

WE CHANGE MINDS

The Australia Institute

**2015-16
ANNUAL
REPORT**

The Australia Institute

Research that matters.

CORPORATE INFORMATION

The Australia Institute Limited presents its Annual Report for the financial year 2015-16.

CORPORATE INFORMATION

DIRECTORS

John McKinnon (Chair)
NGO director, and philanthropist, formerly worked in funds management and international development

Professor Barbara Pocock (Deputy Chair)
Emeritus Professor, Business School,
University of South Australia

Elizabeth Cham
Former CEO of Philanthropy Australia (96-06)

Andrew Dettmer
National President of the Australian Manufacturing Workers Union.

Dr Samantha Hardy
Philanthropy Adviser, Callum Hardy Consulting

David Morawetz
Psychologist and economist
Founder and Director, Social Justice Fund

Professor Spencer Zifcak
Allan Myers Professor of Law, ACU and Barrister and Solicitor, Supreme Court of Victoria

Lee Thomas
Federal Secretary, Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation

Lin Hatfield Dodds - *resigned 25 May 2016*
National Director, UnitingCare Australia

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ABOUT THE INSTITUTE

The Australia Institute is the country's most influential progressive think-tank. We conduct research on a broad range of economic, social and environmental issues in order to inform public debate and bring greater accountability to the democratic process.

Our work is independently funded by donations from philanthropic trusts and individuals, as well as grants and commissioned research from business, unions and NGOs. The Australia Institute is not government funded and does not accept donations or commissioned work from political parties. With no formal political or commercial ties, the Institute is in a position to maintain its independence while advancing a vision for a fair and progressive Australia.

OUR GOAL

The Australia Institute is determined to push public debate beyond the simplistic question of whether markets or governments have all the answers to more important questions: When does government need to intervene in the market? When should it stand back? And when regulation is needed, what form should it take?

When we talk about the *'research that matters'* we're talking about making real, tangible changes that wouldn't have happened if we weren't there to make them happen.

NEWS
MAY 21, 2018

Economic think tanks setting the election agenda

A new political nous in economic research groups has seen them capture debate and set the policy course for the election.



MIKE SECCOMBE



LOCAL CHAIR
sky NEWS LIVE
THE AUSTRALIA INSTITUTE
BEN OQUIST

PM AGENDA

ROCKHAMPTON THE THREE SEATS THEY HELD IN TASMANIA TO LABOR. LIBERAL 17:50



sky NEWS LIVE
BILL SHORTEN SAYS THE LABOR PARTY IS MOST CERTAINLY BACK AND JUST NEED SOME PATIENCE AS COUNT CONTINUES PM AGENDA

LULURU NOW 19* ...ns provider, SEW Eurodrive is fully equipped to keep industry up and running. 17:51

We're confident that we consistently deliver on the promise of our motto: **research that matters.**



THE SATURDAY PAPER

WED 20 | 27 MAY 2018 | \$6.00
GOING OVERBOARD 15 Paul Bongiorno on Turnbull's reversion to fear politics
FRESH MOVES 18 Rafael Bonachela talks dance with Benjamin Law
LAUGH LESSONS 20 Helen Razer on ABC's Comedy Showroom

Think tanks calling the shots

A new political nous in economic research groups has seen them capture debate and set the policy course for the election. *Mike Secombe reports.*



WE'VE HAD A BIG 12 MONTHS

2015 →



JULY

We released a new video explaining the extent of fossil fuels subsidies in Queensland.

Richard Denniss also penned the cover essay 'Of Clowns and Treasurers' for The Monthly, an issue which subsequently sold out.



AUGUST

Our research was front and centre in the push back to the Prime Minister's proposed changes to the EPBC. The front page coverage in The Age quoting our research slammed the amendment as one 'based on dubious and exaggerated evidence.'



SEPTEMBER

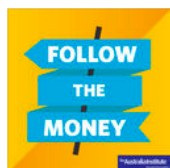
Cathy McGowan AO hosted the launch of our report *Heartland: The bush needs its ABC*, launched by the former Member for New England, Tony Windsor, Senator Dio Wang and Joel Fitzgibbon MP.

2016 →

New and Noteworthy



FiveThirtyEight
Elections
FiveThirtyEight



Follow the Money
The Australia Institute



Stuc
Midc
Maur

JANUARY

We launched a new podcast, which debuted at #8 on the iTunes chart.



FEBRUARY

Our chief economist, Richard Denniss released his new book *Econobabble*, and we were lucky enough to have Laura Tingle the political editor at Australian Financial Review launched it.

Economic benefits of nuclear dump exaggerated: report

NEWS

The multi-billion dollar benefits of establishing a local nuclear waste dump were grossly exaggerated in last month's royal commission tentative findings, according to a response by the Australia Institute released today.



MARCH

Our research exposed that the economics of international nuclear waste dump in SA just don't stack up.



OCTOBER

We announced our new partnership to produce the CEDEX report.

NOVEMBER

We hosted the President of Kiribati, His Excellency Anote Tong on a visit to Australia in the lead-up to Paris COP21.

DECEMBER

Our report *Two Birds, One Little Black Rock* outlined a solution to the twin problems of incentives for retirement of coal fired generation and funding mine rehabilitation liabilities.



APRIL

Our Queensland Job Growth Summit featured delegates from all the major jobs industries in Queensland, in addition to keynote by the Deputy Premier Jackie Trad and other government and industry figures.

MAY

Our research showed that most voters support a transition to 100% renewable energy.

JUNE

Our research exposed the flaws in economic election claims, and we were even mentioned by Bill Shorten in the Leaders Debate.

LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

JOHN McKINNON



To improve is to change; to be perfect is to change often. If we accept Winston Churchill's words, then 2015-16 has brought us close to perfection. It has been a period of major change.

Firstly, in mid 2015 we had a seamless change of Executive Director from Richard Denniss to Ben Oquist. Having worked in numerous organisations across several diverse industries that have had major personnel transitions I can honestly say that this was the smoothest, happiest and most effective I have ever witnessed. Of course, Richard did not leave The Australia Institute but remains our Chief Economist. As such, he continues to research, write and speak about progressive ideas and policies for Australia. In fact, Richard has become even more prolific and Australia can only be the beneficiary of this.

Furthermore, Ben Oquist has brought to the Executive Director role his peerless strategic mind and political wisdom. Whether it be measured financially, through media coverage or less quantitatively, via political effectiveness, Ben has taken the Institute to new heights.

In mid 2016 a further significant change took place. Lin Hatfield-Dodds stepped down as chair after 5 years in the role in order to take up a senior government position. While we were happy for Lin's career advancement, her leadership will be sorely missed. Lin has been the only chair of the Institute I have served under and I must say her example of humble but strong leadership underpins the strength of the Institute today. She will be missed.

As the new chair replacing Lin, I start my tenure with a mix of excitement and trepidation. Excitement at the energetic, purposeful, harmonious and highly effective organization I find myself chairing. Trepidation in realizing what a vital task I have taken on. For my children, for all future generations and indeed, for our current population, it is just so vital that we address inequality, that we tackle climate change, that the neo-liberal stranglehold on economic discourse is broken, that progressive voices are heard and are effective. As the leading progressive think tank in the country we carry an awesome responsibility.

As if to prove Churchill right, in the midst of these major changes, the past year has seen some extraordinary successes. At the 2016 federal election superannuation fairness and negative gearing were key issues, both "untouchable" issues having been put on the national agenda through years of work by the Institute. The coal

industry continues to lose its social license as the Institute has continued to highlight its massive government subsidies and questionable economics. The idea of a global coal mine moratorium, seemingly crazy a year ago, is now seriously discussed and has been adopted by several major coal producing countries following Richard Denniss's groundbreaking work.

Post the Federal Election renewable energy was again under attack, via proposed funding cuts to ARENA and following the South Australian storms. Again, the Institute displayed its agility and responsiveness to bring quality research into the debate at the right time to maximum effect. Similarly, also post election, when a cut to Newstart seemed unquestioned, the Institute rose to the occasion and prevented a cut to the incomes of the poorest Australians.

In November 2016 our march towards "perfection" continues when the Institute moves to Manuka as the lead tenant in a new space to house progressive organisations. Through this further change, to join like-minded others in a physical space we can enhance collaboration, amplify voices and increase effectiveness across the whole progressive movement.

I am very proud to be part of such an organization. I would like to thank our board, especially those finishing their terms at this AGM - Spencer Zifcak, Sam Hardy and of course Lin Hatfield-Dodds. For those joining the board, welcome - you have big shoes to fill.

Thanks also to the Research Committee. They play a vital role in ensuring our research remains top quality and relevant. We are privileged to have a group of such high caliber people on the committee and the effectiveness of our research is testament to the job they have done.

Finally, none of the work we do can take place without financial resources. To those who have supported our work over the past year: a huge thank you. If you have become a regular donor, double thanks. Your belief in a better, fairer, more progressive Australia, keeps us going. Whether you give a lot or a little, you are valued partners with us in this project.

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



BEN OQUIST

Contrary to popular belief, good ideas do not speak for themselves. Good ideas need people to speak for them, and to champion them. That's why The Australia Institute exists. We need to ensure that good ideas spread. That they are seen by the public; that policy makers and politicians get them in their hands. At the right time.

Facts cannot speak for themselves either. We need your help to ensure we can speak for them.

Elections are important times in a democracy not just because governments come and go but it is a time when a large section of the population are more attentive to policy and politics. And our research continues to lead the political debate.

Any way you measure it, it's been a big twelve months. There have been so many highlights over the past year that it would be impossible to name them all. We hope to have captured our most substantive work over the following pages. And we have even more exciting research planned for the coming year.

This year we are proud to have hosted our first Head of State, facilitating the trip to Australia of His Excellency Anote Tong, President of Kiribati in the lead up to COP21 in Paris. We also hosted a COP21 reception in Paris for His Excellency and guests in the name of a call for No New Coal Mines

We also saw some change in the structure of the Institute.

We merged with Jubilee Australia Research Centre, and we hope to create more impact with the important work in Bougainville.

We also welcomed Dr Jim Stanford from Canada, as the director of our new centre: the Centre for Future Work, and he has certainly hit the ground running with his work on manufacturing and labour issues for the centre.

Thank you to our outgoing chair Lin Hatfield Dodds who has led the Institute through some initially challenging times but ultimately saw our organisation truly blossom. Also to outgoing board members Spencer and Sam who have served on the board for many years.

My first year in charge of the Institute has been a privilege, and as you can see I think we have achieved a lot. Behind our work sits a tremendous team. We pride ourselves on trying to genuinely work together to integrate our research, media, strategy, administration, communications. This enables maximum agility, maximum impact in a fast paced political and media environment.

Thank you to everyone in The Australia Institute family — our staff, our board, and our supporters. Whether you contribute financially or read and help spread our research and work through our email list and social media posts — we simply couldn't exist or be effective without you. Thank you.

It has been a year of change and a year of growth at the Institute as you can see. The Australia Institute continues to go from strength to strength as we become a powerhouse of intellectual leadership in Australia and the world.

INTRODUCING THE CENTRE FOR FUTURE WORK

How can families, communities, unions and progressives make their voices heard, and create a more balanced, diverse economic discourse?

The Australia Institute has launched a new initiative to amplify the progressive economic perspective in Australian economic debates.



Record low wages and income growth coupled with record increase in household debt. Not really something you'd want to boast about. Photograph: Greg Wood/AFP/Getty Images

@GregaGamut

Tuesday 14 June 2016 06:30 AEST

Save for later 24,192 Shares 939 Comments

New research by the Australia Institute reveals that across a broad range of economic measures, the Abbott/Turnbull government has performed the worst of any Australian government since Menzies took power in 1949. The institute's paper also notes that historically there is little correlation between "business friendly" policies and economic performance.

Inevitably election campaigns become focused on economic management. On this score historically, the Liberal Party is usually assumed to be the better economic manager. For example, a poll earlier this month by the *Essential Report* had voters preferring the LNP over the ALP on the issue of who they trusted on "management of the economy" by 39% to 27%.

Such a belief is behind the Liberal party's main desire to fight the election campaign on their economic plan, the central feature of which is the company tax cut.

← JOBS AND GROWTH... AND A FEW HARD NUMBERS

To demonstrate the lack of correlation between a government's stated economic orientation, and the actual performance of the real economy, Dr Jim Stanford, the director of our new *Centre for Future Work*, compiled historical data on twelve standard indicators of economic performance: including employment, unemployment, real output, investment (of various forms), foreign trade, incomes, and debt burdens. We compared Australia's economic performance under each Prime Minister, on the basis of these twelve selected indicators.

The Australia Institute has launched a new initiative to amplify the progressive economic perspective in Australian economic debates.

Our aim is to build a distinct and unique centre of excellence, housed within the Australia Institute, to focus on the core economic issues facing working people, their families, and their communities: jobs, wages, industrial development, globalization, fair taxes, quality public services, income distribution, and more.

Our ultimate goal is to ensure that working people, and their unions, have more influence in the economic debates that will shape the quality of life here.

We want to show politicians, the media, and our own members that there are credible, positive, progressive solutions to the economic challenges we face.

A key ingredient in our project is the arrival in Australia of Jim Stanford, a leading progressive labour economist. Dr. Stanford worked for 20 years in Canada's union movement (first with the Canadian Auto Workers, and then with its successor organization, Unifor). He is one of the most widely-reported economists of any stripe in Canada, and is well-known and respected internationally. His book, *Economics for Everyone*, a progressive 'textbook' on economics for trade unionists and other concerned non-specialists, is used as a teaching resource by unions and community organizations around the world. He is recognized for his unique communication and teaching skills, presenting complex economic topics to unions and other audiences in an accessible way.

The Australian labour movement is facing big challenges. With union membership falling in some areas and a push by certain conservative sections of society to eliminate or at least marginalise the union movement altogether. Now is also a time for union renewal and we believe a lively think tank combined with Dr. Stanford's experience with Unifor can play a part.

Dr. Stanford is excited to come on board as the founding Director of the Centre for Future Work. He shares the Institute's vision of building a stronger, respected, influential voice on economic issues: one that respects and empowers the interests of working people, instead of belittling and devaluing them.

Our ultimate goal is to ensure that working people, their families and communities, and their unions, have more influence in the economic debates that will shape the quality of life here. We want to show politicians, the media, and our own members that there are credible, positive, progressive solutions to the economic challenges we face.





NO BUSINESS IN ABUSE

The Australia Institute has added to the growing chorus of resistance to Australia's abusive and illegal offshore detention policies through *No Business in Abuse* providing researching and policy solutions for alternatives to detention.

We have contributed to regional capacity building initiatives in Indonesia, training Indigenous people's human rights advocates on business and human rights legal frameworks and advocacy strategy.

The Institute's involvement and work with No Business in Abuse in 2016 built on the campaign's previous successes and responded to the acquisition of Australian detention contractor Broadspectrum by Spanish infrastructure giant Ferrovial.

In Oslo, our business & human rights advisor Brynn O'Brien met with the secretariat of the Ethics Council for the Norwegian Government Pension Fund, which monitors the Fund's portfolio and evaluates its investments against Ethical Guidelines set by the Norwegian Ministry of Finance. The Ethics Council then makes recommendations to Norges Bank Investment Management (NBIM) about whether companies should be put under observation or excluded from the Fund for breaches of the Guidelines.

NBIM holds approximately 1.7% of Ferrovial. In April, we briefed the Ethics Council on Ferrovial's bid for Broadspectrum. According to this recent media reports, NBIM has now referred this matter to the Ethics Council for a formal decision. Upon its successful acquisition of Broadspectrum, Ferrovial announced that it would not re-tender for detention centre work beyond the expiration of the current contract in February 2017. The significance of this cannot be overstated, and was more than likely a direct result of pressure applied to Ferrovial by its financial backers after their engagement with NBIA. The Australian Government relies on the active participation of companies in implementing its abusive policies offshore. It is now left with an expensive hole in the middle of its policy, which puts further pressure on its operation.

Additionally as part of the campaign and engagement strategy, we attended the OECD conference on Responsible Business Conduct in Paris and spoke at parallel event to the Human Rights Council's 32nd sitting in Geneva, and attended Ferrovial's AGM in Madrid in May 2016.

Domestically, seven local councils have now decided to do no further business with companies profiting from human rights abuses. The Australia Institute assisted community and council members from several of these areas, including Byron Shire, City of Yarra and City of Sydney in successfully preparing for and passing boycott motions.

JUBILEE AUSTRALIA RESEARCH CENTRE

In the last year, Jubilee continued its engagement on Bougainville issues by focussing on the Province's new Mining Act, which paves the way for the re-introduction of mining there. In November 2015 we released the report *The Devil in the Detail: An Analysis of the Bougainville Mining Act*. The report details how the repressive new Act authorises the central government to take land regardless of landowner consent, defining mining 'in the public interest'. It also imposes severe penalties on landowners who protest mining on their land including lengthy prison sentences and exorbitant fines, and provides for the suspension of critical human rights.

At present, we are in the middle of an awareness raising tour in Bougainville about the Act. We are working with Bougainvillean facilitators to tour communities on the island and hold awareness sessions to inform locals about what the Act might do. The tour, which finishes in August, has already raised a great deal of interest and debate in the media and in the Bougainvillean parliament.

Jubilee has continued in the last year to engage with its other work areas. It continues to play its key watchdog role monitoring the projects and the policies of Efic, our export credit agency, especially those that can have harmful impacts on communities overseas. We continue to engage closely with local and international partners who work on the issues of sovereign debt and tax justice.

In the coming year, we plan to extend our work in a number of new directions. We will continue to look at the human rights and environmental impacts of mining projects in PNG. We are also planning a new multi-year project to work with companies, investor groups and politicians in Canberra to develop important new standards and, where necessary, laws that will make Aussie companies more responsible corporate citizens overseas.

At an organisational level, our merger with the Australia Institute is now complete. While Jubilee retains its broader research and advisory networks, so important to our work, we also now benefit from working closely with the highly qualified staff at The Australia Institute. We hope that the collaboration between these two groups will continue to be effective. We sadly are saying farewell to Brynnie Goodwill, who has been at the helm of Jubilee for the past two and a half years. Brynnie's excellent stewardship over this time has been invaluable; although we say goodbye to her, we hope that Brynnie will stay involved in one capacity or another in the future. Former Jubilee National Coordinator and Board Chair Luke Fletcher will take over as Director from the beginning of July. The old Jubilee Board has been reconstituted as the Jubilee Advisory Group, and will be chaired by Katie Gauld.





57
Research
Pieces

+



23 Submissions
to Government
Inquiries & Project
Assessments

+



over **60**
Opinion
Pieces

+



39
Briefing
Papers

+



1
Book

OUR RESEARCH AT A GLANCE

In 2015-16, the Australia Institute produced 57 pieces of research and made 23 submissions to government inquiries and project assessment processes.

This substantial body of new research builds upon areas of longstanding inquiry by the institute — inequality, mining, renewable energy and corporate welfare, to name a few.

We have also found opportunities to take our research in new directions; including fossil fuel divestment, affordable housing, and public investment in health and education.

The broad brief of our research is anchored by a sharp strategic focus — defining the problems we face, and offering workable solutions.

SUBMISSIONS TO PLANNING & PARLIAMENTARY PROCESSES



SUBMISSIONS TO PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRIES

- Shipping Legislation Amendment Bill 2015: Review of regulation impact statement
- Establishing a gas community benefits fund
- An industry out of time: Submission to the South Australian Nuclear Fuel Cycle Royal Commission
- Funny money: Submission to Senate Standing Committee on Economics inquiry into foreign bribery
- EPBC Amendment Bill 2015: Submission
- Economic security for women in retirement: Submission to the Senate Standing Committee on Economics
- Submission on Tax Laws Amendment (Combating Multinational Tax Avoidance) Bill 2015
- Draft guidelines for economic assessment of mining and coal seam gas proposals: Submission

SUBMISSIONS TO PLANNING PROCESSES

- Submission on NSW Integrated Mining Policy
- Terminal 4 Planning Assessment Commission determination meeting
- Mt Thorley-Warkworth Continuation Project: Submission to NSW Planning Assessment Commission following proposed changes to the State Environment and Planning Policy, or 'Mining SEPP'
- Establishing a gas community benefits fund: Submission
- Abbot Point Growth Gateway Project: Submission on environmental impact statement
- Airly Coal Mine project: Submission to Planning Assessment Commission
- Bylong Coal Project: Submission on Environmental Impact Statement, Appendix AE Economic Assessment
- Rix's Creek Extension Project: Submission
- Draft guidelines for economic assessment of mining and coal seam gas proposals: Submission
- Digging for answers: Response to tentative findings: Radioactive waste storage and disposal facilities in South Australia
- Wilpinjong Extension Project: Submission
- Wambo Mine Modification 12: Submission
- The Good Shepherd, economic security indicators
- On for young and old: The economics of Homeshare
- Surprise me when I'm dead: Revisiting the case for estate duties

POLLING & COMMISSIONED RESEARCH



REPORTS, BRIEFING NOTES BACKGROUND BRIEFINGS



BRIEFING NOTES & BACKGROUND BRIEFINGS

- Too close for comfort: How the coal and gas industry get their way in Queensland
- Wind vs Coal NSW T&I submissions
- Who says?: Public support for environmental advocacy
- Take the pressure down: Sorting scare and substance in the renewable energy target debate
- Passing gas: Economic myths around the Northern Territory's North East Gas Interconnector pipeline
- Cutting the company tax rate: Why would you?
- Free Trade Agreements: Costs and benefits
- Carmichael in Context: Quantifying Australia's threat to climate action
- Be careful of what you wish for: The economic impacts of Queensland's unconventional gas experiment and the implications for Northern Territory policy makers.
- Queensland's unconventional gas experiment and the implications for Northern Territory policy makers
- When you're in a hole - stop digging!: The economic case for a moratorium on new coal mines
- Finland's fine example: How to fix the regressive nature of traffic fines in Australia
- From Start to Finnish: Reforming South Australia's traffic fine system
- Top Gears: How negative gearing and the capital gains tax discount benefit the top 10 per cent and drive up house prices
- Tax concessions by age
- Money doesn't grow on trees: The financial and economic losses of native forestry in NSW
- Securing renewables: How batteries solve the problem of clean electricity
- Are government plans to tackle bracket creep good for average people?
- The Gender Equality Dashboard (Catalyst)
- Company tax cuts: What the evidence shows
- We can do better: Beyond "stop the boats"
- Income tax cuts by electorate
- Company tax cuts: An Australian gift to the US Internal Revenue Service
- Great Barrier Bleached: Coral bleaching, the Great Barrier Reef and potential impacts on tourism
- Electorate renewables briefing notes
- Renewable energy in Indi and Australia
- Renewable energy in New England and Australia
- Renewable energy in Bass and Australia
- Manufacturing (still) matters: Why the decline of Australian manufacturing is NOT inevitable, and what government can do about it
- Jobs and growth... and a few hard numbers: A scorecard on economic policy and economic performance
- Nice work if you can get it: Jobs outcomes from renewables growth policies
- Unemployment by electorate
- Unemployment by electorate in South Australia
- Unemployment by electorate in Queensland
- Unemployment in New England
- Political endangered species: The decline of the major party voter
- ABCC Double Dissolution in the media
- The goon show: How the tax system works to subsidise cheap wine and alcohol consumption

COMMISSIONED RESEARCH

- The role of ridesharing in addressing Canberra's transport challenges
- NSW Planning Department proposal
- Switching off gas: An examination of declining gas demand in Eastern Australia
- The impossible dream: Free electricity sounds too good to be true. It is.
- Oil in the Great Australian Bight: Submission to Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
- Economic assessment of the Hume Coal project
- Corporate malfeasance in Australia
- Great Barrier Bleached: Coral bleaching, the Great Barrier Reef and potential impacts on tourism

POLLING

- No New Coal Mines polling
- Clean Energy Capital: Public support for ACT clean energy leadership

INSTITUTE PAPERS & EXPERT REPORTS



INSTITUTE PAPER

- Heartland: Why the bush needs its ABC
- Go Home on Time Day 2016
- Two birds, one little black rock: Solving the twin problems of incentives for retirement of coal fired generation and funding rehabilitation liabilities
- Power down II: The continuing decline in Australia's electricity demand
- Charity ends at home: The decline of foreign aid in Australia
- Workin' 9 to 5.30: Unpaid overtime and work life balance
- I Want My ABC (and SBS and NITV): The future of national public broadcasting
- Jobs growth in Queensland: Trends and prospects
- No politics at Aunty's table: Depoliticising the governance of the ABC

EXPERT REPORT

- New Acland

BOOKS



ECONOBABBLE: How to Decode Political Spin and Economic Nonsense

Richard Denniss, Black Inc.

OPINION PIECES



In addition to publishing formal research, our research team penned over 60 opinion pieces throughout 2015-16. These pieces amplify the impact of our research and introduce our work to new audiences. Reflecting the broader range of research topics over the past year, opinion pieces from Institute staff cover a wide range of subject matter. Analysis of state and federal budgets are also a regular focus of these pieces.



NO NEW COAL MINES

We launched No New Coal Mines in August, but it was President Anote Tong's visit to Australia in November that really changed the debate domestically.

The Institute's involvement ensured the President's visit was a success from start to finish, beginning with securing a one-on-one interview with ABC AM's Michael Brissenden - Australia's agenda-setting radio current affairs program.

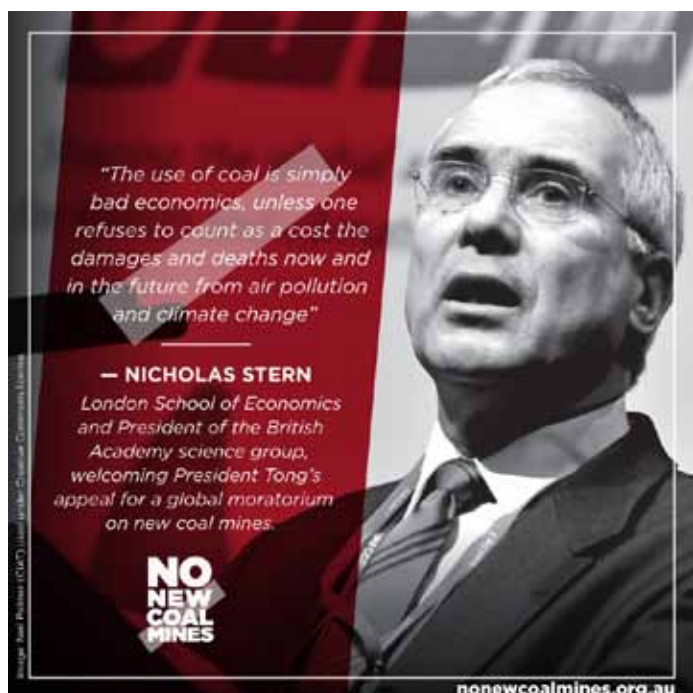
The Australia Institute launched the No New Coal Mines initiative, backed by our research demonstrating the environmental and economic impacts just one new Australian mine -- Carmichael coal mine in Queensland -- would have.

We pulled together and publish an open letter to world leaders by 61 prominent Australians, including three Australians of the Year, two Nobel Prize laureates, and Australian rugby world cup hero David Pocock, in The Sydney Morning Herald.

We then hosted President Tong's visit to Australia en-route to Paris COP21, so that he could speak to the Australian public directly about the need for a global moratorium on new coal mines.

The Institute played a crucial role in organising meetings for the President with key players including state and federal MPs, traditional owners of the land which the Carmichael Mine would be situated, farmers and the farmers federation, and banking and financial representatives to discuss divestment.

And on the cusp of COP21, we also played a key role in coordinating and publishing another open letter, this time with signatories such as former NASA Goddard Institute Director Dr. James E. Hansen, Dr. David Suzuki, Nobel Laureate in economics Professor Kenneth Arrow, Professor Hans Joachim Schellnhuber, and Ian Dunlop joining 52 scientists, economists and other experts in calling for a moratorium on new coal mines ahead of the Paris Climate Summit.

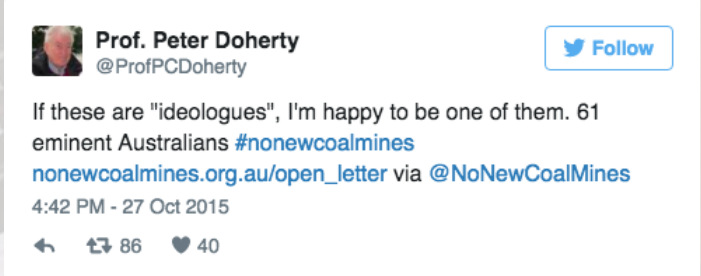




Australia's breakdown king David Pocock more concerned with climate change than facing All Blacks

The Daily Mirror 27 October 2015

61 eminent Australians including three former Australians of the Year, two Nobel Prize winners, and Australian Rugby player David Pocock signed an open letter to President Hollande and World Leaders, supporting President Tong of Kiribati's call for a global moratorium on new coal mines.



Signatory to the letter, and former head of the Reserve Bank and Climate Change Authority, Bernie Fraser appeared on AM to discuss the open letter and call for a global moratorium on new coal mines, setting the agenda for the nation's daily news and current affairs coverage, with 'Bernie Fraser' even becoming a trending topic on twitter in Australia.

The open letter also received coverage from Fairfax Media's Chief Political Correspondent, Mark Kenny, and was reported on page 2 of The Sydney Morning Herald. The letter was also covered by The Guardian's Lenore Taylor.

Our strategic timing of the publication of the open letter resulted in the morning press coverage setting the tone for the political news of the day - Prime Minister Turnbull's announcement of Australia's incoming Chief Scientist - with the first question asked from the press pack (by ABC's Chris Uhlmann) being about the open letter and call for a moratorium on new coal mines.

Consequently, reportage regarding Australia's incoming Chief Scientist was about his 'vision for Australia without coal', and Malcolm Turnbull resorted to building his own straw-man argument to beat down, leading to him being roundly criticised for his response, including a piece in the Guardian titled 'Malcolm Turnbull's rhetorical dance around coal reveals extent of his constraint'.

Thousands tweeted, shared the letter on Facebook, signed the petition and recruited their friends to sign it impacting on the political discourse in the lead-up to the Paris COP21 talks.

We obtained an analysis of coverage which contained either "The Australia Institute [and] coal/moratorium" or the specific phrase "No New Coal Mines" in the 103 days between 09 Sep 2015 and 20 Dec 2015. Conducted by iSentia, it found 168 media items in the Australian market. This coverage reached a cumulative audience of 6,703,053 and had an 'advertising space rate' (ASR) or equivalent value of AUD \$2,071,786.

This initiative has seen The Australia Institute takes its first steps into the foreign policy space and it has strengthened our relationships with several very high profile people globally from science, health, economics and politics.



MELBOURNE WRITERS FESTIVAL WITH NAOMI KLEIN

The Australia Institute were proud to have sponsored Naomi Klein to appear at the Melbourne Writers' Festival for a sold-out event. We were even more thrilled when she used her Australian tour to back the call for a global moratorium on new coal mines, saying 'when you're in a hole, stop digging. No. New. Coal. Mines.'

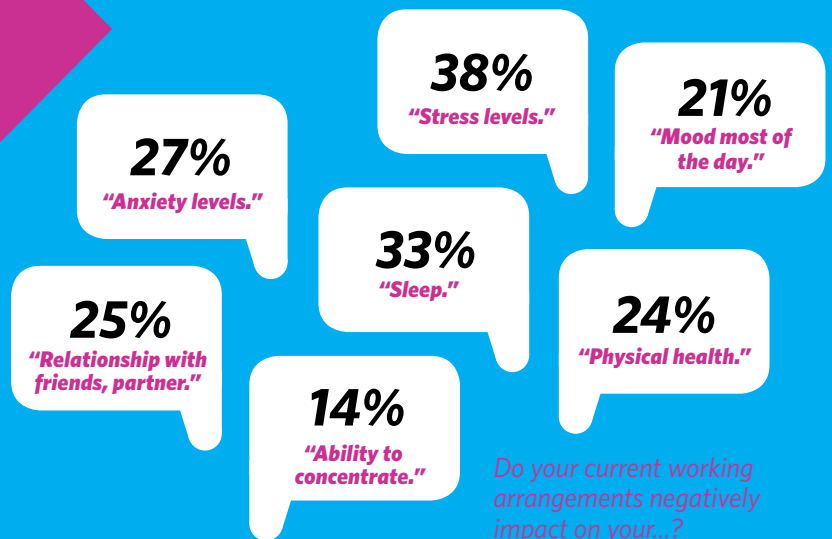
GO HOME ON TIME DAY

Go Home on Time Day is going strong and now in its ninth year. In this year's report, our research found that Australians now donate \$128 billion in unpaid overtime per year.

We also launched a new Go Home on Time Day website, with an overtime calculator, which was accessed by over 4,500 Australians on the day to find out how much they were donating to their employer in unpaid overtime.

Australians are donating billions in unpaid overtime to their employers.

HOW IS THIS HAVING A NEGATIVE IMPACT?



YES: THIS WORKPLACE IS GOING HOME ON TIME

Get your leave pass for

Go home on time day
18 NOVEMBER 2015

Visit > gohomeontimeday.org.au



“As set out in the report released this week by The Australia Institute, in this digital era, if you wanted to create a new broadcasting service to serve multicultural audiences, you wouldn’t create an entire separate broadcasting organisation.”

-- MARK SCOTT
National Press Club Address

EVERYONE LOVES OUR ABC

Keeping a properly funded national broadcaster truly independent of Government interference is important for our democracy. The good news is the public thinks the same. In particular, rural Australians who love their ABC.

This year, The Australia Institute released polling which showed that the majority of voters in a number of blue-ribbon Liberal held seats oppose cuts to the ABC. Then, in September, Cathy McGowan AO hosted the launch of The Australia Institute’s report, *Heartland: The bush needs its ABC*, launched by the former Member for New England, Tony Windsor, Senator Dio Wang and Joel Fitzgibbon MP.

This new report by The Australia Institute revealed the extent of the decline of regional media across Australia and explored the role of the national broadcaster in the future. It also demonstrated that there is overwhelming support across the country -- from the city to regional and rural areas -- for increased funding to the ABC for greater regional services.

Enshrine ABC independence in the constitution: Australia Institute

March 2, 2016

☆ Read later



Matthew Knott

Communications and Education Correspondent

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Email article Print

In addition to Heartland, the Institute also launched two reports with ABC Friends.

The first, I want my ABC (and SBS and NITV), detailed how in today’s technological climate we could merge the ABC and SBS back-end operations to devote more resources to producing content Australians love. This report was mentioned in Mark Scott’s final Press Club address as the Managing Director of the ABC.

The Institute also participated in the ABC Friends National Campaign Forum in Parliament House to discuss what Australians expect from their ABC, and used the opportunity to launch The Australia Institute’s report *No Politics at Aunty’s Table: Depoliticising the Governance of the ABC*.

FEDERAL IMPACT

ESTATE DUTIES

With the ongoing debate about the revenue crisis vs the spending crisis, the Institute posited the idea: wouldn't you rather pay more taxes when you're dead, rather than in the here and now? And made the case for an estate tax, backed by Tim Costello.

The idea that death duties are politically impossible in Australia has become an article of faith. But if given a choice, wouldn't people prefer to be taxed less when they are alive in exchange for paying a bit more when they are dead?

SHIPPING LEGISLATION

The Australia Institute's strategic intervention with our submission on the *Shipping Legislation Amendment Bill 2015* showed that the Government's proposed changes would have cost more than 9 in 10 domestic shipping jobs if passed. Due in part to the findings of our research, the legislation was voted down by the Senate.

2016 FEDERAL BUDGET

Our analysis of the winners of the 2016 Budget made front page news in every metropolitan daily newspaper in the country. Our modelling showed that not only were young people the biggest losers of the Federal Budget, the biggest winners were Liberal Party held electorates (including the Prime Minister's own seat of Wentworth) while 9 in 10 Tasmanians would miss out on the income tax cut completely.

masterclasses Australia edition

theguardian

Proposed new shipping laws threaten loss of 93% of seafaring jobs

Coalition says changes would simplify shipping laws and cut costs for business but proposed legislation is headed for defeat in the Senate

Using bulk freight would be the main beneficiaries of the proposals, a current Australian seafaring workforce would be cut by 93%.

Abbott government shipping changes will sink 1000 jobs: research

September 4, 2015

Comments 10 ☆ Read later



Heath Aston

Political reporter

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EXCLUSIVE



TAKING AN EDUCATED GUESS →

In our report 'Taking an Educated Guess' we revealed that OECD countries which invest in education have a much greater improvement to standard of living than those which cut company tax rates.



▲ OUR ANALYSIS OF THE WINNERS OF THE 2016 BUDGET MADE FRONT PAGE NEWS IN EVERY METROPOLITAN DAILY NEWSPAPER IN AUSTRALIA.

Our modelling showed that even in the highest paid electorate (the Prime Minister's seat of Wentworth) the full income tax cut will only be enjoyed by one third of income earners, while 9 in 10 Tasmanians will miss out completely.

"The point to this story, though, is not so much one of who is right and who is wrong. It is the fact that over several days this week the Finance Minister spent a great deal of time debating not with his opponents in Labor or the Greens, but with a think tank."

— Mike Secombe, *The Saturday Paper*, 21 May 2016

CUTTING COMPANY TAX WHY WOULD YOU?

ADVERTISEMENT

Australia Doesn't Need Lower Taxes.

AN OPEN LETTER

To Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull

Data from the OECD, IMF and World Bank make clear that Australia is a low taxing country. To have world class health, education and transport services we need to collect the revenue to fund them.

A debate about tax reform should begin with the question of how much tax is required to fund the services we need to build a fair and decent society in Australia.

And real tax reform also requires fairness. A serious tax reform package designed to be 'fair' should address as a priority the current generous tax concessions to the top end of town, the inequitable distribution of superannuation tax concessions and the capital gains tax discount, not how to give big business large company tax cuts at the expense of services that everyday Australians rely on. Cutting programs which support needy Australians to give more tax benefits to companies or large income tax cuts to the wealthiest is not fair.

The OECD says inequality harms growth. While inequality will always be in the community, what matters is its extent, its direction, and its causes. What's more, increasing inequality hurts the economy and divides the community.

The pursuit of equity and fairness must lie at the heart of our national goals. Fortunately, not only is the pursuit of equity broadly supported by the community, it is good for our economy as a whole. Collecting more tax, more equitably, will make Australia a better place to live and work.

We urge the Prime Minister and all political leaders not to cut taxes at this time — and certainly not for companies.

SIGNATORIES—

Bernie Fraser
Governor of the Reserve Bank of Australia 1989-96
Professor Carmen Lawrence
Former Federal Minister, Premier of WA and Federal President of ALP
Professor Peter Doherty AO
Nobel Prize in Physiology/Medicine 1996, Australian of the Year 1997, Laureate Professor, University of Melbourne
Emeritus Professor Barbara Pocock
Business School, University of South Australia
Professor Spencer Zifcak
Allan Myers Professor of Law, Australian Catholic University
Professor John Quiggin
School of Economics, University of Queensland
Professor John Langmore
Professorial Fellow, School of Social and Political Sciences, University of Melbourne; Former Member for Fraser
Emeritus Professor Frank Stilwell
Political Economy, University of Sydney
Simon Sheikh
Founder & Managing Director, Future Super
Ross Knowles
Co-founder and chairman of Ethinvest, chairman of Australian Impact Investments, founding co-president of Responsible Investment Association of Australasia
Dr David Morawetz
Economist, founder and director, Social Justice Fund
Dr George Argyrous
Senior Lecturer, School of Social Sciences and International Studies, University of NSW
Dr Margaret Mousa
Lecturer, Economics, Finance and Property, Western Sydney University
John Menadue AO
Businessman and public commentator; former senior public servant and diplomat
Emeritus Professor Simon Chapman AO
School of Public Health, University of Sydney
Emeritus Professor Bob Douglas AO
National Centre for Epidemiology and Population Health, Australian National University; Director, Australia21

Stuart McMillan
President, Uniting Church in Australia
Lin Hatfield Dods
National Director, UnitingCare Australia; Former Chair of the Australian Social Inclusion Board
Josh Bonstein
Lawyer, Company Director
Eva Cox AO
Writer, feminist, sociologist, social commentator, activist
Dr Jim Stanford
Economist and Director, Center for Future Work, The Australia Institute; Department of Economics, McMaster University
Dr Mark Zinsack
Tax Justice Network Australia
Peter Kriesler
Associate Professor, University of NSW; Director of The Society of Heterodox Economists
Emeritus Professor Meredith Edwards AM
Institute for Governance, University of Canberra
Dr Susan Schroeder
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Dr Lynne Chester
Senior Lecturer, Department of Political Economy, University of Sydney
Dr Kerry Higgs
Associate, University of Tasmania; Fellow, Club Rome
Dr Evan Jones
Honorary Associate, Department of Political Economy, University of Sydney
Dr Jocelyn Pley
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Paul Barrett AO
Former Secretary, Departments of Primary Industries & Energy and Defence Chair, UNE Foundation Chair, Australia 21
Ben Quixut
Executive Director, The Australia Institute

To add your name to support real and fair tax reform
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Authorised by E. Bennett, LS/131 City Walk, Canberra ACT 2600

#FACTSFIGHTBACK

FACT 1 // \$7.4 billion to the big banks. Cutting the company tax rate will save the Commonwealth Bank \$2.3 billion over the next 10 years, and over \$7.4 billion for the big four banks combined.

FACT 2 // Australia's loss is America's gain. Due to a foreign tax treaty, American companies pay the US Internal Revenue Service the difference between the Aus and US company tax rates — currently an extra 5% tax, on top of the 30% paid to Australia. The company tax cut when fully implemented will see Australia forfeit US\$732 million (AUD\$999m) per year of tax revenue to USA.

FACT 3 // The biggest 15 companies receive a third of the benefits of the company tax cut when fully implemented. Advertising that the cuts will benefit all Australians looks like a good investment — look at how much big mining saved from writing their own mining tax.

Cutting Company Tax. WHY WOULD YOU?

The Company Tax cut gives the Big Banks an extra \$7.4 billion

\$74 billion over next 10 years
All Big Four Banks

3 billion over next 10 years
Commonwealth Bank

How is even the US Treasury a bigger Budget winner than everyday Australians?

US\$732 million per year (AUD\$999million p.a.) forfeited to US Treasury

So-called 'trickle-down' economics has been resurrected and renamed 'growth dividend' to support company tax cuts.

The Australia Institute has spent considerable effort researching the impacts of the Government's plans to cut company tax rate, and the evidence and experience of 'trickle down' is that it creates neither jobs or growth as claimed, but drives greater inequality.

Our research has found the economic case for a company tax cut particularly weak. The tax cut comes at considerable cost to government revenue and will deliver over \$7 billion to Australia's big four banks at a time of already record profits.

The company tax cut would also result in an effective multi-billion dollar transfer of tax receipts from the Australian Treasury to the US Internal Revenue Service.

Our analysis of Treasury's own modelling shows little likely economic gain from the tax cut.

Community attitude polling research we have commissioned also shows overwhelming public opposition to these tax cuts, and we were also able to co-ordinate an open letter to the Prime Minister signed by former Governor of the Reserve Bank, Bernie Fraser, Professor Peter Doherty, President of the Uniting Church (Australia) Stuart McMillan, President of the ACTU Ged Kearney to name a few.

GREAT BARRIER BLEACHED

Research by The Australia Institute estimated tourism areas adjacent to the Great Barrier Reef risk losing over 1 million visitors per year, worth over \$1 billion in tourism expenditure if severe coral bleaching continues on the Great Barrier Reef.

This expenditure supports around 10,000 tourism jobs in regional Queensland, which are also considered at-risk.

While many potential visitors will seek out other Australian attractions, this research found that many will choose to not visit Australia at all. Based on polling of China, UK and USA, almost 175,000 people each year from these countries are more likely to visit a country other than Australia if bleaching persists.





THE AGE

Wednesday
August 19, 2015
Published in
Melbourne since 1854
theage.com.au

INDEPENDENT. ALWAYS.

Resource projects Review questions 'legal sabotage' claim

Coalition targets 'vigilantes'

Mark Kenny
Lisa Cox
Jane Lee

An attempt by Tony Abbott to blame "legal sabotage" used by green groups to kill off large resource projects in the courts, at the cost of tens of thousands of jobs, is based on dubious and exaggerated evidence, according to an independent review of environmental law.

An analysis of the Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conser-

vation Act by progressive think tank the Australia Institute has found only a fraction of the roughly 5500 projects referred since the act's inception in 2000 have been challenged using "third-party appeal rights".

Elements of the yet-to-be-released study, obtained by Fairfax Media, reveal that of those projects referred to the environment minister for assessment under the act, about 1500 have been judged to require formal assessment, with just 12 refused federal environmental approval - nine of those

because they were deemed "clearly unacceptable" even before being referred for formal assessment.

And of those 5500, only 27 have been the subject of third-party legal appeals.

"Third-party appeals to the Federal Court have only affected 0.4 per cent of all projects referred under the legislation," Australia Institute executive director Ben Oquist said.

After weeks of difficulties resulting in the loss of the former speaker and divisions over same-sex mar-

riage, the Prime Minister told Coalition MPs the government now wanted to get the focus back on jobs and growth by removing legal paths for third parties to stymie big resource investments.

To that end, the government plans to amend section 487 of the Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act to remove the power of so-called "third parties", such as environmental groups, from intervening in referrals from the minister under that act, via the courts.

Labor and the Greens said they would not support government's proposal, meaning the government will need the crossbench if its plan is to pass the Senate.

"I regret to say, Mr Speaker, that some green groups are doing their best to sabotage jobs and investment in Australia," Mr Abbott told Parliament yesterday.

Attorney-General George Brandis will move to repeal the section after

Continued Page 4

Weather

Today Partly cloudy

Tomorrow Partly cloudy

Friday Windy

Details

4-14

7-17

13-17

Page 51

Odd Spot

Leading Russian geologist Dr Alexander Koltypin claims an ancient non-human civilisation drove giant all-terrain vehicles in central Turkey's Phrygian Valley 12 to 14 million years ago. He says tracks still visible - mysterious groove-like markings in now solid volcanic rocks - were not created by any natural process.



BusinessDay

Asclano in \$9 billion take-over deal

Page 21

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Wonder Explore Create...

Discover a magical Early Learning Centre for girls and boys aged 3 & 4.

When news broke of the Prime Minister's proposed attack on the EPBC Act, The Australia Institute was front and centre pushing back.

The frontpage coverage of The Age, quoting our research, slammed the amendment as one "based on dubious and exaggerated evidence."

Less than a week later, the proposal was dead in the water.

DEFENDING THE EPBC ACT

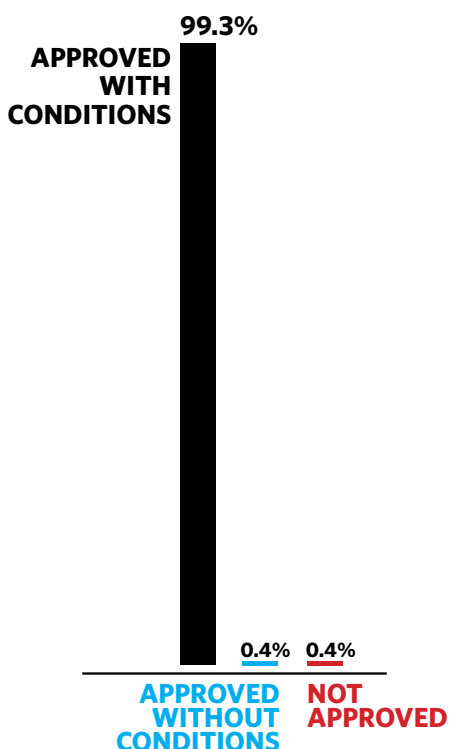
“So in fact there have been six successful claims on 5,500 projects on a change introduced by John Howard in 2000 — this is a crisis.

“So what do you do when you don’t have a plan for jobs?

“You start creating false bogeymen and saying ‘We better be careful. We better be scared. Don’t get out of bed in the morning because the Greens are under the bed with this terrible section of the act crafted by John Howard’.

-- Bill Shorten, 19 August 2015

EPBC DECISIONS ON RESOURCE PROJECTS, BY OUTCOME



On 18 August, the Prime Minister launched an attack on environmental law. He proposed amendments to the Environmental Protection of Biodiversity and Conservation Act (EPBC), to prevent third-party community groups from seeking judicial review or environmental approvals (which the government branded “environmental lawfare”).

Senior Coalition cabinet members backed the amendments, arguing the courts were flooded with appeals aimed at blocking resource projects and drying up investment in regional Australia.

Though the announcement caught many by surprise, we foresaw the move weeks in advance. Recognising that environmental law and mining could soon come under fire, we engaged a researcher to counter it.

The research was brought forward as soon as news broke.

The next morning, our research was on the front page of The Age, in most NewsCorp mastheads, Radio National’s breakfast and AM program, as well as ABC’s 7.30.

The debate was transformed. What began as a story of environmentalists disrupting the economy quickly became one of a government latching to a non-issue.

In a cynical effort to ‘distract’ from it’s other, real failings.

In addition, we took immediate steps to brief the crossbench, encouraging them to publicly raise any concerns or objections.

Dio Wang, John Madigan, Clive Palmer, Nick Xenophon and Glenn Lazarus all made statements either ruling out or raising significant objections to the proposal.

Opposition Leader Bill Shorten quoted our research to taunt the government; crucially, the counterattack was within our frame, where the amendment was a scheme to distract from poor economic policy.

With Labor, the Greens and the crossbench united in opposition, the proposal looks effectively dead in the water.

MINING & RENEWABLES

QUEENSLAND FOSSIL FUEL SUBSIDIES →

Our work on Queensland's fossil fuel subsidies has been ongoing, including press conferences with Together and QTU on coal subsidies and education, and associated media.

Based on our June 2015 Outclassed report highlighting how Queensland's schools and social services are affected by mining industry assistance and lobbying, we produced social media content including infographics, posters and a short YouTube explainer video.

We were able to build on this work with the Queensland Future Jobs Summit in 2016.

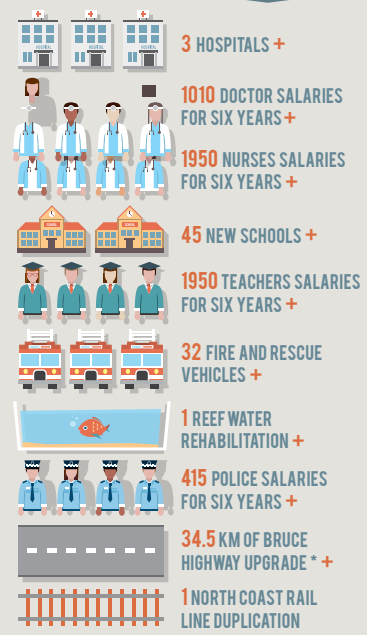
WHAT WOULD YOU CHOOSE?

YOU HAVE \$9.5 BILLION: WOULD YOU SPEND IT ON

MINING SUBSIDIES

OR

ALL OF THESE



Sources: QLD Treasury (various years), State Budget Papers, Peel et al. (2014) Mining the Age of Enlightenment, The Australia Institute, Canberra.

* Sections A,B and C

THE QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT HAS GIVEN THE MINING INDUSTRY \$9.5 B IN SUBSIDIES OVER 6 YEARS INSTEAD OF TEACHERS, HOSPITALS AND ROADS, QUEENSLAND GOT COAL.

LET'S BACK QUEENSLANDERS, NOT COAL COMPANIES.

ADD YOUR NAME > [HTTP://BIT.LY/BACK_QLD](http://bit.ly/back_qld)

The Australia Institute
Research Institute

the guardian

election 2016 australia world opinion sport football tech culture lifestyle fashion media environment

Guardian sustainable business
Innovations in renewables

Max Oprey
Monday 30 May 2016 10:20 EDT

Most voters support transition to 100% renewable energy, says Australia Institute

Polling indicates 71% would be more likely to vote for a party that supported distributed small scale solar and storage

3,333 Shares 349 Comments

Battery storage technology has the potential to reshape not just the energy and transport sectors but also the upcoming Australian federal election, according to a...

← SECURING RENEWABLES

In our paper 'Securing Renewables: How Batteries Solve the Problem of Clean Electricity' we showed that batteries paired with renewables are set to revolutionise Australia's energy industry and cut emissions.

Climate campaigner Tom Swann Conservation Council's environmentalist of year



John Thistleton   

“It was exciting, because we were making history, this was something that put divestment, ethical investment on the top tier of the national, political discussion. It was a watershed moment.”

— Tom Swann, Australia Institute researcher
on winning ACT Environmentalist of the Year for work on ANU divestment.

UNCONVENTIONAL GAS

Over the past year The Australia Institute has conducted numerous outreach and stakeholder engagement meetings and events regarding the economic assessment of coal seam gas projects in New South Wales, including meetings with senior Planning bureaucrats.

The Institute also participated in the Victorian unconventional gas inquiry and with other groups contributed funding and resources to the *Switching off gas — Gas demand in eastern Australia* research conducted by the University of Melbourne Energy Institute in August 2015.

Although the report is nationally relevant, an important part of the purpose of this report was to inform the Victorian Government inquiry into unconventional gas, and the Victorian Government itself, of the likely gas demand fall (50% over next 10 years according to the research), in order to counter gas industry claims that the gas is needed, or that more gas will bring down the gas price.

Australia Institute staff also gave briefings to government and stakeholder groups who had influence on the Victorian Government's final decision on unconventional gas, including the Department of Premier & Cabinet, Department of Energy and Resources, Manufacturing Australia, ACTU & AMWU and the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO).

In November 2015 The Australia Institute worked with Lock the Gate to release a report looking at the economic impacts of QLD's unconventional gas experiment and the implications for Northern Territory policy makers. Following on from this report, we conducted public and stakeholder engagement and outreach activities around this report. These included a Northern Territory unconventional gas trip for a NT Parliamentary briefing, public forums in Katherine (including a Katherine Council briefing), Mataranka and Tennant Creek. The Institute also conducted Federal Parliamentary briefings to Senator Urquhart, Senator Xenophon, Senator Lambie and an advisor to Minister Frydenburg.

The Institute also published a report in August, *Passing Gas on the NT's North East Gas Interconnector (NEGI) pipeline*, addressing the key economic myths of this project.

NSW & ACT FOSSIL FUEL DIVESTMENT

The Institute has continued work on fossil fuel divestment. In August 2015 we published polling research providing crucial support for the Newcastle Council divestment decision, as the Council sought to reconsider its decision following mining industry backlash. We also produced a report into the university sector's investment strategy, sent to 100 senior university administrators around the country. Australia Institute researcher Tom Swann was awarded ACT Environmentalist of the Year for his fossil fuel divestment work.

QUEENSLAND JOBS GROWTH SUMMIT

On April 26th, we held the Queensland Jobs Summit in partnership with the University of Queensland School of Economics.

It was an extraordinarily successful stakeholder and public engagement event, bringing together key Government figures and heads of all Queensland's main industry groups to emphasise that almost every industry in Queensland is a larger job creator than mining, by far. The heads of these industries relayed the message direct to Cabinet members and the public.

At the summit, The Australia Institute launched its report, *Jobs Growth in Queensland: Trends and Prospects* outlining recent employment trends and future prospects of Queensland's industries and regions, and in the process thoroughly debunked the claim that jobs growth in Queensland would come from the mining industry.

The Queensland Jobs Growth Summit resulted in much positive media in Queensland, and culminated in the Courier Mail writing a positive editorial applauding both the Summit and the results of the report, and adopting the four pillars of future jobs growth in Queensland from the report as its own (replacing Campbell Newman's mining and forestry based pillars).

Importantly, this work helped change the narrative not only within government, but with the public and the media. Both the report and the Jobs Summit event were crucial in helping to reframe 'jobs and growth' in Queensland ahead of the 2016 Federal Election, creating space in the debate, as well as economic credibility for the No New Coal Mines policy ask of the collaboration.



SUMMIT SPEAKERS INCLUDED →

- QLD Deputy Premier, Jackie Trad
- QLD Treasurer, Curtis Pitt
- QLD Environment Minister, Stephen Miles
- QLD Employment minister, Grace Grace
- Saul Eslake
- CEO QTIB Daniel Gschwind
- VC Griffith, Professor Ian O'Conner
- CEO CCIQ Stephen Tait
- State Sec AMWU Rohan Webb
- Assistant State Sec QNU, Sandra Eales
- Geoff Hogg, CEO Star Entertainment



OUR SPEAKERS THIS YEAR →

- Gai Brodtmann MP
- Kirstie Parker, Close the Gap
- Clare O'Neil MP & Tim Watts MP
- Senator Richard Di Natale
- Silent Majority Podcast
 - Rob Harris & Alice Workman
- Senator Sam Dastyari
- Laura Tingle & Richard Denniss
- Chief Minister Andrew Barr MLA
- Cathy Wilcox
- Senator Katy Gallagher

Over the past year we've had some great speakers at our free monthly Politics in the Pub events in Canberra.

Our biggest thanks to all our great speakers.

POLITICS IN THE PUB

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in to

5952

different bands,
frequencies and
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2953

Press Clip
Mentions

IN THE MEDIA AND ONLINE

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total audience

\$20,645,645

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(Advertising Space Rate)

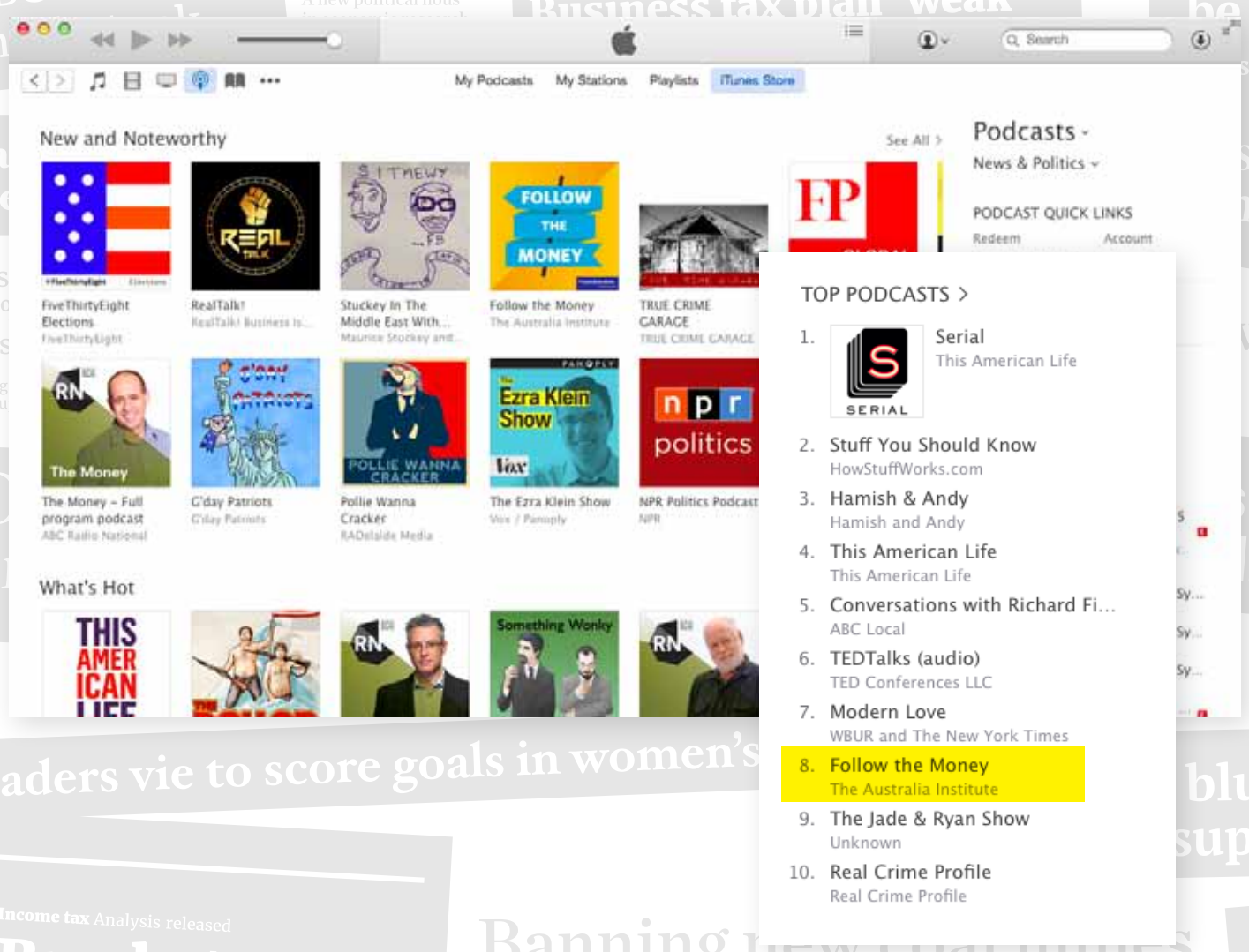
I think tanks calling the shots
A new political nous

Tax breaks on rentals and super unfair to young
EXCLUSIVE
• Comment: Negative gearers aren't poor

Economy Study raises questions about government's tax package
Business tax plan 'weak'

Boost regional ABC funding: the

These be lea
tion is



Leaders vie to score goals in women's

Income tax Analysis released
Bracket creep

Banning new coal mines

AND WE EVEN LAUNCHED A PODCAST →



Cutting business taxes doesn't lead to growth: study

Why we must scrutinise the would-be senators

From Page 1

Australia's breakdown king David Pocock more co
about climate change than facing All Blacks
THE AUSTRALIA INSTITUTE / ANNUAL REPORT 2015-2016 | PAGE 31

The real

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first time



Your support has allowed us to confront some of the greatest public policy challenges this country faces, without prejudice.

Supporters of the Australia Institute understand the power of ideas; donations large and small all contribute to make our research possible.

This financial year, we significantly increased our number of individual supporters making monthly, tax-deductible donations to the Institute.

Building our monthly donation is a critical part of securing organisational funding for the Institute, allowing us to forward plan and realise more long-term research goals.



This year we also launched our *Institute Insider* regular monthly donor program, and saw our regular givers

**INCREASE
BY 168%**

'The Australia Institute tells us what we need to know before we know we need to know it!'

— *Institute Insider supporter*



REGULAR CONTRIBUTIONS MATTER.

Research that matters doesn't happen overnight. Regular monthly donations mean that we can budget for the future, make forward plans, and helps us safeguard our research agenda.

— *Rod Campbell, Director of Research*



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All donations over \$2 are tax deductible. The Australia Institute has DGR status and is registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for Profits Commission.

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

The Australia Institute recognises its responsibility to maintain corporate governance practices that are robust, accountable and of a standard that meets the expectations of its stakeholders. The Institute's board and its staff are committed to implementing high standards of corporate governance and will continue to work towards achieving this.

OUR CORPORATE GOVERNANCE POLICY

The principles of good corporate governance comprise an effective, accountable and ethical decision-making process focused on meeting the Institute's corporate objectives. These are outlined in the various documents that have been developed to guide the work of the Institute and the operations of its staff.

The Constitution outlines the main corporate governance responsibilities and practices are in place for the Institute and to which both the Board collectively, and the Directors individually, are committed.

The role of the Board is to govern the organisation, rather than to manage its day-to-day activities. The Board is committed to fulfilling its duties to the organisation, observing all relevant laws and regulations, and providing employees with a safe and rewarding place in which to work.

The Institute is committed to promoting ethical and responsible decision-making and procedures in relation to the research it carries out and the reports it publishes. Its activities are governed by the highest standards of reporting, based on exhaustively researched topics and constructive and unbiased conclusions.

OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

A board of eight directors governs the Institute, meeting up to three times a year. All non-executive Directors volunteer their time, and receive no remuneration for serving on the Institute's board. The Executive Director of the Institute serves as an ex-officio member of the Board.

MEETING OF DIRECTORS IN 2015-16

Our Board met on the following dates

Directors	1 Jul	28 Oct	30 Mar	25 May	No. Attended
Lin Hatfield Dodds (Chair)	1	1	1	0	3
John McKinnon (Chair -- as of 25 May)	1	1	1	1	4
Professor Barbara Pocock (Deputy Chair)	1	1	1	1	4
Elizabeth Cham	1	1	0	1	3
Andrew Dettmer	1	0	1	1	3
Dr Samantha Hardy	1	1	1	1	4
David Morawetz	1	1	1	1	4
Professor Spencer Zifcak	0	0	0	1	1
Lee Thomas	1	1	0	0	2
<i>Ex-officio</i>					
Ben Oquist	1	1	1	1	4

Ceased -- Lin Hatfield Dodds resigned from the Board effective 25 May 16.

RESEARCH COMMITTEE

The Research Committee approves the Institute's research priorities and activities funded from the Research Fund. The Research Committee met twice in 2015-16 in August and December. Membership of the Research Committee is subject to the prior approval of the approving authority (Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research (DIISR) and members are nominated on the basis of their proven ability to direct a research program, as evidenced by their academic qualifications and professional appointments.

Research committee members for 2015-16 were: Professor Jon Altman, Dr Hugh Saddler, Dr Richard Denniss, Emeritus Professor Alastair Greig, Emeritus Professor Barbara Pocock, Professor Spencer Zifcak and Professor Hilary Bambrick.

MANAGEMENT

Executive Director Ben Oquist and Deputy Director Ebony Bennett led the day to day operations of the Institute throughout 2015-16.

ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

For the Year Ended 30 June 2016

The Australia Institute Limited
ACN 061 969 284

**2015-16
FINANCIAL
YEAR**

The Australia Institute

Research that matters.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

THE AUSTRALIA INSTITUTE LIMITED
ACN 061 969 284

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DIRECTORS' REPORT

THE AUSTRALIA INSTITUTE LIMITED
ACN 061 969 284

DIRECTORS' REPORT

Your directors present their report on the company for the financial year ended 30 June 2016.

Directors

The names of the directors in office at any time during the year, or since the end of the financial year are:

Barbara Ann Pocock
Lin Hatfield Dodds
Spencer Zifcaf
David Morawetz
Elizabeth Cham

Samantha Eve Hardy
John Edward McKinnon
Leanne (Lee) Thomas
Andrew Dettmer
Ebony Bennet (Company secretary)

Principal Activities

The principal activities of the company during the year were Research and Development.

There has been no significant change in the nature of these activities during the year.

Objectives

The Australia Institute seeks to inform public debate and bring greater accountability to the democratic process. The Institute is determined to push public debate beyond the simplistic question of whether markets or governments have all the answers to more important questions: When does government need to intervene in the market? When should it stand back? And when regulation is needed, what form should it take?

Strategy for Achieving the Objectives

1. Produce high quality research which positively influences policy and informs public debate.
2. Effectively communicate research findings to key policy makers, NGOs, academics and the broader community in order to effect policy change.
3. Sustain strategic relationships with targeted individuals/organisations
4. Increase fundraising in order to develop the Institute's resource base.

Results

The net profit for the year ended 30 June 2016 was \$545,807 (2015: profit \$354,960).


John Edward McKinnon


Barbara Ann Pocock

Dated this 26th Day of October 2016

STATEMENT OF PROFIT & LOSS

THE AUSTRALIA INSTITUTE LIMITED
ACN 061 969 284

STATEMENT OF PROFIT AND LOSS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

	Note	2016 \$	2015 \$
Revenue from ordinary activities	2	3,333,168	2,565,498
Employee expenses		(1,590,482)	(1,362,343)
Depreciation		(8,622)	(9,788)
Occupancy expenses		(30,808)	(32,303)
Other expenses	3	(1,157,449)	(806,104)
		<u>(2,787,361)</u>	<u>(2,210,538)</u>
Profit for the financial year		<u>545,807</u>	<u>354,960</u>
Other comprehensive income		-	-
Profit attributable to members		<u>545,807</u>	<u>354,960</u>

The above statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

THE AUSTRALIA INSTITUTE LIMITED
ACN 061 969 284

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT 30 JUNE 2016

	Note	2016 \$	2015 \$
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	4	2,009,259	1,435,181
Trade and other receivables	5	181,589	288,911
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		2,190,848	1,724,092
NON CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, plant & equipment	6	12,933	21,555
TOTAL NON CURRENT ASSETS		12,933	21,555
TOTAL ASSETS		2,203,781	1,745,647
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and other payables	7	56,362	153,553
Provisions	8	127,772	114,421
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		184,134	267,974
NON CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Provisions	8	40,797	44,630
TOTAL NON CURRENT LIABILITIES		40,797	44,630
TOTAL LIABILITIES		224,931	312,604
NET ASSETS		1,978,850	1,433,043
EQUITY			
Retained earnings		1,978,850	1,433,043
TOTAL EQUITY		1,978,850	1,433,043

The above statement of financial position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

THE AUSTRALIA INSTITUTE LIMITED
ACN 061 969 284

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY
AS AT 30 JUNE 2016

	Retained Earnings \$	Total Equity \$
Balance at 1 July 2014	1,078,083	1,078,079
Profit for the year	354,960	354,960
Balance at 30 June 2015	<u>1,433,043</u>	<u>1,433,043</u>
Balance at 1 July 2015	1,433,043	1,433,043
Profit for the year	545,807	545,807
Balance at 30 June 2016	<u>1,978,850</u>	<u>1,978,850</u>

The above statement of changes in equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW

THE AUSTRALIA INSTITUTE LIMITED
ACN 061 969 284

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW
AS AT 30 JUNE 2016

	2016	2015
	\$	\$
Cash flow from operating activities		
Receipts from operations	3,499,012	2,602,018
Payments to suppliers and employees	(2,962,827)	(2,104,380)
Interest received	37,893	24,438
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>574,079</u>	<u>522,076</u>
Cash flow from investing activities		
Payment for property, plant and equipment	-	(15,631)
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities	<u>-</u>	<u>(15,631)</u>
Net increase in cash	574,079	506,445
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the financial year	<u>1,435,181</u>	<u>928,736</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the financial year	<u><u>2,009,260</u></u>	<u><u>1,435,181</u></u>

The above statement of cash flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

THE AUSTRALIA INSTITUTE LIMITED
ACN 061 969 284

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

NOTE 1. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial report is a general-purpose financial report that has been prepared in accordance with Accounting Standards, Urgent Issues Group Consensus Views and other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board and the Corporations Act 2001.

The financial report is for The Australia Institute Limited as an individual entity. The Australia Institute Limited is a company limited by guarantee, incorporated and domiciled in Australia.

The financial report has been prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historical costs. It does not take into account changing money values or, except where stated, current valuations of non-current assets. Cost is based on the fair values of the consideration given in exchange for assets.

Australian Accounting Standards include Australian equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). Compliance with the Australian equivalents to IFRS (AIFRS) ensures that the financial report, comprising the financial statements and notes complies with IFRS.

The following is a summary of the material accounting policies adopted by the company in the preparation of the financial report. The accounting policies have been consistently applied, unless otherwise stated.

The following is a summary of the material accounting policies adopted by the company in the preparation of the financial report. The accounting policies have been consistently applied, unless otherwise stated.

(a) Income tax

The Company is considered to be exempt from income tax under Section 50-45 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.

(b) Property, plant and equipment

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets is depreciated over their useful lives commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

The carrying amount of fixed assets is reviewed annually by the General Committee to ensure it is not in excess of the recoverable amount of those assets.

The recoverable amount is assessed on the basis of expected net cash flows, which will be received from the assets' employment and subsequent disposal. The expected net cash flows have not been discounted to their present values in determining the recoverable amounts.

(c) Depreciation

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets are depreciated on a reducing balance basis over the useful lives of the assets to the company commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

The depreciation rates used for each class of depreciable asset are:

Class of fixed asset	Depreciation Rate
Office equipment, furniture and fittings	40%

THE AUSTRALIA INSTITUTE LIMITED
ACN 061 969 284

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

NOTE 1. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

(d) Employee benefits

Provision is made for the Company's liability for employee entitlements arising from services rendered by employees to balance date. Employee entitlements expected to be settled within one year together with entitlements arising from wages and salaries, annual leave and sick leave, which will be settled after one year, have been measured at their nominal amount.

Contributions are made by the Company to an employee superannuation fund and are charged as expenses when incurred.

(e) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash an equivalent includes cash on hand, deposits held at-call with banks, and on deposit.

(f) Goods and services tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office. In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of expense.

(g) Revenue

Revenue from the provision of goods and services is recognised on provision of these goods and services to customers.

Interest revenue is recognised on a proportional basis taking into account the interest rates applicable to the financial assets. All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST).

(h) Receivables

Trade accounts and other receivables represent the principal amounts due at balance date, plus if applicable any unearned income.

(i) Contingent liabilities

A contingent loss is recognised as an expense and a liability if it is probable that future events will confirm that, after taking into account any related probable recovery, an asset has been impaired or a liability incurred and, a reasonable estimate of the amount of the resulting loss can be made.

(j) Events after balance date

Assets and liabilities are adjusted for events occurring after balance date that provide evidence of conditions existing at the balance date.

No matter or circumstance has arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affects or may affect the operation of the company the results of the year or the state of affairs of the company.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

THE AUSTRALIA INSTITUTE LIMITED
ACN 061 969 284

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

NOTE 2. REVENUE

	2016	2015
	\$	\$
Donations	2,425,206	1,811,020
Interest received	37,893	28,247
Publications	8,348	16,425
Royalties	1,723	9,393
Other income	859,998	700,413
	<u>3,333,168</u>	<u>2,565,498</u>

NOTE 3. OTHER EXPENSES

Consultants	59,954	64,634
Commissioned research	435,814	245,013
Postage, printing and stationary	29,578	22,623
Promotions	35,120	55,118
Superannuation	149,723	129,369
Telecommunications	57,854	44,436
Travel, accommodation and conferences	249,363	151,337
Other expenses	140,043	93,574
	<u>1,157,449</u>	<u>806,104</u>

NOTE 4. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

Cash at bank	1,400,545	844,181
Cash on hand	445	300
Term deposits	608,269	590,700
	<u>2,009,259</u>	<u>1,435,181</u>

NOTE 5. TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES

Accrued income	-	125,904
Paypal receivable	86,947	92,154
Prepayments	25,613	16,203
Provision for doubtful debts	(3,000)	(141)
Rental deposit	3,025	3,025
Trade debtors	69,004	51,766
	<u>181,589</u>	<u>288,911</u>

THE AUSTRALIA INSTITUTE LIMITED
ACN 061 969 284

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

NOTE 5. TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES (Continued)

Credit Risk — Trade and Other Receivables

The company does not have any material credit risk exposure to any single receivable or group of receivables.

The following table details the company's trade and other receivables exposed to credit risk with ageing analysis and impairment provided for thereon. Amounts are considered as 'past due' when the debt has not been settled within the terms and conditions agreed between the association and the customer or counter party to the transaction. Receivables that are past due are assessed for impairment by ascertaining solvency of the debtors and are provided for where there are specific circumstances indicating that the debt may not be fully repaid to the association.

The balances of receivables that remain within initial trade terms (as detailed in the table) are considered to be of high credit quality.

	Gross amount \$	< 30 days \$	Past due 31-60 days \$	Past due 61-90 days \$	Past due > 90 days \$	Past due and impaired \$
2016						
Trade and other receivables	69,004	34,225	2,750	2,000	34,189	-
2015						
Trade and other receivables	51,625	45,015	195	2,891	3,665	(141)

NOTE 6. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

	2016 \$	2015 \$
Plant and equipment		
At cost	74,670	74,670
Accumulated depreciation	(61,737)	(53,115)
	<u>12,933</u>	<u>21,555</u>

Movements in Plant & Equipment Carrying Amounts

Reconciliation of movements in the carrying amounts of property, plant and equipment between the beginning and the end of the current financial year.

	Plant and equipment
Balance at the beginning of the year	21,555
Additions	-
Disposals	-
Depreciation expense	(8,622)
Carrying amount at the end of the year	<u>12,933</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

THE AUSTRALIA INSTITUTE LIMITED
ACN 061 969 284

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

NOTE 7. TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES

	2016	2015
	\$	\$
Trade creditors and accruals	22,729	134,961
Unearned income	-	18,182
GST liability	33,633	410
	<u>56,362</u>	<u>153,553</u>

NOTE 8. PROVISIONS

CURRENT

Provision for annual Leave	127,772	114,421
	<u>127,772</u>	<u>114,421</u>

NON CURRENT

Provision for annual Leave	40,797	44,630
	<u>40,797</u>	<u>44,630</u>

Total	<u>168,569</u>	<u>159,051</u>
-------	----------------	----------------

NOTE 9. CAPITAL AND LEASING COMMITMENTS

Operating Lease Commitments

Non-cancellable operating leases contracted for but not capitalised in the financial statements.

	2016	2015
	\$	\$
No later than one year	-	64,444
Later than one year but not later than 5 years	-	10,801
Minimum lease payments	<u>-</u>	<u>75,245</u>

NOTE 10. MEMBERS' LIABILITY

The Company is limited by guarantee. Upon winding up the constitution provides that each member is required to contribute a maximum of \$10 each towards meeting any outstanding obligations of the company. At the 30th June 2016 there were nine members.

THE AUSTRALIA INSTITUTE LIMITED
ACN 061 969 284

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

NOTE 11. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The directors during the year ended 30 June 2016 were:

Barbara Ann Pocock
Andrew Dettmer
Lin Hatfield Dodds
Spencer Zifcak
David Morawetz

Elizabeth Cham
Samantha Eve Hardy
John Edward McKinnon
Leanne (Lee) Thomas

The directors of The Australia Institute Limited did not receive any remuneration from the Company during the year in their capacity as directors.

Key Management Personnel

Key management personnel comprise directors and other key persons having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the organization.

Key Management Personnel Compensation Summary

	2016	2015
	\$	\$
Short Term Employee Benefits	394,883	350,115
Long Term Employee Benefits	-	3,560
	<u>394,883</u>	<u>353,675</u>

NOTE 12. CASH FLOW INFORMATION

(a) Reconciliation of cash

Cash at the end of the financial year as shown in the statement of cash flows is reconciled to the related items in the statement of financial position as follows:

	2016	2015
	\$	\$
Cash at bank	1,400,545	844,181
Cash on hand	445	300
Term deposits	608,269	590,700
	<u>2,009,259</u>	<u>1,435,181</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

THE AUSTRALIA INSTITUTE LIMITED
ACN 061 969 284

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

NOTE 12. CASH FLOW INFORMATION (Continued)

Reconciliation of cash flow from operations

Profit from operating activities	545,807	354,960
Non-cash flows in profit from ordinary activities:		
Depreciation	8,622	9,788
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
Decrease in receivables	107,318	63,571
(Decrease)/Increase in payables	(97,191)	34,986
Increase in provisions	9,518	58,771
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>574,074</u>	<u>522,076</u>

NOTE 13 FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT

(i) Financial risk management policies

The company's financial instruments consist mainly of cash and deposits at bank, trade debtors, and trade creditors. The Board of directors meet on a regular basis to assist the company in meetings its financial targets, whilst minimising potential adverse effects on financial performance. The total of each category of financial instruments, measured in accordance with AASB139 as detailed in the accounting policies to these financial statements, are detailed below:

Financial Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	2,009,259	1,435,181
Trade and other receivables	181,589	288,911
	<u>2,190,848</u>	<u>1,724,092</u>
Financial Liabilities		
Trade and other payables	56,362	153,553
	<u>56,362</u>	<u>153,553</u>

Interest rate risk

Exposure to interest rate risk arises on financial assets and financial liabilities recognised at reporting date whereby a future change in interest rates will affect future cash flows or the fair value of fixed rate financial instruments.

THE AUSTRALIA INSTITUTE LIMITED
ACN 061 969 284

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

NOTE 13 FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT (Continued)

(ii) Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk arises from the possibility that the company might encounter difficulty in settling its debts or otherwise meeting its obligations related to financial liabilities. The association manages this risk through the following mechanisms:

- preparing forward looking cash flow analysis in relation to its operational, investing and financing activities;
- maintaining a reputable credit profile;
- managing credit risk related to financial assets;
 - investing only in surplus cash with major financial institutions; and
 - comparing the maturity profile of financial liabilities with the realisation profile of financial assets.

The tables below reflect an undiscounted contractual maturity analysis for financial liabilities.

	Within 1 Year		1 to 5 Years		Over 5 Years		Total Cash Flow	
	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Financial liabilities due for payment								
Trade & other payables	56,362	153,553	-	-	-	-	56,362	153,553
Total expected outflows	56,362	153,553	-	-	-	-	56,362	153,553
Financial assets - cash flow realisable								
Cash and cash equivalents	2,009,260	1,435,181	-	-	-	-	2,009,260	1,435,181
Trade & other receivables	181,589	288,911	-	-	-	-	181,589	288,911
Total expected inflows	2,190,849	1,724,092	-	-	-	-	2,190,849	1,724,092
Net (outflow)/inflow on financial instruments	2,134,487	1,570,539	-	-	-	-	2,134,487	1,570,539

(iii) Credit risk

Exposure to credit risk relating to financial assets arises from the potential non-performance by counter parties of contract obligations that could lead to a financial loss to the company.

Credit risk is managed through the maintenance of procedures (such procedures include the utilisation of systems for the approval, regular monitoring of exposures against such limits and monitoring of the financial stability of significant customers and counter parties), ensuring to the extent possible, that customers and counter parties to transactions are of sound credit worthiness. Such monitoring is used in assessing receivables for impairment.

Risk is also minimised through investing surplus funds in financial institutions that maintain a high credit rating, or in entities that the executive committee has otherwise cleared as being financially sound.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

THE AUSTRALIA INSTITUTE LIMITED
ACN 061 969 284

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

NOTE 13 FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT (Continued)

(iii) Credit risk (Continued)

The maximum exposure to credit risk at balance date to recognised financial assets is the carrying amount as disclosed in the statement of financial position and notes to the financial statements. The company does not have any material credit risk exposure to any single debtor or group of debtors.

NOTE 14. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

The company had no contingent liabilities as at 30 June 2016.

NOTE 15. COMMITMENTS FOR EXPENDITURE

The company had no commitments for expenditure as at 30 June 2016.

NOTE 16. EVENTS OCCURING AFTER THE REPORTING DATE

No matter or circumstance has arisen since 30 June 2016 that has significantly affected, or may significantly affect the company's operations, the results of those operations, or the company's state of affairs in future financial years.

NOTE 17. REGISTERED OFFICE AND COMPANY DETAILS

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

Level 5 Unit 1
131 City Walk
Canberra City ACT

DIRECTORS' DECLARATION

THE AUSTRALIA INSTITUTE LIMITED
ACN 061 969 284

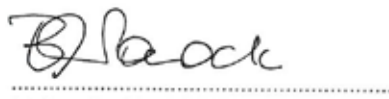
DIRECTORS' DECLARATION

The directors of the company declare that:

1. The financial statements and notes are in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001:
 - a. Comply with Accounting Standards and the Corporations Regulations 2001; and
 - b. Give a true and fair view of the financial position as at 30 June 2016 and the performance for the year on that date of the company.
2. In the director's opinion 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 Board of Directors:


.....
John Edward McKinnon


.....
Barbara Ann Pocock

Dated this 26th day of October 2016

AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION

AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION

As lead auditor for the audit of the financial report of The Australia Institute Limited for the year ended 30 June 2016, I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been no contraventions of:

- (i) The auditor independence requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, in relation to the audit; and
- (ii) Any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

RSM AUSTRALIA PTY LTD



GED STENHOUSE
Director

Canberra, Australian Capital Territory
Dated: 26th October 2016

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE AUSTRALIA INSTITUTE LIMITED

We have audited the accompanying financial report of The Australia Institute Limited ("the Institute"), which comprises the balance sheet as at 30 June 2016, and the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and cash flow statement for the year then ended, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes and the directors' declaration.

Directors' Responsibility for the Financial Report

The directors of the Institute are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

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

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the directors, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

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

Independence

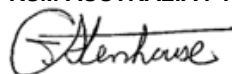
In conducting our audit, we have complied with the independence requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*. We confirm that the independence declaration required by the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, which has been given to the directors of The Australia Institute Limited, would be in the same terms if given to the directors as at the time of this auditor's report.

Opinion

In our opinion the financial report of The Australia Institute Limited is in accordance with *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, including:

- (a) giving a true and fair view of the Institute's financial position as at 30 June 2016 and of its performance for the year ended on that date; and
- (b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commissions Act 2012*.

RSM AUSTRALIA PTY LTD



Canberra, Australian Capital Territory
Dated: 26th October 2016

GED STENHOUSE
Director

