Management Committee has provided solid support and guidance to myself and the IACA staff, during this rapid period of growth. On behalf of the IACA management committee, I would like to express sincere thanks to our funding bodies, Arts QLD, and The Ministry for the Arts.

### Pam Bigelow IACA Manager



# Service Delivery



Lila Creek, printing workshop, 2015, Bana Yirrinji Arts and Culture Centre: photo Edwina Circuitt

## Art Centre Development Program

The IACA Manager, Development Officer and Training Officer visited the following art centres during 2014/15; Badu Art Centre - Badu Island, Erub Arts - Darnley Island, Ngalmun Lagau Minaral Art Centre - Mua Island, Wik and Kugu Art Centre - Aurukun, Hopevale Arts and Cultural Centre, Yalanji Arts - Mossman Gorge, Girringun Aboriginal Art Centre - Cardwell, Bana Yirrinji Art and Cultural Centre - Wujal Wujal and Yarrabah Arts and Cultural Precinct. These visits provided advocacy, assistance with recruitment processes, new art centre manager induction, research, familiarisation and the provision of SAM training, studio organisation and a wide range of other practical assistance. The provision of interim managers and ongoing support was also provided.

## Recruitment Assistance

IACA staff assisted with the recruitment process for the appointment of art centre managers at Wik and Kugu Arts at Aurukun, Hopevale Arts and Culture Centre, Yarrabah Arts and Culture precinct, Moa Island Arts and Yalanji Art Centre during 2014- 2015. Support included providing position descriptions, national advertising, sitting on the interview panel and providing recruitment advice.

Hannah Parker with Janet Bassani and Cassandra Olbar. Bana Yirrinji Arts and Culture Centre. Photo: Edwina Circuitt.



## Membership Communication

All members continue to receive regular IACA e-bulletins of arts industry information, funding opportunities, competitions, grants, exhibitions, consultation, IACA activity, information and service updates.

## Storage Facilities

Provision of secure off-site storage space is ongoing, and due to the popularity of this service an extra shed has been secured. In 2015 A new storage facility close to the new IACA offices was secured in Portsmouth and all items were transferred to this more convenient location. Items are catalogued and stored on a register. IACA also provides access to site and coordinating/implementing the delivery of items.

## Support at Art Fairs

IACA provided extensive support to all art centres during CIAF 2014. This included provision of a trained team of relief staff for each art centre for the three days at CIAF, IACA presence at CIAF throughout the days of operation, assistance with set up and pack down and branding of each art centre as an IACA member.

IACA manager also provided staff relief and set up and pack down support to IACA member Art Centres at DAAF 2014.

## IACA - CIAF Artists Welcome

IACA introduced a new event as part of CIAF 2014 the "CIAF Artists Welcome". This event held on the evening before the CIAF opening night, was designed to celebrate and acknowledge the true VIPs of CIAF, the artists, without whom the fair would not be possible. All artists involved in CIAF are invited and it is a great time for everyone to connect up with each other. The Curators and Collectors were also invited so they could meet the artists, and speeches were given to acknowledge the artists and their work. It was an extremely successful event setting a happy, confident start to CIAF. This event will become a regular part of CIAF in the future.

## Counselling Service

IACA has established a confidential counselling service available to all members. Four free sessions are offered to any members in need of this service. Members have frequently accessed this service.

## Consultants Register

IACA has developed and provides a vetted comprehensive art centre support Consultants Register, available on the IACA website *Member's page*.

Junibel Doughboy and Teanna Darken. Studio organisation at Bana Yirrinji Arts and Culture Centre. Photo: Edwina Circuitt



## History

In 2010, art centres from across the region came together as part of a Queensland government-funded consultation and planning process, to determine if a peak body was required for the Far North Queensland region, how it could be established and the framework within which it would operate. A second consultation and development stage was undertaken in 2011 resulting in the securing of initial funding from the Federal Office for the Arts and Arts Queensland for the establishment of the Indigenous Art Centre Alliance. Later that year the IACA Advisory Group was elected with a mix of artists and managers representing their respective art centres. In 2012, Pam Bigelow was appointed as the IACA Manager with the brief of setting up the organisation, organising its incorporation and starting the delivery of services. In 2013, IACA was incorporated under the state associations act and is currently applying to be on the Register of Cultural Organisations, which will allow it to receive tax-deductible donations.



# Planning

## Six Year Strategic Planning Workshop

In June 2015, a two day planning workshop facilitated by Consultant, Susan Congreve, was held to develop a new six year strategic plan for IACA. Attended by Art Centre Managers, board directors, artists, IACA Management Committee members and IACA Staff, the new plan will guide the direction for IACA over the next six years.

Over the past 4 years IACA has consolidated its operations and governance arrangements, built a reputation for quality service delivery and contributed to national forums and debates as part of the strong voice of Far North Queensland Indigenous art centres.

IACA now plans over the next 6 years to build on these successes by developing a training/mentoring program for Indigenous arts workers, a leadership program to identify and support future Indigenous leaders and the development of an exhibition showcasing the work of the members that will tour nationally. To achieve this, IACA will require additional operational funding from both the state and federal governments as well as project funding from the philanthropic and corporate sectors.

## Vision

*Supporting culturally strong best practice Indigenous art enterprises.*

IACA 6 year strategic planning workshop 2015. Photo: Emma Fowler Thomason.



## Mission

Effecting sustainable growth through advocacy and long-term quality support for the development, marketing and promotion of Indigenous cultures, artists and art centres in Far North Queensland. We do this by:

- Listening, involving and working with members according to protocols.
- Building capacity through:
  - Seeking funding and resources for projects and activities that support best practice and promotes the members
  - Celebrating and promoting success and strengths
  - Using research as a tool
  - Encouraging career development and leadership opportunities.
  - Offering targeted training
  - Fostering networks and partnerships

## Values

Culture underpins all our work because we:

- Nurture a culture of excellence
- Secure and maintain the mandate of members
- Value what people do
- Celebrate the success of others
- Balance cultural obligations and economic goals
- Encourage innovative and bold decision-making
- Ensure we are ethical, accountable and transparent in all our work



Strategic Planning Consultant Susan Congreve. Photo: Emma Fowler Thomason.



IACA Manager Pam Bigelow, explaining IACA finances at strategic planning workshop. Photo: Emma Fowler Thomason.

## Goals

IACA aims to support art and cultural centres in remote Far North Queensland to better meet the needs of their member artists.

**IACA is guided by the following goals:**

1. To provide high quality services and resources that support excellence in Far North Queensland art centres.
2. To develop IACA's role as the central coordination and communication point for training to Far North Queensland art centres.
3. To strengthen IACA's role as the central communication and networking point for members.
4. To successfully advocate for our members according to our Mission and Values
5. To build the profile for IACA and its members in inclusive ways and with a solid mandate.
6. To steadily improve the sustainability of the Association



# Professional Development



Edwina Circuitt Presenting at Cardwell. Photo: Emma Fowler Thomason.

The major professional development activities held in 2014/15 included two IACA Conferences held in Cardwell in October 2014 and Cooktown/Hopevale in April 2015 and a Story Art Money SAM, workshop in February 2015. IACA conferences are organised by IACA staff and the Management Committee and chaired by the IACA Manager.



Patricia Adjei from Viscopy presenting at Cardwell. Photo: Emma Fowler Thomason.

## IACA AGM and conference in Cardwell October 2014

The first, two day Indigenous Art Centre Alliance member's conference for 2014/15 was held in Cardwell on the 29th to 31st October 2014. There were 62 participants in total, including Art Centre Managers, Art Centre Board chairs/members, artists, from 12 Art Centres, the IACA Management Committee, presenters and other Industry experts. It was very encouraging to have more artists (than previously) attend the conference, made possible by convenience and affordability of the location. Over 20 artists from Yarrabah and Girringun were able to attend and really enjoyed getting together and sharing techniques and skills.

The conference began with the IACA AGM on Wednesday the 29th of October, where the IACA Annual Report and IACA Financial Report were tabled, and the new IACA Management Committee elected.

Following a warm Welcome to Country by Traditional Owner and Girringun Corporation Chair



The Price is Right workshop at Cardwell Conference. Photo: Emma Fowler Thomason



IACA members at Girringun Aboriginal Art Centre 2014. Photo: Pam Bigelow.

Claude Beeron and a Welcome from Phil Rist IACA Chair, presentations were offered covering:

- Holistic thinking and learning, presented by Ernie Grant, Gimmway Traditional Owner.
- Funding and future directions, presented by Ingrid Barnes and Jacqueline Gropp from the Ministry for the Arts.
- "Charting the Change" Findings from the Aboriginal and Torres Strait art economies project new research presented by Tim Acker.
- A workshop dealing with effective object photography for websites and publications by Michael Marzik
- Introduction of the IACA Art Centre Development program, designed to develop all aspects of art centre management Presented by Brett Evans, IACA Art Centre Development Officer.
- A mentoring model for Art Centre managers, presented by Tara Zaicz and Melanie Gibson from Hopevale Art and Culture Centre.
- Creating the Right Marketing Mix, presented by Edwina Circuitt IACA Training Officer
- Viscopy An introduction to the Resale Royalty Scheme and Copyright Agency presented by Patricia Adjei.



# Professional Development



IACA members at Hopevale Arts and Culture Centre 2015.  
Photo: Emma Fowler Thomason.



Mark Chapman art materials workshop Hopevale Arts and Culture Centre 2015.  
Photo: Pam Bigelow.



Hopevale conference in action 2015. Photo: Emma Fowler Thomason.

## IACA Conference Cooktown/Hopevale April 2015

The Seventh IACA conference was held in Hopevale at the Hopevale Community Centre on 23rd of April and in Cooktown on the 24th of April 2015. There were 40 participants in total, including Art Centre Managers, Art Centre Board chairs/members, artists, the IACA Management Committee, IACA staff, presenters and other Industry experts. Presentations over the two day conference included:

- Funding and future directions, presented by Sam Creyton from Arts Qld.
- The Indigenous Art Code new directions, presented by Gabe Sullivan.
- Public art project the Shields Street Heart Project and CIAF satellite exhibition at the Tanks Art Centre, presented by Emma Fowler Thomason.
- Briefing for members on the format of CIAF 2015, presented by CIAF Artistic Director Janina Harding, General Manager Vanessa Gillen and Operations Manager Sam Gibbs.
- Demonstrations using correct archival art materials and stretching and re-stretching practices, presented by Mark Chapman of Chapman and Bailey.
- Future funding and changes to the National Jobs Package, presented by Jane Barney from Ministry for the Arts.
- 'We don't need a map', an inspiring case study for a project based exhibition, presented by Gabe Sullivan and Curtis Taylor from Martumilli Art Centre in north Western Australia.
- Getting the best from your Peak Body; looking at the role of a peak body and pitfalls to avoid, and an introduction to IACA 6 year Strategic Planning, presented by Susan Congreve.
- The Marketing Mix and "The Price is right" exploring Marketing, Branding and Pricing for art centres, presented by Edwina Circuitt IACA Training Officer.

The Biannual IACA conferences continue to be a vital forum for sharing information, ideas and an opportunity where decisions can be made that will assist to further develop, grow, promote and strengthen the North QLD Indigenous art industry. Members express their needs for access to speakers that bring fresh inspiration, expert industry knowledge, team building and practical skills development. These conferences are also essential to facilitate IACA members to meet face to face twice a year, conduct Members and Management Committee meetings and have input into the direction and activities of IACA.



Abe Muriata with Jawun commissioned by British Museum. Photo Valerie Keenan.

## Story Art Money SAM training

SAM – Stories Art Money – Database is an online artwork management system that enables the cataloguing of artworks, documentation of artists and provides financial management for both artists and the art business.

A two day SAM training workshop was organised by IACA and delivered by Adam Griffiths of Compnet, in Cairns in February 2015 with 13 members in attendance.

## IACA - Lucille Osborne Emerging Artist Memorial Fellowship

In early 2015 IACA received a bequest from the will of Lucille Osborne. The Fellowship will be awarded to one emerging artist from an IACA member Art Centre each year. The intention of the Fellowship is to support an

emerging artist to extend their arts/curatorial practice. The successful recipient of the **IACA – Lucille Osborne Emerging Artist Memorial Fellowship** will be announced at the Artists welcome at CIAF 2015.

## IACA International Artist Support Fund

This fund was introduced in 2014 and is available to IACA member, Indigenous artists. The fund will provide up to \$2500 towards travel costs associated with international visual artistic professional development, for Indigenous artists that are members of IACA. The IACA Management Committee will then assess these applications on merit. Abe Muriata from Giringun Aboriginal Art Centre received assistance from this fund in 2015 to travel to London for the opening of the *Indigenous Australia: Enduring Civilisation* Exhibition. Abe's Jawun was commissioned for the exhibition.





IACA Office, Scott St. Parramatta Park. Photo: Edwina Circuit.

## IACA Staff

The IACA team grew rapidly during 2014/15 from two staff; one full time manager Pam Bigelow and a part time Project Officer Emma Fowler Thomason, to a total of five staff. Additional funds provided by Ministry for the Arts during 2014/15 allowed the recruitment of three additional highly experienced staff. Art Centre Development Officer, Brett Evans, Training/Mentoring Officer, Edwina Circuit, and Administrative/Finance Officer, Morag Gane, were all recruited during 2014/15. Additional funds will be required to keep these staff in 2015/16.

## IACA Office

With an increase in staff, IACA required more office space. In early 2015 we secured office space and set up the office with furniture and IT requirements. IACA relocated from the host organisation James Cook University, in April 2015. The Queensland style offices just out of the Cairns CBD in Scott St. Parramatta Park, offer a "hot desk" for members to use when visiting Cairns, a meeting room and offices for staff to work. IACA sincerely thanks, James Cook University and the staff of The Cairns Institute for their support and investment in the formation of IACA.

## IACA News

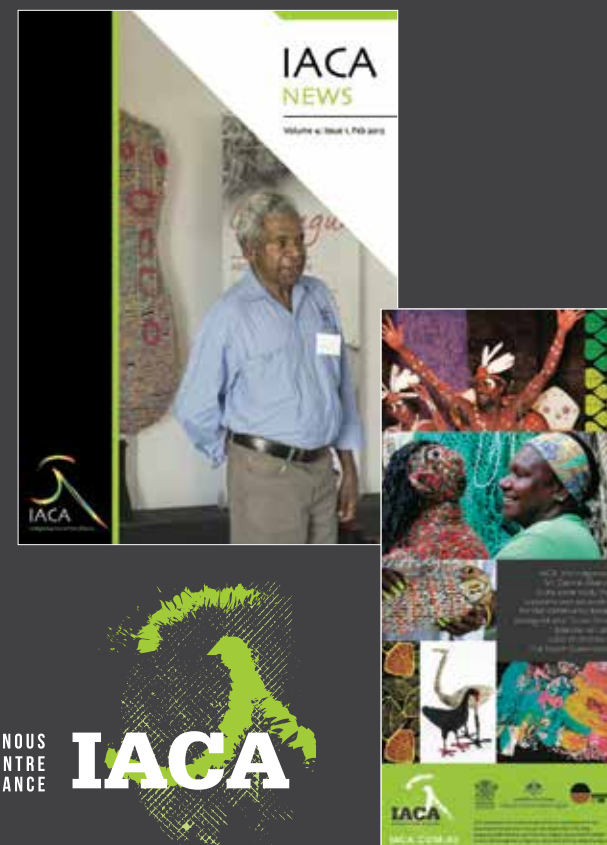
Two volumes of IACA News were published in August 2014 and February 2015. Electronic and print copies were distributed to the IACA newsletter subscriber mailing list.

## IACA Rebranding

IACA engaged a designer to undertake a branding refresh exercise in 2015. The results have evolved the initial IACA logo and branding into a vibrant, contemporary, arts focused range of images and collateral.

## Website

The IACA website has been redesigned, expanded and further developed to include improved layout and usability, retaining the password protected IACA, member's support page. The new website is image rich and designed to give users a clear understanding of the role of IACA as a peak body for community based Indigenous art centres of Far North Queensland and their rich cultural and artistic diversity.



## Social Media

IACA has increased its social media presence this year, with an increase in Facebook page reach and tripling the number of followers. Items of interest are posted continuously throughout the year.

## Advocacy

As major stakeholders in the Cairns Indigenous Art Fair, IACA has been working with CIAF to have IACA representation on the CIAF board, we hope this will be achieved before CIAF 2016. Funding cuts to the arts have led to many meetings organised and held with local Members of Parliament, and the Federal Minister for the Arts, throughout 2015, to lobby for sustainable government funding levels. Meetings were also held with executive staff from Ministry for the Arts and Arts QLD, regarding IACA funding levels, the NJP program and future funding arrangements for members.



## Telstra NATSIA Awards and DAAF

Seven artists from the IACA membership were shortlisted for the 2014 Telstra NATSIA Awards held annually in Darwin. The IACA manager travelled to Darwin in August 2014 to attend the Darwin Aboriginal Art Fair (DAAF) and the Telstra NATSIA Awards to represent the organisation and provide support to IACA artists and Arts Centres. Meeting with the Chair of the DAAF board to discuss and arrange a group IACA booth for IACA member Art Centres. This shared booth will allow art centres to test the market for Queensland Indigenous art at Darwin Aboriginal Art Fair 2015.

## Laura Dance Festival

IACA staff travelled to the Laura Dance Festival to connect with the stakeholders from the region, network and promote IACA and the Members. Support was also offered to art centres involved in the performances and selling artwork at the festival. There was great interest in our stall and the IACA newsletters, with many visitors stopping for a yarn.





## Corporate Governance

IACA Inc. held its second Annual General Meeting in Cardwell on the 29th of October 2014.

### The 2014 /15 Management Committee elect



Phil Rist  
President



Melanie Gibson  
Treasurer



Laurie Nona  
Committee Member



Solomon Booth  
Committee Member



Samantha Hooker  
Committee Member



Vanessa Gillen  
Committee Member



Jeannie Heynatz  
Committee Member



Pam Bigelow IACA Manager,  
Management Committee  
appointed Secretary

The IACA Management Committee met five times during the 2014/15 year.



IACA Management Committee 2014. Photos by Michael Marzik

# Financial Report for the year ending 30th June 2015

INDIGENOUS ART CENTRE ALLIANCE INC.

ABN: 43 938 673 125

## INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

REVENUE	
Membership Fees	1,090.90
OTHER REVENUE	
Interest Received	5,862.60
Recoveries	9,516.42
Other revenue	25.05
GRANTS EXPENDED	
Arts Queensland Operational Funding	205,158.51
Arts Queensland Professional Development	64,378.93
Ministry for the Arts operational Funding	308,711.00
	<b>594,743.41</b>
EXPENDITURE	
Accountancy fees	10,703.67
Advertising	22,741.81
Auditors Remuneration	5,800.00
Bank Charges	6.00
Conference and Meeting Expenses	29,952.93
Computer Software, Maintenance and Consumables	3,959.19
Consultancy and Contractor Fees	49,031.51
Depreciation	2,250.00
Documentation: Photography, Video etc.	190.91
Electricity	3,418.71
Email, Internet and Web Site	7,854.31
Freight and Couriers	59.59
Hire of Equipment, Vehicles and Facilities	400.00
Holiday Pay, Movement in Provision	19,338.02
Insurance	4,826.71
Legal Costs	3,129.66
Motor Vehicle Expenses	11,180.56
Newsletter	763.64
Outlays, Art Centres	406.00
Printing and Stationery	9,782.85
Promotion and Marketing, Art Centres	13,313.82
Rent	11,838.30
Repairs and Maintenance	<b>4,654.57</b>
Staff Recruitment and Relocation	2,525.87
Storage Fees	<b>6,128.61</b>
Superannuation Contributions	22,757.39
Telephone	2,800.15
Training and Professional Development	<b>5,913.75</b>
Travelling Expenses	118,794.28
Wages	240,554.47
Workers Compensation Insurance	1,239.31
	<b>615,736.17</b>
RETAINED EARNINGS AT THE END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR	
	<b>(20,992.76)</b>





Photo Emma Fowler-Thomson

IACA conference attendees at Cardwell Pier,  
October 2014.



INDIGENOUS  
ART CENTRE  
ALLIANCE

**IACA**



The Indigenous Art Centre Alliance Inc. (IACA)  
is the peak body that supports and advocates for the community-based  
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art and cultural centres of  
Far North Queensland.

[www.iaca.com.au](http://www.iaca.com.au)