

Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand

Minutes AGM 2021

Environment Institute of Australia and **New Zealand**

South East Queensland Division

DATE	Wednesday 8 September 2021 5:30pm	VENUE	Online	
MEETING TYPE	Annual General Meeting	DIAL IN	(as per meeting invite)	
CHAIR	Graeme Milligan	RECORDER	Kaleena Fry	
ATTENDEES	Claire de Wit, Hamish Manzi, Tony Pla Cowlishaw, Isabella Frew, Craig Wilson	raeme Milligan, Geraldine Squires, Olivia Williamson, Jon Womersley, Clair Evans, Ailsa Kerswell, aire de Wit, Hamish Manzi, Tony Platts-Baggs, Howard Briggs, Joanne Flint, Jarred G, Melissa owlishaw, Isabella Frew, Craig Wilson, Clive Cook, Kaleena Fry others online – names not able to be provided by Central Office)		
APOLOGIES	Rachel Brazier, Gareth Rees, Rod Welford, Gina Minatel			

Торіс	Comments / Action	Who
Meeting open & introductions	Graeme Milligan opened the meeting at 5:30pm and covered housekeeping issues. Advised that meeting is being recorded. Acknowledgment of Country. Called for apologies – refer above.	Graeme Milligan
Confirmation of 2020 AGM minutes	The 2020 minutes require endorsement. Minutes were endorsed and adopted.	Moved by Jon Womersley, seconded by Ailsa Kerswell.
Business arising from previous minutes	None noted.	
President's Report	 Graeme Milligan gave the President's report. Refer attached and summary below. Has been another challenging year, but have continued to be active in delivering services and providing a rich source of leadership in the profession. Key achievements: Continued to improve financial position. Maintained a strong level of membership. Increased our student membership. Maintained a very high level of membership volunteer support. Delivered professional development and supported members during the challenging lockdown periods. Established a relationship with the Planning Institute of Australia. Engaged with Qld Govt. SEQ members continued important work as part of Institute working groups. Maintain a good working relationship with Central Office, and appreciate the support provided. Membership: strong overall membership, increase in student numbers (+75%) and overall increase (+13%). SEQ division largest in institute. Membership survey provided large range of information that will be used moving forward in 2021 / 2022. Key points include: 	Moved by Graeme Milligan, seconded by Melissa Cowlishaw.

	 The gender split of respondents was fairly even.
	 Almost half of respondents identified their
	industry type as 'consulting'.
	 We have connections to at least 16 other professional organisations through cross
	membership
	 75% of respondents are from Greater
	Brisbane area.
	 There is demand for more events with a preference for CPD.
	 More than 75% stated that event pricing
	was reasonable or just right.
	 33 suggestions for future events. 26 suggestions for additional value or
	 26 suggestions for additional value or member services.
	 Demand for more communication from
	the Divisional Committee on what is
	happening.
	 While webinars are useful, face to face events are definitely more engaging.
•	Key activities in the Policy sector:
	 Wrote to 3 Queensland Ministers
	concerning the Government's initiative to
	prepare a Queensland Resources Industry Development Plan. This
	resulted in a well-received briefing to
	Department of Resources senior officers.
	• Formalised a relationship with the
	Queensland Policy Chair with Planning Institute of Australia (PIA).
	 Led the development of EIANZ-wide
	submission on proposed up-listing of
	koala to endangered. Work is continuing
	with the Ecology SIS to develop a submission on the koala recovery plan.
	 Ongoing policy work with the Department
	of Environment & Science on Matters of
	State Environmental Significance in SEQ,
	and the Biodiversity Offsets Reform Multisector Reference Group.
	 Led the development of the Position
	Statement – Environmental Practice and
	Natural Disaster Resilience and
	 supporting documents. Ailsa Kerswell indicated that additional
	help from other institute members is
	always welcome and to please get in
	contact if anyone is able to assist.
•	Continued to deliver professional development program – 453 people engaged over 20 events.
	Key achievements included:
	 Plant identification series of 5 workshops.
	 Ongoing "enviro exchange" virtual coffee catch upp for members to stay
	catch-ups for members to stay connected.
	• Ethics webinar.
	• Expert Witness masterclass.
	 Queensland Hydrogen Industry Forum. Re-igniting our ties with academia
	 Re-igniting our ties with academia. Olivia Williamson wanted to thank all
	who participated and contributed to the
	program. It was a varied program that the
	professional development team were very proud of.

	 SECP Program highlights included: Continuing our close relationship with the UQ Geography and Environmental Management. Developing our relationship with Griffith University. Developing our relationship with Gueensland University of Technology. Hosting an in-person networking event. Expanded the SECP subcommittee. Currently planning an in-person trivia night. Mentoring program continued to grow. The program has 27 mentoring pairs. Launch event was held at GHD, with keynote speech delivered by Joanne Flint. Activities and events are ongoing until the end of the year. Division would like to congratulate Vicki Brady and Clive Cook, who were appointed as Fellows of the Institute. CEnvP program highlights include: Geomorphology specialist category introduced. Heritage specialist category launched. CEnvP Scheme recognised by NSW government for attaining NSW Registered Environmental Assessment Practitioner (REAP). Land Rehabilitation specialist category reviewed and re-introduced. Supported Transparency International Australia's Guide to Stronger Environmental Impact Statements. Supported TenvPs during pandemic. Website improvements and increased presence on LinkedIn. Joanne Flint extended thanks to all the members who have supported the scheme. The scheme is only successful through the support of the volunteers. Indication of future plans outlined, to be considered as part of strategic planning in October with new committee. Thank you extended to central Office and the supportive staff that continue to assist us. Thank you extended to contagoing committee and volunteers on vari	
Treasurer's	President's Report endorsed and adopted.	Moved by Geralding
Treasurer's Report	Geraldine Squires gave the Treasurer's report. Refer attached and summary below.	Moved by Geraldine Squires, seconded by Ailsa Kerswell.
	 Excellent work by our Professional Development committee do in running events Sponsorship from our valued 2020 Divisional partners Ecological Australia Membership share Income of just under \$45,000, less costs of around \$11,000 we ended with a surplus of \$33,623. End of year in a positive equity position of \$38,924. 	

r	
	In conclusion, SEQ Division has a strong financial position going into 2021/2022 and provides a good platform for us to continue providing relevant and topical professional development events that provide value to our members. Craig Wilson queried what percentage of membership goes to Division. Answer is that this is approximately \$12/member. Note – to be confirmed after the meeting ¹ .
	Treasurer's Report endorsed and adopted.
Nomination & election of 2021 / 2022 committee	All position were declared vacant. Nominations received will be taken as accepted. No positions were contested. Executive Committee Members • President – Geraldine Squires • Vice President – Ailsa Kerswell
	Treasurer – none received
	Secretary – Kaleena Fry
	Treasurer position to be confirmed after the AGM.
	General Committee members:
	Gareth Rees
	Gina Minatel
	Graeme Milligan
	Hamish Manzi
	Isabella Frew
	Jon Womersley
	Melissa Colwishaw
	Olivia Williamson
	Rachel Brazier
	Tony Platts-Baggs
General	Jon Womersley indicated that Clive Cook is championing
business	a new special interest section in the institute (protected area management). Clive Cook advised that so far there are 12 active members who are interested, with first catch up scheduled for 9 September 2021.
	Ailsa Kerswell thanked both Graeme Milligan and Melissa Cowlishaw as outgoing President and Vice President. Please don't hesitate to contact committee members.
Meeting stress	
Meeting close	The meeting was closed at 6:30pm.

¹ The amount paid to divisions for renewals is \$12 for all classes of membership; however, for new memberships the amount differs depending on the class of membership as follows: Full = \$30, Associate = \$15, Student = \$10.

President's Report :- SEQ Division 2020/21

Purpose

This report is tabled on behalf of the SEQ Divisional Committee on the activities and transactions of the Division in the 2020/21 financial year.

Summary

In what turned out to again be a very challenging year, the SEQ Division has been very active in delivering services to the environment profession. The Mentoring Program for Students and Early Career environmental practitioners continues to be popular. The professional development program continued to respond to the always changing COVID situation by offering a number of webinars as well as face to face events that allowed for networking opportunities. On the policy front, we have been active engaging with the Qld government and the Planning Institute of Australia- Qld, and contributing to EIANZ submissions and a Position Statement. The Division has continued to provide a rich source of leadership in the profession with members being elected to the EIANZ Board and playing important leadership roles in Board Committees, Special Interest Sections, the Certified Environmental Practitioner Scheme Certification Board, the Qualifications Accreditation Board, and as the editors of the Australasian Journal of Environmental Management.

Key Achievements

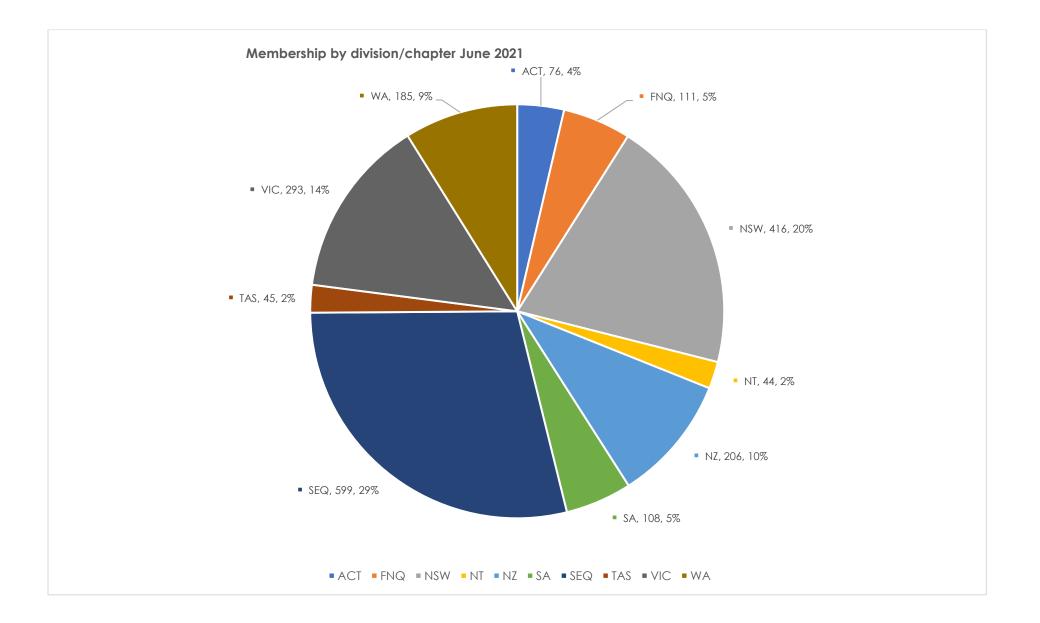
The 2020/21 year has seen the SEQ Division maintained a high level of service to and engagement with members and non-members. In summary, this year we have

- Continued to improved our financial position.
- Maintained a strong level of membership with a total of 599 members, up 13% from last year.
- Increased our student membership up 75% to 119.
- Maintained a very high level of membership volunteer support on committees with a total of 45 members volunteering their time for the benefit of the EIANZ and fellow members.
- Delivered 20 professional development events this year with 453 attendees.
- Stayed connected and supported members during the challenging lock down periods.
- Established a relationship with the Planning Institute of Australia Qld on policy matters.
- Engaged with Qld Govt on the Qld Resources Industry Development Plan, Matters of State Environmental Significance in SEQ, & the Biodiversity Offsets Reform Multisector Ref Group.
- SEQ members continued important work as part of Institute working groups, including:
- As part of the Qualifications Accreditation Scheme, the University of Canterbury has been accredited for initial 4-year period, with discussions ongoing with other tertiary institutions.
- The Indigenous Engagement Working Group have been working closely with Central Office and Reconciliation Australia to provide support in the preparation of the Reconciliation Action Plan.
- The 2020 Mentoring program completed with 17 mentoring pairs and the 2021 program with 27 mentoring pairs is underway for the calendar year, up 59%.
- Led, via the Advisory Committee, the development of the Position Statement Environmental Practice and Natural Disaster Resilience and supporting documents
- Maintain a good working relationship with Central Office, and appreciate the support provided.

Membership Figures

The SEQ Division maintains a strong level of overall membership given the continuing COVID19 impacts during the year. We have seen a tremendous increase for students , up 75%, a 21% increase for Fellows and a 5% increase for Full Members. The breakdown of membership is set out below. The SEQ Division remains the largest base for EIANZ membership (see diag below) with 29% of overall membership and increase of 2% from last year.

Category	2020	2021	Trend
Student	68	119	+ 75%
Associate	57	57	-
Full Member	379	397	+ 5%
Fellow	14	17	+ 21%
Life	3	3	-
Retired	7	6	-15%
Total	528	599	+ 13%



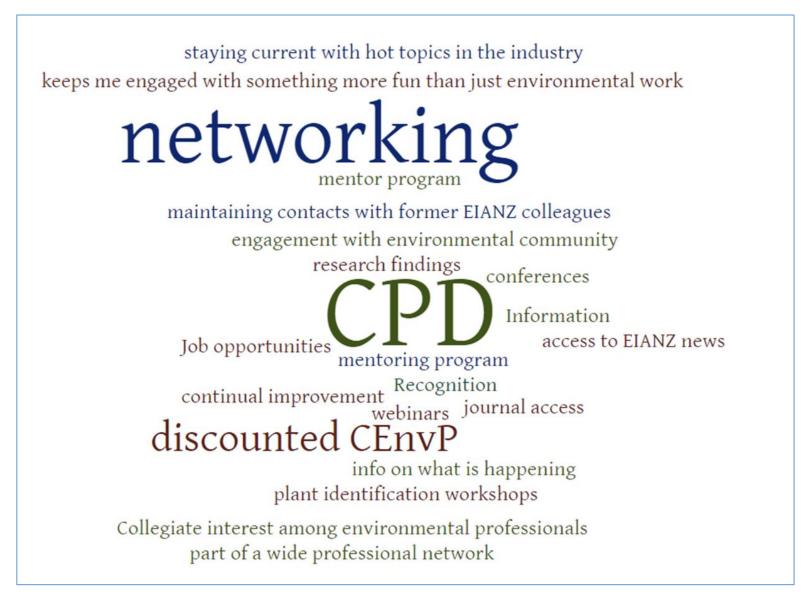
Membership survey

Thank to Rachel Brazier for leading this work.

SEQ members completed a "membership survey" in May 2021. The survey provided rich detail which will assist in planning for the upcoming year. The survey included questions about our members' level of engagement with the EIANZ and the value they gain from membership. There is a spread of positive comments and certainly opportunities for improvement. Details from the survey will be published in the next SEQ newsletter. Some snippets of interest:-

- The gender split of respondents was fairly even.
- Almost half of respondents identified their industry type as 'consulting'.
- We have connections to at least 16 other professional organisations through cross membership
- 75% of respondents are from Greater Brisbane area.
- There is demand for more events with a preference for CPD.
- More than 75% stated that event pricing was reasonable or just right.
- 33 suggestions for future events.
- 26 suggestions for additional value or member services.
- Demand for more communication from the Divisional Committee on what is happening.
- While webinars are useful face to face events are definitely more engaging

Value of the SEQ Divisional activities to Members from survey comments



Policy

Thank you, Ailsa Kerswell, for leading the policy work for the SEQ Division. The key policy activities of the Division were

- Wrote to 3 Queensland Ministers concerning the Government's initiative to prepare a Queensland Resources Industry Development Plan, acknowledging that at every step in the value chain from exploration to mineral production, environmental practitioners have an essential part. This resulted in a well-received briefing to Department of Resources senior officers.
- Formalised a relationship with the Queensland Policy Chair with Planning Institute of Australia (PIA). PIA are prioritising partnerships with other professional bodies (like us) for the roll out of their national climate policy.
- Led the development of EIANZ-wide submission on proposed up-listing of koala to endangered, which was recently submitted. Work is continuing with the Ecology SIS to develop a submission on the koala recovery plan
- There is on going policy work with the Department of Environment & Science on Matters of State Environmental Significance in SEQ, and the Biodiversity Offsets Reform Multisector Reference Group
- Led the development of the Position Statement Environmental Practice and Natural Disaster Resilience and supporting documents

In response to SEQ Division sharing the Position Statement *"Environmental Practice and Natural Disaster Resilience"* and supporting documents, we received a letter from the Planning Institute of Australia – Qld Division that included.....

"Thank you for sharing this position statement and continuing effort to collaborate on common policy initiatives. The Planning Institute of Australia (PIA) commends moves made by the Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand (EIANZ) to continue to highlight the role land-use planning plays in resilience of communities and natural resources."

Professional Development

Thank you Olivia Williamson and the CPD team for leading the Professional Development work.

The SEQ division continued to deliver a varied program of practical and insightful professional development and member events. 453 persons were engaged with the 20 events held in the financial year. It is noteworthy that the increasing number of webinars held during this period has allowed the division to engage with a broader range of regional members. It has also been pleasing to continue to collaborate with other professional bodies including Bird Life Australia to deliver specialist and practical skill based forums.

We are particularly proud of:

- the plant identification series of 5 workshops lead by Dr Mike Olsen and the bird identification series of 5 workshops led by Bird Life Australia to enhance the field knowledge and skills
- ongoing "enviro exchange" virtual coffee catch-ups via Zoom that are free forums for members to stay connected with, and support, colleagues through the COVID-19 pandemic challenges;
- delivering an ethics webinar titled "Holding firm through uncertain times ethical principles in environmental practice" comprising a practice -oriented discussion of professional obligations in uncertain and changing times;
- the half day Expert Witness masterclass held in the Land Court of Queensland to provide participants with a skills focussed intensive exposure to the business of giving evidence;
- The Queensland Hydrogen Industry Forum (both as an in person and online event) with speakers comprising leaders in the field of hydrogen technology and at the forefront of the industry in Queensland; and
- Re-igniting our ties with academia for a webinar titled "Valuing Nature Literary and Aesthetic Origins" to reflect on why we value nature and how the intersection between literature and aesthetics can inform the philosophical questions faced in modern environmental professional practice.

In lieu of a speaker's gift, this year the Division chose to offer student members of the EIANZ complimentary registration at an upcoming webinar. The table below Table provides a summary of attendances at these events.

Event	Attendees TOTAL
Plant identification series 1 workshop: rainforest trees and shrubs	7
Webinar – Holding Firm through Uncertain Times	60
Plant identification series 1 workshop: Eucalypts, corymbia and angophora	8
Webinar - Reef Protection regulations update with DES (this was run in 2019)	58
Expert witness workshop	20
Detecting fauna presence in the field – Part 1 webinar & Part 2 workshop	21
Webinar-Simone Maynard on ecosystem services	47
Enviro Exchange: online coffee catch-up with Patrice Brown	34
Queensland's Hydrogen Industry Strategy – ½ day forum	47
Plant identification series 2 workshop: Eucalypts, corymbia and angophora	6
Plant identification series 1 workshop: Invasive families	5
Plant identification series 2 workshop: Invasive families	6
Bird ID (10 April)	10
Bird ID (16 May)	10
Webinar: Valuing nature	22
Webinar: Renewables Round up	52
Bird ID (19 June)	10
Acid Sulfate Soils Workshop	30
Total	453

Student and Early Career Professionals

Thank you Alex, Gina and the SECPteam for leading this work for our students and early career professionals.

The division provided services to and engaged our student and early career professionals via a number of face to face and online events including:-

- Continuing our close relationship with the UQ Geography and Environmental Management Society (UQ GEMS) by attending in person events. EIANZ was also represented on their market-day stall at UQ O-week for semester one and two.
- Developing our relationship with Griffith University by attending University market days and speaking virtually at webinars.
- Developing our relationship with Queensland University of Technology by attending face to face employability events.
- Hosting an in-person networking event with attendance from university students, graduates, early career and mid-level career professionals
- Expanded the SECP subcommittee by increasing the number of people currently on the committee.
- Currently planning an in-person trivia night, which is scheduled to occur later this year.

Mentoring Program

Thank you to Robbie Johns for continuing to lead the mentoring program.

Our mentoring Program for students and early career professionals continues to grow. The 2020 Mentoring Program (with 17 mentoring pairs) closed out with a combined end of year networking event held in Brisbane in December. It was fabulous to see the strong bonds that had formed between mentors and mentees and the great feedback received on the program with a mentee stating 'I've enjoyed being a part of the program and felt my mentor has given me great guidance on getting my foot in the door'. Our 2021 Mentoring Program comprising 27 mentoring pairs kicked off in April with a dual on-line and in-person event with CEnvP, Joanne Flint providing a great keynote on how to set yourself up for a good mentoring partnership – thank you Jo and to GHD for hosting! Upcoming activities for our mentees and mentors include an ethics seminar and speed networking.

A quote from one of our completing mentees......

"Being introduced to 'formal' mentoring has been quite a game changer for me (in terms of applying and understanding the theoretical knowledge I garnered in my Masters into the practical world). I have had the good fortune to be mentored by two very fantastic humans through the EIANZ.I can now say that the mentoring program has done wonders for my confidence and would encourage my peers to participate in it."

EIANZ Awards for 2020/21

We would like to congratulate SEQ Division members Vicki Brady and Clive Cook who were appointed as Fellows of the Institute during the second half of the 2020/21 year. These newly appointed Fellows have also made substantial and important contributions to the professional and EIANZ, - congratulations.

Queensland CEnvP 2020/21

Jo Flint is the CEnvP representative on our Divisional Committee and has provided this detail.

For Queensland, the number of Certified Environmental Practitioners (CEnvP) in each category is shown in the table below. There continues to be a steady increase in the number of CEnvPs in Queensland.

CEnvP Highlights for 2020/21:

- Geomorphology specialist category introduced; first Geomorphologist Specialist CEnvP in Queensland.
- Heritage specialist category launched.
- CEnvP Scheme recognised by NSW government for attaining NSW Registered Environmental Assessment Practitioner (REAP).
- Land Rehabilitation specialist category reviewed and re-introduced.
- Supported Transparency International Australia's Guide to Stronger Environmental Impact Statements.
- Supported CEnvPs during pandemic e.g. CEnvP CPD requirements adjusted; all application processes on-line
- Website improvements and increased presence on LinkedIn

The breakdown of CEnvP classifications for Queensland is

Classification	Numbers for Queensland
neral	165
e Contamination	22
ology	12
pact Assessment	10
mate Change	1
omorphology	1

Future Plans

The Divisional Committee is meeting soon to refresh our strategic plan. Some key points to be considered include how to:

- Improve our financial position
- Develop a Consultants Leadership group.
- Actively follow up membership renewals
- Continue to run events via webinar that are of relevance to and give access to all members Institute wide
- Continue to build on relationships and seek strategic alliances with other professional groups, non-government organisations, Government and Academia
- Reignite the SEQ Partnership program
- Engage with the membership to increase the number of volunteers
- Be a respected and agile Division that promotes and enhances leadership and integrity in the environment profession
- Look for opportunities to develop Policy statements
- Use the results of the "Membership Survey" to improve operations and services to members.

Our Volunteers for 2020/21

SEQ Division Committee

President – (Iain) Graeme Milligan Vice President – Mel Cowlishaw Treasurer – Geraldine Squires Secretary – Kaleena Fry SECP Chair – Gina Minatel Policy Chair – Ailsa Kerswell PD Chair – Olivia Williamson Committee Member – Jon Womersley Committee member – Alex Prideaux Committee Member – Rachel Brazier Committee member – Tony Braggs CEnvP Liaison – Jo Flint

Professional Development Sub Committee

Olivia Williamson (chair) Alan Chenoweth Alex Prideaux Chris Cantwell Clair Evans Damien Sloots, Dave Fleming Gina Minatel Rachel Brazier Tara Kennedy Tony Platts-Baggs

Wildlife Advisory Committee Representative

Adrian Caneris –

Student and Early Careers Sub-Committee

Gina Minatel(Chair) Alex Prideaux Hannah Pfeifer Edward Hartigan **Emily Kinchin** Isabella Frew Jacinta Saad Jemma McCrossin Ke Hu Mahdi Hasan Marn Dug Meghan Cowling Matthew Furness Claire de Wit Simran Kaur Renee Medland **Roxanne** Ives Swastika Samanta Gandis Utari

SECP Mentoring Program

Robbie Johns –

Policy Sub Committee

Ailsa Kerswell – Chair

SEQ's Strong representation with National Reps

Vicki Brady – Vice President, Australia, & various Board Committees Mark Breitfuss – EIANZ Board, Secretary & various Board Committees Shaun Canning – Heritage SIS Chair Jon Womersley - Chair QAS Board Rod Welford - Chair of the Disciplinary Committee Helen Ross, Bill Carter 7Claudia Baldwin – Australasian Journal of Environmental Management Editors Simon Cavendish and Joanne Flint – CEnvP Board. Alan Chenoweth - Chair of the Fellowship review Committee Graeme Milligan – Advisory Committee, & **Board Finance Committee** Alex Prideaux – EIANZ Students and Early Careers Committee.

Sponsor and Partners

The committee is extremely appreciative of the support from our sponsors and partners.

The sponsorship by Ecological Australia concluded during the year. This was very much appreciated and Ecological Australia 's support is sincerely acknowledged.

Other potential sponsors are encouraged to contact committee members to explore potential sponsorship arrangements

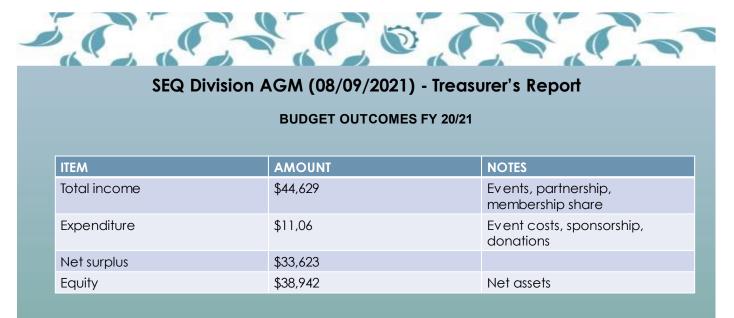
The event partners throughout the year are also acknowledged:

- Dr Mike Olssen
- Birdlife Australia
- HopgoodGanim Lawyers

Recommendation

Finally, I thank the outgoing committee and volunteers on the various committees and working groups for their tireless support of their fellow members and the environmental profession. As my last action as President of the SEQ Division, I move that this report on the 2020/21 Divisional activities be accepted.

Financial Report





Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand Inc.



Profit and Loss

Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand - South East Queensland Division

For the year ended 30 June 2021

Trading Income Event Income Total Trading Income	31,921 31,921	24,620
Total Trading Income		
-	31,921	
		24,620
Cost of Sales		
Event Cost - Coordinator	-	10,580
Event Cost - Guest Speaker	7,459	2,218
Event Cost - Other	-	305
Event Cost - Printing and Stationery	-	145
Event Cost - Technology, SW, AV & Webinar	99	23
Event Cost - Travel	-	134
Event cost - Venue and Catering	2,142	1,562
Event Costs	-	1,567
Total Cost of Sales	9,700	16,533
Gross Profit	22,222	8,088
Other Income		
Interest Income	3	10
Membership Share Income	7,759	5,585
Partnership Income	4,545	9,091
Sponsorship	-	909
Sundry Income	400	
Total Other Income	12,708	15,595
Operating Expenses		
Bank Account Fees	-	35
Chapter / Divsion Committee Costs	-	482
Interest Expense	-	9
Marketing & Promotion	186	
Office supplies & Printing	-	81
Postage & Freight	-	25
Professional Services	-	24,581
Professional Services - abnormal item	-	7,461
Sponsorship & Donations	1,120	500
Telecommunications & IT Services	-	111
Total Operating Expenses	1,306	33,286
Net Profit	33,623	(9,603)

Balance Sheet

Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand - South East Queensland Division

As at 30 June 2021

	30 JUN 2021	30 JUN 2020
Assets		
Bank		
EIANZ - SEQ ANZ High Interest (Online Saver)	6,480	6,477
EIANZ SEQ ANZ Every Day (Bus Adv)	32,156	6,851
Total Bank	38,636	13,328
Current Assets		
Amounts owing from / (to) EIANZ Central Office	2,751	1,401
Total Current Assets	2,751	1,401
Non-current Assets		
Office Equipment	-	11,591
Office Equipment - depreciatio	-	(11,591)
Total Non-current Assets	-	
Total Assets	41,387	14,729
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Accrued Expenses	-	2,087
GST	296	(454)
Pre-paid Income (Revenue in advance)	2,167	7,795
Total Current Liabilities	2,463	9,428
Total Liabilities	2,463	9,428
Net Assets	38,924	5,300
Equity		
Current Year Earnings	33,623	(9,603)
Retained Earnings	5,300	14,903
Total Equity	38,924	5,300