

**Independent Auditor's Report**

**To Members of the Tasmanian Parliament**

**National Trust of Australia (Tasmania)**

**Financial Report for the Year Ended 30 June 2015**

**Report on the Financial Report**

I have audited the accompanying financial report of National Trust of Australia (Tasmania) (the Trust), which comprises the balance sheet as at 30 June 2015 and the statements of comprehensive income, changes in equity and cash flows for the year ended on that date, a summary of significant accounting policies, other explanatory notes and the statement of compliance by the Directors of the Board.

**Basis for Modified Opinion**

The Trust possesses certain heritage collections referred to in Note 1(l) of the financial report, but not all of these assets have been recognised in the financial report. Due to the nature of the assets, it is not possible to quantify the financial effects of the Trust's failure to comply with Australian Accounting Standard AASB 116 *Property, Plant and Equipment*.

**Modified Opinion**

In my opinion, except for the effect of the matter described in the Basis for Modified Opinion paragraph, the Trust's financial report:

- (a) presents fairly, in all material respects, its financial position as at 30 June 2015, and its financial performance, cash flows and changes in equity for the year then ended
- (b) is in accordance with the *National Trust Act 2006* and Australian Accounting Standards.

**Emphasis of Matter**

I draw attention to Note 1 (d) to the financial report, which describes the Trust's economic dependency on the State Government and that it was appropriate to adopt a going concern basis for the preparation of the financial report. This was based upon recognising that its future sustainability is critically dependent on on-going financial support from the State Government, currently secured through a triennial funding agreement. My opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

## *The Responsibility of the Directors for the Financial Report*

The Directors are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and Section 37 of the *National Trust Act 2006*. This responsibility includes establishing and maintaining internal controls relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

## *Auditor's Responsibility*

My responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based upon my audit. My audit was conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These Auditing Standards require that I comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance as to whether the financial report is free of 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 my judgement, including the assessment of risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, I considered internal control relevant to the Directors' preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate to the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Trust'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.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

## **Independence**

In conducting this audit, I have complied with the independence requirements of Australian Auditing Standards and other relevant ethical requirements. The *Audit Act 2008* further promotes independence by:

- providing that only Parliament, and not the executive government, can remove an Auditor-General
- mandating the Auditor-General as auditor of State Entities but precluding the provision of non-audit services, thus ensuring the Auditor-General and the Tasmanian Audit Office are not compromised in their role by the possibility of losing clients or income.

## **Tasmanian Audit Office**



E R De Santi  
**Deputy Auditor-General**  
**Delegate of the Auditor-General**

Hobart  
28 September 2015

...2 of 2