

ABA AUSTRALIAN BAR ASSOCIATION LTD
A.C.N. 605 949 148



Australian
Bar Association

ABA AUSTRALIAN BAR ASSOCIATION LIMITED

**FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
30 JUNE 2021**

ABA AUSTRALIAN BAR ASSOCIATION LTD
A.C.N. 605 949 148

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ABA AUSTRALIAN BAR ASSOCIATION LTD
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DIRECTORS' REPORT

Your directors present their report together with the financial statements of ABA Australian Bar Association Limited ("the Association") for the financial year ended 30 June 2021 and the auditor's report thereon.

The following persons were directors of the Association during the financial year and for periods up until the date of this report:

C Blanden QC	24/11/2020 to date	Barrister, QC, Member of Vic Bar
M Collins AM QC (Vice President)	1/7/2020 to date	Barrister, QC, Member of Vic Bar
M A Crawley SC	1/7/2020 to 23/11/2020	Barrister, SC, Member of the NT Bar
M Cuerden SC	5/11/2020 to date	Barrister, Member of WA Bar
S M Davies SC	1/7/2020 to 2/11/2020	Barrister, SC, Member of WA Bar
P J Dunning QC (Treasurer)	1/7/2020 to date	Barrister, QC, Member of Qld Bar
W A Harris QC	1/7/2020 to 24/11/2020	Barrister, QC, Member of Vic Bar
M C J Hoffmann QC	1/7/2020 to date	Barrister, QC, Member of SA Bar
M Howard SC (President)	1/7/2020 to date	Barrister, SC, Member of WA Bar
D McConnel	23/11/2020 to date	Barrister, Member of NT Bar
M McHugh SC	1/7/2020 to date	Barrister, SC, Member of NSW Bar
A R Muller	1/7/2020 to date	Barrister, Member of the ACT Bar
K T Nomchong SC (Vice President)	1/7/2020 to date	Barrister, SC, Member of NSW Bar
S Taglieri SC	1/7/2020 to 1/4/2021	Barrister, SC, Member of the Tas Bar
R M Treston QC	1/7/2020 to date	Barrister, QC, Member of Qld Bar
S M Whybrow	1/7/2020 to 4/6/2021	Barrister, Member of the ACT Bar
P Zeeman	1/4/2021 to date	Barrister, Member of the Tas Bar

Meetings of Directors

From 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021 there were 5 meetings. Each director's attendance is set out below:

Name	Total Meetings while Director	Meetings Attended
C Blanden QC	3	2
M Collins AM QC	5	5
M A Crawley SC	2	2
M Cuerden SC	3	1
S M Davies SC	2	2
P J Dunning QC	5	5
W A Harris QC	2	1
M C J Hoffmann QC	5	4
M Howard SC	5	5
D McConnel	3	2
M McHugh SC	5	4
A R Muller	3	2
K T Nomchong SC	5	5
S Taglieri SC	4	4
R M Treston QC	5	4
S M Whybrow	4	4
P Zeeman	1	0

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DIRECTORS' REPORT
(Continued)

Principal Activities

The principal activities of the Association during the financial year were:

- Promoting the work of Australian barristers to governments, the media and other stakeholders;
- Enabling an open and transparent communication channel within the ABA and amongst barristers about the profession and wider issues of the law and justice;
- Representing the profession and advancing public debate on law reform and legal policy issues;
- Undertaking continuing professional development courses (through the Advocacy Training Council), conferences and events both in Australia and abroad;
- Communicating with our members and the wider profession about key issues affecting the profession, as well as significant legal issues affecting the wider community.

Short and long term objectives

The Association's short and long term objectives are to:

Serve Our Membership

- Foster a collegiate, inclusive and diverse national association of barristers;
- Develop and promote opportunities to identify as an Australian barrister;
- Promote Australian barristers abroad;
- Provide opportunities to members that promote professional growth;
- Promote barristers' distinctive role and competencies to clients and the community;
- Advocate on behalf of the profession by speaking out on issues that affect our members.

Improve Our Profession

- Promote the highest quality legal training and services;
- Promote the highest standards of ethics, quality and conduct across the profession;
- Promote full and equal participation in the Association, our profession and the justice system;
- Promote greater national consistency of rules pertaining to barristers.

Advance the Rule of Law and access to justice

- Maintain and strengthen an independent judiciary and legal profession;
- Champion the effective administration of justice;
- Increase public understanding of and respect for the rule of law, the legal process and the role of barristers;
- Advocate for fair and equal access to justice for all;
- Identify opportunities to collaborate across the legal sector to safeguard the rule of law;
- Support the rule of law in international jurisdictions.

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DIRECTORS' REPORT
(Continued)

Results of Operations

The Association continued to engage in its principle activities during the financial year. The surplus of the Association for the financial year after income tax amounted to \$117,991 (2020: \$341,734).

Members Guarantee

If the Association is wound up, the Constitution states that each member is required to contribute an amount not exceeding \$10 per member to meet all outstanding obligations of the Association and any such amounts as may be required. The Association had 6,148 members at balance date, and the total that members are liable to contribute is \$61,480.

Association Particulars

ABA Australian Bar Association Limited, incorporated and domiciled in Australia, is a public company limited by guarantee.

The address of the registered office and principal place of business is:

NSW Bar Association
'Selborne Chambers' B
174 Phillip Street
Sydney NSW 2000

Auditor's Independence Declaration

A copy of the auditor's independence declaration as required under section 307C of the *Corporations Act 2001* is set out on page 4.

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

Director



.....
M HOWARD SC

Director



.....
P J DUNNING QC

Dated this 28th day of October 2021

**AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION UNDER
SECTION 307C OF THE CORPORATIONS ACT 2001
TO THE DIRECTORS OF AUSTRALIAN BAR ASSOCIATION**

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2021 there have been:

- i. no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in the *Corporations Act 2001* in relation to the audit; and
- ii. no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.



Bentleys Brisbane (Audit) Pty Ltd
Chartered Accountants



Stewart Douglas
Director
Brisbane
28 October 2021

ABA AUSTRALIAN BAR ASSOCIATION LTD
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STATEMENT OF SURPLUS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

	Note	2021 \$	2020 \$
Revenue	2	149,539	1,583,118
Advocacy training costs		(72,122)	(223,800)
Auditor's remuneration		(20,000)	(23,000)
Accounting expenses		(4,900)	-
Conference expenses		-	(541,213)
Consulting fees		(6,813)	(49,317)
Gifts		-	(643)
Information technology		(6,063)	(6,154)
Investment fees		(13,529)	(23,637)
Legal and professional fees		(13,329)	(86,104)
Media costs		(6,057)	(8,354)
Silks dinner		-	(43,335)
Travel and accommodation		(4,711)	(49,911)
Other operating expenses		(44,526)	(102,151)
Surplus/(Loss) before investment fair value		(42,511)	425,499
Other Comprehensive Income			
Gain/(loss) on financial assets at fair value		230,638	(100,393)
Surplus/(Loss) before income tax		188,127	325,106
Income tax (expense)/benefit	3(a)	(70,136)	16,628
Net surplus		117,991	341,734
Total comprehensive income/(loss) for the year		117,991	341,734

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

ABA AUSTRALIAN BAR ASSOCIATION LTD
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STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT 30 JUNE 2021

	Note	2021 \$	2020 \$
ASSETS			
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	10	447,845	511,045
Trade and other receivables	4	1,404	6,188
Other current assets	6	60,942	-
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		510,191	517,233
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Financial assets - investments	5	2,977,114	2,681,958
Deferred tax asset	3(b)	873	1,046
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		2,977,987	2,683,004
TOTAL ASSETS		3,488,178	3,200,237
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and other payables	7	55,870	45,700
Other liabilities	8	122,473	14,682
Current tax liabilities		16,729	17,974
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		195,072	78,356
NON- CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Deferred tax liabilities	3(b)	85,185	31,951
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		85,185	31,951
TOTAL LIABILITIES		280,257	110,307
NET ASSETS		3,207,922	3,089,930
MEMBER'S EQUITY			
Accumulated surpluses		3,207,922	3,089,930
TOTAL MEMBER'S EQUITY		3,207,922	3,089,930

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

ABA AUSTRALIAN BAR ASSOCIATION LTD
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STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN ACCUMULATED FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

	Accumulated Surpluses	Total Accumulated Funds
	\$	\$
Balance at 1 July 2019	2,748,196	2,748,196
Total comprehensive income for the year	341,734	341,734
Balance at 30 June 2020	3,089,930	3,089,930
Total comprehensive income for the year	117,991	117,991
Balance at 30 June 2021	3,207,922	3,207,922

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

ABA AUSTRALIAN BAR ASSOCIATION LTD
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STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

	Note	2021 \$	2020 \$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Receipts from members, sponsorship and general		74,923	1,462,816
Payments to suppliers		(135,152)	(1,484,685)
Interest and dividends received		79,400	114,114
Income tax received/(paid)		(17,854)	-
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities		1,317	92,245
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Purchase of investments		(64,517)	(88,113)
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities		(64,517)	(88,113)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash held		(63,200)	4,132
Cash at the beginning of year		511,045	506,913
Cash at the end of year	10	447,845	511,045

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

ABA AUSTRALIAN BAR ASSOCIATION LTD

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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

(a) Basis of Preparation

These general purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements and interpretations as issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board, and the *Corporations Act 2001*. ABA Australian Bar Association Limited is a Not-for-profit entity to preparing the financial statements.

Historical cost convention

These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of available-for-sale financial assets.

Critical accounting estimates

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. There are no estimates and judgements that have a significant risk of causing material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

(b) Revenue Recognition

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable. Revenue is recognised as follows:

- (i) *Revenue from contracts with customers*
Revenue from the rendering of a service is using the five-step process as outlined by AASB 15, as follows:
 - identify the contract(s) with customer;
 - identify the performance obligation in the contract(s);
 - determine the transaction price;
 - allocate the transaction price to the performance obligations in the contract(s); and
 - recognise revenue when (or as) the performance obligations are satisfied.
- (ii) *Dividend income*
Dividends are recognised as revenue when received.
- (iii) *Interest income*
Interest income is recognised as it accrues.
- (iv) *Other income*
Income from other sources is recognised when the income is receivable.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONT'D)

(c) Income Tax

The Association has adopted the balance sheet method of tax effect accounting.

In addition, under the mutuality provisions of the Income Tax Assessment Act, income and expenses wholly applicable to members of the Association are not brought to account in calculating income for tax purposes.

Deferred income tax is provided in full, using the liability method, on temporary differences arising between the tax bases of asset and liabilities and their carrying amounts in the financial statements. Deferred income tax is determined using tax rates (and laws) that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the end of the reporting period and are expected to apply when the related deferred tax asset is realised or the deferred tax liability is settled.

Deferred tax assets are recognised for deductible temporary difference and unused tax losses only if it is probable that future taxable amounts will be available to utilise those temporary differences and losses.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are offset when there is a legally enforceable right to offset current tax assets and liabilities and when the deferred tax balances relate to the same taxation authority. Current tax assets and liabilities are offset where the entity has a legally enforceable right to offset and intends either to settle on a net basis, or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Current and deferred tax is recognised in profit or loss, except to the extent that it relates to items recognised in other comprehensive income or directly in equity. In this case, the tax is also recognised in other comprehensive income or directly in equity, respectively.

(d) Current and non-current classification

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

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.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONT'D)

(e) Cash and Cash Equivalents

For purposes of presentation in the statement of cash flows, cash and cash equivalents includes cash on hand, deposits held at call with financial institutions and 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.

(f) Trade and other receivables

Trade receivables are initially recognized at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any allowance for expected credit losses.

The Association has applied the simplified approach to measuring expected credit losses, which uses a lifetime expected loss allowance. To measure the expected credit losses, trade receivables have been grouped based on days overdue.

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

(g) 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 acquisitions of the items.

Depreciation is calculated on a straight-line basis to write off the net cost of each item of property, plant and equipment over their expected useful lives as follows:

Property, plant and equipment's 3-5 years.

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

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.

(h) Impairment of non-financial assets

Non-financial assets are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicated that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. An impairment loss is recognised for the amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount.

Recoverable amount is the higher of an asset's fair value less costs of disposal and value-in-use. The value-in-use is the present value of the estimated future cash flows relating to the asset using a pre-tax discount rate specific to the asset or cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs. Assets that do not have independent cash flows are grouped together to form a cash-generating unit.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONT'D)

(i) Financial Instruments

(i) Classification

From 1 June 2018, the Association classifies its financial assets in the following measurement categories:

- those to be measured subsequently at fair value through profit or loss (FVPL) or fair value through OCI (FVOCI), and
- those to be measured at amortised cost.

The classification depends on the Association's business model for managing the financial assets and the contractual terms of the cash flows.

For assets measured at fair value, gains and losses will either be recorded in profit or loss or OCI. For investments in equity instruments that are not held for trading, this will depend on whether the Association has made an irrevocable election at the time of initial recognition to account for the equity investment at fair value through other comprehensive income (FVOCI). Currently all investments are measured at FVPL.

The Association reclassifies debt investments when and only when its business model for managing those assets changes.

(ii) Recognition and derecognition

Regular way purchases and sales of financial assets are recognised on trade-date, the date on which the Association commits to purchase or sell the asset. Financial assets are derecognised when the rights to receive cash flows from the financial assets have expired or have been transferred and the Association has transferred substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership.

(iii) Measurement

At initial recognition, the Association measures a financial asset at its fair value plus, in the case of a financial asset not at fair value through profit or loss (FVPL), transaction costs that are directly attributable to the acquisition of the financial asset. Transaction costs of financial assets carried at FVPL are expensed in profit or loss.

Financial assets with embedded derivatives are considered in their entirety when determining whether their cash flows are solely payment of principal and interest.

(iv) Impairment

From 1 June 2018, the Association assesses on a forward looking basis the expected credit losses associated with its debt instruments carried at amortised cost and FVOCI. The impairment methodology applied depends on whether there has been a significant increase in credit risk.

For trade receivables, the Association applies the simplified approach permitted by AASB 9, which requires expected lifetime losses to be recognised from initial recognition of the receivables.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONT'D)

(j) Trade and Other Payables

These amounts represent liabilities for goods and services provided to the Association prior to the end of financial year which are unpaid. The amounts are unsecured and are usually paid within 30 days of recognition.

(k) Goods and Services Tax ("GST")

Revenue, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of associated GST, unless the GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office ("ATO"). In this case it is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of expense.

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included in receivables or 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 ATO are presented as operating cash flows.

(l) Changes in accounting policies, disclosures, standards and interpretations

The 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.

(m) Fair value measurement

When, an asset or liability, financial or non-financial, is measured at fair value for recognition or disclosure purposes, the fair value is based on the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date; and assumes that the transaction will take place either: in the principal market; or in the absence of a principal market, in the most advantageous market.

Fair value is measured using the assumptions that market participants would use when pricing the asset or liability, assuming they act in their economic best interests. For non-financial assets, the fair value measurement is based on its highest and best use. Valuation techniques that are appropriate in the circumstances and for which sufficient data are available to measure fair value, are used, maximizing the use of relevant observable inputs and minimizing the use of unobservable inputs.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

2. REVENUE

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Capitation Fees	-	501,735
Conference Income	-	634,319
Advocacy Training	60,136	211,755
Investment Income	79,400	114,113
Functions	-	45,091
Sponsorship Income	10,003	60,400
Other Income	-	15,705
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Revenue from continuing operations	149,539	1,583,118
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3. INCOME TAX EXPENSE

(a) Reconciliation of income tax expense to prima facie tax payable

Net surplus from continuing operations	188,127	325,106
Tax at the Australian tax rate of 26% (2020: 27.5%)	48,913	89,404
Increase/(decrease) in income tax expense due to:		
- Net mutual (income) / expense	30,779	(80,310)
Tax effect of amounts which are not deductible	(2,878)	(8,849)
Adjustment recognised for prior periods	(3,307)	(16,874)
Change of tax rates	(3,372)	-
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Income tax (expense)/benefit	(70,136)	16,628
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

(b) Deferred taxes

Other financial assets	(85,185)	(31,951)
Trade and other payables	-	-
Provision for employee entitlements	-	-
Accrued expenses	873	1,046
Deferred tax asset – tax losses carried forward	-	-
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Net deferred tax (liability)	84,372	(30,905)
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
4. RECEIVABLES		
Current		
Accounts receivable	1,404	6,188
	<u>1,404</u>	<u>6,188</u>
 5. OTHER FINANCIAL ASSETS - NON- CURRENT		
Designated at fair value through profit or loss		
Cash held for investment purposes	477,486	1,325,176
Fixed Interest Securities – listed	808,340	915,916
Domestic and International Shares in listed companies	1,691,288	440,866
Total designated at fair value through profit or loss	<u>2,977,114</u>	<u>2,681,958</u>
 6. OTHER CURRENT ASSETS		
Conference & Advocacy Training supplier prepayments	<u>60,942</u>	<u>-</u>
 7. TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES		
Trade creditors and accruals	55,870	45,700
	<u>55,870</u>	<u>45,700</u>
 8. OTHER LIABILITIES		
Income received in advance for courses or conferences	122,473	14,682
	<u>122,473</u>	<u>14,682</u>

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

9. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

(a) Directors

The names of persons who were directors of the Association at any time during the financial year are as follows:

C Blanden QC	D McConnel
M Collins AM QC	M McHugh SC
M A Crawley SC	A Muller
M Cuerden SC	K T Nomchong SC
S M Davies SC	S Taglieri SC
P J Dunning QC	R M Treston QC
W A Harris QC	S M Whybrow
M C J Hoffmann QC	P Zeeman
M Howard SC	

(b) Key management

The key management personnel are the members of the Bar Council of the Association and the Chief Executive Officer. No compensation was paid, or is payable, to the members of the Bar Council of the Association nor the Chief Executive Officer.

(c) Other transactions

The Association conducts its business from the premises of the New South Wales Bar Association and Bar Association of Queensland at no cost to the Association.

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
10. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS		
Cash at bank	447,845	511,045
	<u>447,845</u>	<u>511,045</u>

11. EVENTS OCCURRING AFTER THE REPORTING DATE

No matter or circumstance has occurred subsequent to year end that has significantly affected, or may significantly affect, the operations of the Association, the results of those operations or the state of affairs of the Association.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

12. IMPACT OF COVID-19

The financial results for the year have been influenced by the impacts of COVID-19 and the resulting changes in government legislation.

The Association collects capitation fees (one of its main sources of revenue) once a year from its constituent bodies. For the year ended 30 June 2021 capitation fees were waived in full by the Association, therefore there was a significant decline in revenue.

The Association was also forced to cancel many of its income-generating events and conferences due to COVID-19.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

DIRECTOR'S DECLARATION

In the directors' opinion:

- (a) the financial statements and notes set out on pages 1 to 17 are in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including:
- (i) complying with Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations) and the Corporations Regulations 2001; and
 - (ii) giving a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 30 June 2021 and of its performance for the financial year ended on that date; and
- (b) there are reasonable grounds to believe that the company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

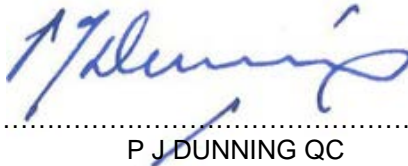
This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the directors.

Director



.....
M HOWARD SC

Director



.....
P J DUNNING QC

Dated this 28th day of October 2021

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
TO THE MEMBERS OF AUSTRALIAN BAR ASSOCIATION**



Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Australian Bar Association (the "Company"), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2021 and the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the director's declaration.

In our opinion the financial report of the Company is in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including:

- (i) giving a true and fair view of the Company's financial position as at 30 June 2021 and of its performance for the year then ended; and
- (ii) complying with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Corporations Regulations 2001*.

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 auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* and the ethical requirements of the Australian Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We confirm that the independence declaration required by the *Corporations Act 2001*, which has been given to the directors of the Company, would be in the same terms if given to the directors as at the time of this auditor's report.

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

Responsibilities of the Directors for the Financial Report

The directors of the Company are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Corporations Act 2001* and for such internal control as the directors 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.

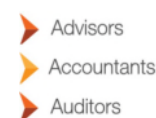
In preparing the financial report, the directors are responsible for assessing the ability of the Company to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the Company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

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.



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**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (continued)
TO THE MEMBERS OF AUSTRALIAN BAR ASSOCIATION
(Continued)**



Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report (Continued)

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

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, 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 Company 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 those charged with governance 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.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Stewart Douglas".

Bentleys Brisbane (Audit) Pty Ltd
Chartered Accountants

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Stewart Douglas".

Stewart Douglas
Director
Brisbane
28 October 2021



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