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Management Committee

Anna Kerr Principal Solicitor & Public Officer (14/3/17 -)

Anna has been a practising solicitor for 30 years and has worked in a wide range of community legal services. She is a Legal Aid panel solicitor and is country contact for the Declaration on Women's Sex-Based Rights.

Dr Helen Pringle Committee Member (19/3/19 -)

Helen is an Associate Professor at the School of Social Sciences, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, UNSW. Her research interests are in human rights and justice (with a focus on questions of sex and gender), including a project concerning the place of pornography within considerations of free speech.

Bronwyn Williams Committee Member (21/6/19 -) and solicitor

Since renewing her practising certificate Bronwyn has been working on cases for Feminist Legal Clinic. She also assists with submissions on behalf of Feminist Legal Clinic to various government and other consultations.

Dr Catherine Lynch Committee Member (28/3/19 -)

Catherine is a lawyer and vice president of Adoptee Rights Australia, Inc. who researches Australia's history of maternal-neonatal separation and its current expressions in child protection, adoption and surrogacy. She is a founding member of Abolish Surrogacy Australia (ABSA), a member of Tangled Webs and the Coalition for Accurate Birth Records and fights for the voices of people traumatised by being separated from their mothers at or near to birth to be heard.



Janet Fraser Convenor since 7/12/21 (Committee member 3/4/20 -)

Janet has been the National Convenor of Joyous Birth, the Australian homebirth network since 2004. She cofounded the NSW Women's Guild in 2019. Her book, "Born Still: A Memoir of Grief" was published by Spinifex Press in 2020. She writes for Patreon at Despatches From The Matriarchy https://www.patreon.com/despatches.

Elizabeth Johnson Committee Member (24/11/20 -)

Elizabeth has a Bachelor of Laws with Honours and a Master of Laws from Melbourne University and has practised law primarily in the areas of crime and family law for over three decades. More recently she was engaged as a commonwealth principal federal prosecutor for five years and has been a barrister for over 10 years. She is a feminist and particularly interested in the safeguarding of children and protection of women's sex-based rights.

Marianne Bryant Treasurer (7/12/21 -)

Marianne is self-employed as a waterfront planner having completed postgraduate studies at Macquarie University (2017) and Sydney University (2020) in urban planning and environmental law. Prior to that, she freelanced as a bookkeeper and office manager. Marianne is also the FLC's membership officer.



There is nothing altruistic about planning to separate a baby from its mother and contractual obligations should never trump the human rights of women and children.

Feedback to Western Australian Assisted Reproductive Technology (ART) and Surrogacy Legislative Review – Public Consultation, 2 September 2022.

Convenor's Report

Our committee meets throughout the financial year to discuss ongoing legal work, fundraising and our struggle to obtain Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) status. We continue to see women experiencing stressful and difficult legal actions particularly those dealing with domestic and family violence, including women for whom this is further complicated by Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) or refugee status. We are also meeting with increasing numbers of women who are detransitioning from previously held gender identities. This is complex, and the bravery of women in this area is profound. We are fortunate to have such devoted committee members with an incredible breadth of knowledge and experience.

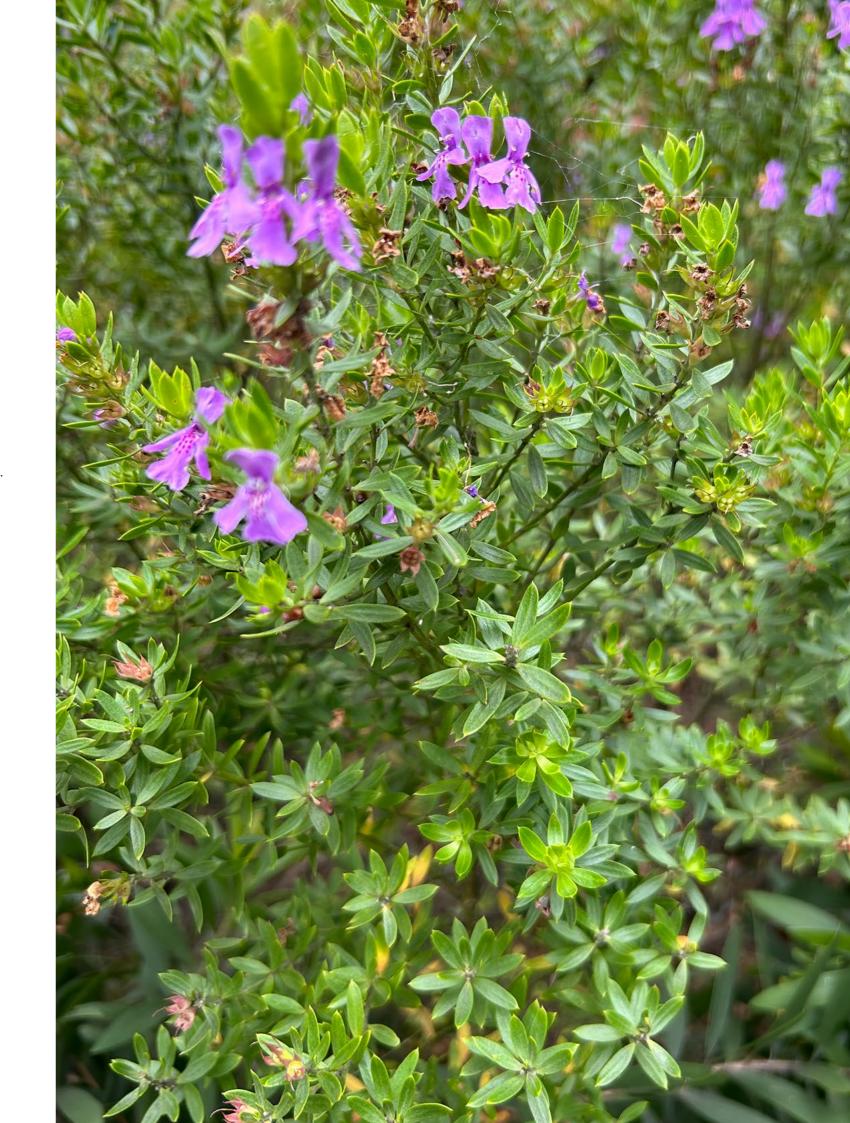


We continue to increase our membership base, and gratefully acknowledge the work of our Treasurer, Marianne Bryant, in managing membership applications and payments and negotiating various software challenges. Members who would like to volunteer as researchers are always welcome to join our various projects, and we encourage them to do so.

Janet Fraser Convenor

'It is essential that Parliament explicitly recognises the importance of the unique and crucial attachment between a mother and child and includes wording to create a rebuttable presumption that children remain in the care of their mothers during the tender years.'

Submission to Consultation on Exposure Draft – Family Law Amendment Bill 2023 – 27 February 2023.



'AVOs that are failing to keep women safe from male violence are now being used as weapons against them. I am concerned that the eSafety Commissioner and law enforcement agencies must take care that their powers are not manipulated to suppress free speech..' Anna Kerr, Principal Solicitor, quoted in The Australian, 5 May 2023.

Principal Solicitor's Report

Feminist Legal Clinic Inc. has continued to operate, although at reduced capacity following the loss of our premises and competing demands on my time. Caring for my mother in Port Stephens has meant that I have had to temporarily give away my domestic violence advocacy work in the local courts in Sydney. I also apologise to members that I have not managed to continue to produce our quarterly newsletters during the year.

Casework

Our database records that during 2022-2023 we had over 122 contacts with clients by email or telephone where we have provided basic advice/information/referral, plus an additional 64 contacts through the Women's Court Support Service. In addition, we opened 18 new files for clients needing ongoing assistance, as well continuing our existing casework for groups and individuals.

For reasons of legal confidentiality, we cannot share many details of the cases we work on, but below is one photo from satisfied customer Pearl Moon, who was eventually able to exhibit her work as a finalist at the Australian Wearable Art Festival (AWAF) following intervention by Feminist Legal Clinic. You can read about Pearl's story on Glinner's Substack and Unherd. This photo shows Pearl with her entry at AWAF titled Wedding Dress for a Woman to Marry Her Garden.



From left: Pearl Red Moon, Kinsey and Rodney Swansborough Photo Credit: Colin McClennan



The publicity surrounding the case resulted in an American art collector contacting her and purchasing Pearl's garment to include in a show along with the work of 14 other artists from around the world. The exhibition, titled A Nasty Piece of Work: Art of Dissident Feminists, was launched in San Francisco to coincide with the opening of the second International Women's Declaration conference in September 2023. You can read more about this and Pearl's experiences on her blog and substack.

Aside from our casework, FLC also engages in community legal education work, including giving presentations and maintaining a news digest blog about matters significant to women's human rights. We have published over 700 posts on our news digest and according to our website statistics, our service has had over 30,000 visitors in the past year, which is approximately 10,000 more than the previous year. We had over 5,000 visitors in the month of June 2023 alone.

We also undertake law reform work to address the systemic causes of women's disadvantage and distress. Details of this work can be found in the following list of our submissions, presentations and media coverage. Links to this material can also be accessed through our website.

Anna KerrPrincipal Solicitor

Submissions

Submission on The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice Referendum, 21 April 2023 (submission 143).

<u>Submission to Consultation on Exposure Draft - Family Law Amendment Bill 2023</u>, 27 February 2023 (response 1026378949) and pdf.

<u>Short survey submission</u> to Consultation Draft – National Principles to Address Coercive Control, 11 November 2022.

Feedback to Western Australian Assisted Reproductive Technology (ART) and Surrogacy Legislative Review – Public Consultation, 2 September 2022.

Feedback on Draft Crimes Legislation Amendment (Coercive Control) Bill 2022, 31 August 2022.

<u>Submission in response to the Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Bill 2022 (QLD)</u>, 11 January 2023 (submission 317).

Presentations

Ep 31: Teachers, gender and the law, Marking the Role, 8 August 2023.



CEDAW People's Hearing – Judging Panel – from left: Associate Professor Helen Pringle, Mary Kerr, Professor Jocelynne Scutt, and Kerry Heubel.

CEDAW People's Hearings, UNSW, 25-27 May 2023 – Judging Panel – Professor Jocelynne Scutt, Associate Professor Helen Pringle, Kerry Heubel, Mary Kerr and Bashi Kumar (absent). Witnesses: Leonie McGuire, Michelle Fernando, Barbary Clarke, Sally Gearin, Marita Murphy, Karen Buczynski-Lee, Simone Watson, Jane Matts, Jessica Williams, Charmaigne Weldon, Jenny Hocking, Catherine Lynch, Kath Mazzella, Dianne Haddon, Janine Rees, Claire O'Connor, Gina Masterton, Deborah Towns, Yabbo Thompson, Madulika Agarwal, Alecia Maree Staines and Lauren Quilligan. Judges Associates: Janet Fraser, Marietta Simaro and Anna Kerr.



Judging Panel & FLC volunteers – from left: Mary Kerr, Professor Jocelynne Scutt, Janet Fraser, Associate Professor Helen Pringle, Kerry Heubel, & Marietta Simaro

"Us and them? The need for clarity around collaboration.", Janet Fraser at IWD Brisbane Meanjin Conference, March 2023.



Decentering Mothers: On the Politics of Sex, Symposium of Maternal Scholars Australia, Speakers: Petra Bueskens, Jane Castle, Karleen Gribble, Milli Hill, Anna Kerr and Stella O'Malley, 7-8 October 2022.(videos here, here and here).

Penile Imperialism by Sheila Jeffreys - Global Online Book Launch - Speakers Betty McLellan and Anna Kerr, 13 September 2022 (video).



Can the Green Party be salvaged for feminism? Panelists Emma Bateman, Hugh Esco and Anna Kerr, 27 August 2022.

Are women being watched? Women's Declaration International – speakers Helen Steel, Lierre Keith and Anna Kerr, 30 July 2022 (You Tube, Archive, Anchor).

Media Mentions

EXCLUSIVE: Row over trans women playing in female soccer leagues gets ugly as campaigner fighting to "keep blokes out of women's sport" is hit with restraining order to "protect" trans player, Daily Mail, 4 May 2023.

Turf War: What's Really Behind Recent Attacks on Trans Tasmanians, *Tasmanian Times*, 11 March 2023.

Anti-trans disinformation is rife in Australia

– and it's being spread by a small group of
organisations, *Crikey*, 10 March 2023 (pdf).

Hope for "clarity" in trans lawsuit, *The Australian*, 6 March 2023.

Man identifying as female accuses women-only social media platform of trans discrimination, *The Christian Post*, 3 January 2023.

Transgender woman sues female-only app Giggle for Girls for alleged discrimination, *The Guardian*, 31 December 2022.

Trans woman sues female social media site,
Newcastle Herald. 31 December 2022.

Also, Canberra Times, Epoch Times, St George & Sutherland Shire Leader, WION, Perth Now and more.

Tribunal rules against lesbian who wants to exclude transgender people, *Out in Perth*, 30 November 2022 (pdf).



This Australian has written 400 profiles of deserving women on Wikipedia. Here's why she's 'obsessed', SBS News, 26 October 2022 (pdf).



Wednesday 24 August – Listen to the Detransitioners #1, A Week in the War on Women, Monday 22 August – Sunday 28 August (pdf).

<u>Class action suits against gender doctors cloud the future of transgender medicine</u>, *Mercatornet*, 26 August 2022 (pdf).

Gender-Affirmation Fast Tracks Young People to Surgeries: Lawyer, 26 August 2022 (pdf).

The Sydney Morning Herald, Photos of the Week, WA Today, 25 August 2022 (pdf).

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Australian woman sues psychiatrist over gender transition treatment, *Yahoo News*, 25 August 2022 (pdf).

Australian woman sues psychiatrist over recommending "gender affirming" sterilization, mastectomies, International News, 25 August 2022 (pdf).

Matt Walsh program from 19.17, 25 August 2022.

Interview with Jay Langadinos and Anna Kerr, ABC Radio, 25 August 2022.

Australian woman suing psychiatrist who approved gender transition, *Toronto Sun*, 24 August 2022 (pdf).

Australian woman sues psychiatrist over gendertransition treatment, *National Review*, 24 August 2022 (pdf).

Sydney woman suing psychiatrist over devastating "transition" outcome, *Binary*, 24 August 2022 (pdf).

Jay Langadinos sues psychiatrist for professional negligence over gender transition, *Greek Herald*, 24 August 2022 (pdf).

Woman sues psychiatrist for approving gender transition after just one meeting, *New York Post*, 24 August 2022 (pdf).

Sydney woman who transitioned to husband (sic) sues psychiatrist for negligence, Women Speak Tasmania (WST) Post, 24 August 2022 (pdf).

Young woman left devastated after she transitioned to a man and had her breasts, uterus and ovaries removed sues psychiatrist for approving hormone therapy after meeting him only ONCE, Daily Mail, 24 August 2022 (pdf).

'Absolutely devastating': woman sues psychiatrist over gender transition, *The Age* & *Sydney Morning Herald*, 24 August 2022 (pdf).



Launceston lesbian Jess Hoyle can bring a women-only drag show case to the High Court, Women Speak Tasmania (WST) Post, 3 August 2022 (pdf).

Lesbian ready to make High Court bid to ban anyone born male or "with penises" from events, Daily Telegraph, 4 August 2022 (pdf).

Experts slam Queensland government plan to replace "maternity leave" with new term, *7news.com.au*, 28 July 2022 (pdf).

<u>Tickle v Giggle</u>, *Weekend Australian*, 9 July 2022.

Project Reports

Women's Court Support Service

COVID19 restrictions have really changed the face of court rooms. Most hearings are now held online with trials face-to-face. Our service made it through this time, however, and took on new volunteers, including the indefatigable Fiona to whom we are very grateful. We have been reworking our manual for volunteers as well as liaising with the various other groups that also work in the court building such as Relationships Australia and Legal Aid. Our volunteers bring a broad range of skills, experience and diversity to the service and it's been wonderful getting to know new women who are also committed to women's wellbeing in the courts.

We have continued to work on the Hague Mother's project with FiLiA and recently women in the European group presented the work of many volunteers, including us, to the UN. It seems Australian politicians are receptive to changing how these laws impact mothers and we are thrilled to see this.



Sadly, for the Women's Court Support Service, and despite the years of commitment from so many women, it appears we are set to lose our office space. I would like to thank all the volunteers, over the years, and all the women who trusted us with their stories. We have all been enriched by our work and it is very sad that we will no longer be able to provide this space for women. Family law is one of the most stressful, and dangerous times, of many women's lives. The little we have been able to do to ameliorate some of that stress has been an honour.

We acknowledge the support of Sydney Family Court for continuing to provide the office space for the Women's Court Support Service.

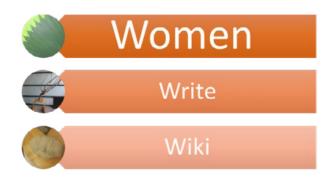


While we welcome moves to criminalise coercive control in theory, our main concern is the potential misuse of these provisions against women by male perpetrators of abuse.

Short survey submission to Consultation Draft – National Principles to Address Coercive Control, 11 November 2022.

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Women Write Wiki



The group continues to meet twice a month – on the second Wednesday in person at The Women's Library and on the fourth Wednesday via Zoom. We have maintained the online meetings as they allow women in different locations to chat about their Wikipedia work, seek editing help and share information, and we are often joined by women in New Zealand.

We were thrilled that Rosie Stephenson-Goodnight, co-founder of the Women In Red Wikipedia Project, visited Sydney for two conferences in November last year. In June I was interviewed by Phillip Adams on Late Night Live - https://www.abc.net.au/listen/programs/latenightlive/these-women-are-closing-wikipedia-s-gender-gap/102447668.

A number of new bios of women have been created in the 12 months to 30 June, including for Jennifer Down, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jennifer_Down] whose novel Bodies of Light won the 2022 Miles Franklin Prize and the multi-award-winning Indigenous writer Debra Dank, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Debra_Dank] author of We Come With This Place.

New members are welcome and personalised individual training is available. Please email me ann.reynolds@wikimedia.org.au

Ann Reynolds

Women Write Wiki Coordinator

'Who benefits from a legislative regime that allows male people to be legally recognised as female and usurp the hard earned sex-based rights of women and girls at their whim? Certainly not women and girls.'

Submission to the Legal Affairs and Safety Committee of the Queensland Parliament in response to the Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Bill 2022, 11 January 2023.



Women's Declaration International

We continued to host monthly webinars on behalf of Women's Declaration International (WDI) for Australia and New Zealand. During the 2022-2023 year the webinars were chaired and organised by our convenor, Janet Fraser.

We would also like to acknowledge the support of our Australian WDI working group and those in the group who assist with surveying political candidates in advance of elections, among other tasks, as well as members of the international group. Special mention to Tracy for her excellent editing of our webinar recordings, as well Jo Brew and Sheila Jeffreys for their inspiring efforts heading a global network of feminist activists.

Finally, we thank our wonderful panellists for the year. The following is a list of the details of all webinars that were held in 2022-2023:

Women's Declaration International (Aus/NZ) Webinar – speakers Susan Hawthorne, Sabine Schneider, Cheryl Hercus and Bronwyn Winter, hosted by Janet Fraser, 24 June 2023.

Women's Declaration International (Aus/NZ) Webinar – speakers Jill Ovens, Lynne Robertson and Isla McGregor, hosted by Janet Fraser, 27 May 2023.



Women's Declaration International (Aus/NZ)
Webinar – speakers Pearl Moon, Tania Sturt and
Leah Whiston, 29 April 2023.

Women's Declaration International (Aus/NZ)
Webinar - speakers Nina, Eilean Haley and Sue
Clarke, hosted by Tessa, 25 March 2023

Women's Declaration International (Aus/NZ)
Webinar – speakers <u>Ally-Marie Diamond</u>, <u>Steph</u>
<u>Hughes</u> and <u>Jennifer Scott</u>, 25 February 2023 (<u>You Tube</u>, <u>Archive</u>, <u>Anchor</u>).



Rex Landy at WDI Webinar

Women's Declaration International (Aus/NZ) Webinar – speakers <u>Rex Landy</u>, <u>Janet</u> and <u>Fern</u> <u>Hickson</u>, 28 January 2023 (You Tube, Archive, Anchor).

Women's Declaration International (Aus/ NZ) Webinar – speakers <u>Suzanne Levy, Anna</u> <u>McCormack, Nerissa Scott, Jennifer Scott, 26</u> November 2022 (You Tube, Archive, Anchor)

Women's Declaration International (Aus/NZ)
Webinar - speakers <u>Karen Smith</u>, <u>Kit Kowalski</u> and <u>Ann Cuddy</u>, 29 October 2022 (<u>You Tube</u>, <u>Archive</u>, <u>Anchor</u>)



Ann Cuddy at WDI Webinar

Women's Declaration International (Aus/NZ) Webinar – speakers <u>Stassja Frei, Angela Jones</u> and <u>Kit Kowalski</u>, 24 September 2022 (<u>You Tube</u>, <u>Archive</u>, <u>Anchor</u>)

Women's Declaration International (Aus/ NZ) Webinar – speakers 'Karen Smith', <u>Jessica</u> <u>Williams, Steph Hughes</u> and <u>Clare Dimyon</u>, hosted by Janet Fraser, 27 August 2022

Women's Declaration International (Aus/NZ) Webinar – speakers Bronwyn Winter, Susan Hawthorne and Vivianne Morrigan, hosted by Janet Fraser, 30 July 2022 (You Tube, Archive, Anchor)



Treasurer's Report

Treasurer's report for the 2023 Annual General Meeting of the FLC

For the financial year ending 30 June 2023, the Feminist Legal Clinic received just under \$7,000 in income. This income is comprised of membership payments, donations, a speaker fee and bank interest.

Membership income was down from the previous year, although timing of membership renewals may be the reason. Donations were much less than the previous financial year, however it is noted that a significant one-off donation was received in 2022.

As of 30 June 2023, the Bendigo Bank operating account had a balance of \$13,977 and the PayPal account balance was \$319.

There are no mortgages, charges or securities of any description affecting any part of the property of the Association as of 30 June 2023.

I hereby submit the Profit and Loss Statement and Balance Sheet for the year ended 30 June 2023 in accordance with this report.

Marianne Bryant

A Bujar

Treasurer

STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE MANGEMENT COMMITTEE OF

Feminist Legal Clinic Incorporated ABN 51 879 580 577

The Committee have determined that the association is not a reporting entity.

The Committee have determined that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the accounts.

In the opinion of the Committee the financial statements:

- 1. Present fairly the financial position of Feminist Legal Clinic Incorporated as at 30 June 2023 and the results of the association for the year ended on that date.
- 2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that Feminist Legal Clinic Incorporated will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with the resolution of the Committee and is signed for and on behalf of the Committee by:

Treasurer

A Bujans

Dated: 213t November 2023

Feminist Legal Clinic Incorporated

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICY

This financial report is a special purpose financial report prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act N.S.W. 2009. The Committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity.

The financial report has been prepared on an accrual basis and is based on historic costs and does not take into account changing money values or, except where specifically stated, current valuates of non-current assets.

The following significant accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period unless otherwise stated, have been adopted in the preparation of this financial report.

a) Income Tax

The Association is exempt from income tax.

b) Comparatives

Where necessary, comparative information has been reclassified to achieve consistency in disclosure with current year amounts and other disclosures.

FEMINIST LEGAL CLINIC INC.

PROFIT & LOSS STATEMENT

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1 July – 30 June financial years

Income	2023	2022
Donations	4,266	10,788
Membership fees	1,665	2,180
Other Income – Speaker Fee	300	-
Interest & fees collected	62	31
Total Income	\$6,293	\$12,999
Expenditure		
Advertising & Promotion	-	-
Bank charges	175	405
Computer expenses	-	-
Digital Items	-	150
Fees & Permits	-	-
Insurance	230	3,154
Membership Fees paid	125	361
Office equipment & supplies	-	80
Postage, freight & couriers	336	43
Telephone, website & internet	592	233
Training & development	2,200	1,832
Total Expenditure	\$3,658 ————————————————————————————————————	\$6,258
Operating Surplus	\$2,635	\$6,741

FEMINIST LEGAL CLINIC INC.

BALANCE SHEET

For financial years ending 30 June

Assets	2023	2022
Current Assets		
Bendigo Bank	13,977	10,574
PayPal	319	1,087
Total Assets	\$14,296	\$11,661
14 1494		
Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	-	-
Total Liabilities	\$	-
Equity Surplus		
Retained Earnings	11,661	4,920
Current Year Surplus	2,635	6,741
Total Equity	\$14,296	\$11,661





Feminist Legal Clinic Inc. PO Box 273 Summer Hill NSW 2130 0402 467 476 www.feministlegal.org/contact-us office@feministlegal.org