



National Trust of Australia (Victoria) | ACN 004 356 192

Notice of Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the 69th Annual General Meeting of the
National Trust of Australia (Victoria) will be held on
Saturday 22 November 2025 at 11.00am, at Como House and Garden,
Corner Williams Rd and Lechlade Ave, South Yarra VIC 3141,
for the purpose of transacting the following business.

AGENDA

1. WELCOME

2. WELCOME TO COUNTRY

3. APOLOGIES

4. MINUTES

To receive and confirm the Minutes of the 68th Annual General Meeting held on 23 November 2024.

RESOLUTION ONE

"That the membership proposes the minutes of the 68th Annual General Meeting held on 23 November 2024 be adopted and confirmed as an accurate record".

5. BUSINESS ARISING

6. APPOINTMENTS TO NATIONAL TRUST OF AUSTRALIA (VICTORIA) BOARD

To announce the 2025 election results and appointments to the Board.

Members are advised that nominations were sought for one position on the Board of the National Trust of Australia (Victoria), with the number of nominations not exceeding the vacancies. Members are advised that existing Director Sarah Pellegrini has been appointed for a first full term after filling a casual vacancy left by W. Degenhardt in 2023.

7. CHAIR'S REPORT

To receive and consider the Chair's Report for the year ended 30 June 2025.

8. RESPONSE TO CHAIR'S REPORT

9. ANNUAL REPORT

To receive and consider the Annual Report incorporating the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2025.

10. VARIATION OF THE EXISTING CONSTITUTION

To consider and, if thought fit, to pass the following as a special resolution of Members:

a) RESOLUTION TWO: REMOVAL OF ROTATION OF OFFICE

That in accordance with Clause 2.8 of the Constitution, and for all other purposes, the Constitution of the National Trust of Australia (Victoria) is amended by deleting Clause 6.5, as shown in the Annexure to this Notice of Meeting.

(b) RESOLUTION THREE: AMENDMENT TO APPOINTMENT OF HONORARY MEMBERS

That in accordance with Clause 2.8 of the Constitution, and for all other purposes, the Constitution of the National Trust of Australia (Victoria) is amended by changing sub-clause 3.3(c)(iii) regarding the composition of appointments of Honorary as shown in the Annexure to this Notice of Meeting.

11. HONORARY MEMBERS

(a) To consider, and if thought appropriate, pass a resolution that Jock Murphy, being a long-standing supporter of the National Trust of Australia (Victoria) who has rendered distinguished service, be elected as Honorary Member.

RESOLUTION FOUR

"That Jock Murphy, being a long-standing supporter of the National Trust of Australia (Victoria), who has rendered distinguished service, be elected as a 2025 Honorary Member".

(b) That subject to Constitutional Change per Agenda Item 10 (b) and if thought appropriate, pass a resolution that Nance Houen, Elizabeth Howcroft, Deborah Bannister and Betty Spangaro, being long-standing supporters of the National Trust of Australia (Victoria), who have rendered distinguished service, be elected as Honorary Members.

RESOLUTION FIVE:

"That Nance Houen, Elizabeth Howcroft, Deborah Bannister and Betty Spangaro being long-standing supporters of the National Trust of Australia (Victoria) who have rendered distinguished service, be elected as Honorary Members".

12. 70th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

To pass a resolution prescribing the time and place of the 70th Annual General Meeting

RESOLUTION SIX:

"That the 2026, 70th Annual General Meeting of the National Trust of Australia (Victoria) be conducted at a time and place to be determined by the Board".

13. OTHER BUSINESS

To transact any other business which may be dealt with at an ordinary general meeting of which prior written notice has been given.

MEMBERS ARE NOTIFIED AS FOLLOWS

- I. No member shall be entitled to vote at any general meeting unless all subscriptions presently payable to the National Trust have been paid (Clause 5.14(c) of the Constitution).
- II. Members may appoint a proxy, who need not be a member of the National Trust, to attend and vote at a meeting as provided in Section 5.16 of the Constitution. Proxy forms must be submitted through the link provided on the National Trust website, or deposited at the registered office of the National Trust of Australia (Victoria), 6 Parliament Place, East Melbourne 3002, not less than 48 hours before the time of holding the meeting (by 11:00am Friday 14 November 2025). This is the only such form that will be recognised at the Annual General Meeting.

Dr Elizabeth Lanyon, Company Secretary
20 October 2025

MINUTES

Minutes of the 68th Annual General Meeting of the National Trust of Australia (Victoria) held at Pentridge Prison Tours, 1 Champ Street, Coburg VIC, Saturday 23 November 2024 at 11:02am.

NOTICE OF MEETING

1. WELCOME

The Chair, Andrew Logie-Smith, welcomed Trust Members, Directors and Staff to the 68th Annual General Meeting of the National Trust of Australia (Victoria). The Chair also welcomed National Trust Company Secretary, Dr Elizabeth Lanyon.

The Chair confirmed a quorum was present and advised that he held 14 proxy votes which would be directed as indicated by Members, 12 to the Chair and two open/blank.

The Chair received no declarations in the meeting from present members.

The Chair advised that the list of attendee's names will be noted in the minutes.

The following members attended the 2024 AGM: Jennifer Bantow, Amanda Bede, Gerard Bilston, Rhonda Bilston, Margaret Birtley, John Boylett, John Brownbill, Steven Georgiou, Geoffrey Goode, Jacqueline Healy, Mark Hosking, Barry Janes, Jason Kambovski, Paul Lambrick, Michael Lanyon, Elizabeth Lanyon, Claudia Lassetter, Sherredan Maher, Darren McClelland, Ken McFarlane, Peter McMahon, Maddison Miller, Susan Moir, David Morris, Angela Munro, Jock Murphy, Ruth Oakley, Sarah Pellegrini, Andrew Perkins, Karen Perry, Pamela Perry, David Perry, Sandra Plester, Brook Powell, Rosemary Richards, Paul Roser, Victor Summut, Kaye Summut, Helen Sestero, Vicki Shuttleworth, Russell Smith, Paul Smith, Wesley Spencer, Kristin Stegley, Michael Veitch, David Vivian, Anthony Waldegrave-Knight, John Waters-Grouios, Jodi Weinberg, Samantha Westbrooke, Elizabeth White, Geoffrey White, Kim Wilson, Annette Xiberas.

The Chair welcomed Brook Powell, Executive Manager, Brand, Marketing and Tourism, to present the Acknowledgement of Country.

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Brook Powell, Executive Manager, Brand, Marketing and Tourism, acknowledged the Wurundjeri Woiwurrung people as the Traditional Owners of the land on which Pentridge Prison is located and paid respects to their Elders past and present, and recognised their continuing connection to lands, waters and communities.

3. APOLOGIES

The Chair noted the apology of former Chair and National Trust Patron, Simon Molesworth AO KC. The Chair noted the apology of NTAV Deputy Chair, Lachlan Molesworth and apologies received from the NTAV Auditors, Kristie Dundon and Robyn Eade from RSM.

The Chair advised the membership that the Company Secretary had received a further 18 apologies from Members whose names will be recorded in the meeting minutes: Helen Curkpatrick, Paula May Tomsett, Michael Shaw, Madeleine Viner, Wayne Viner, Sandra Rees, Alison Pearson, Jason Ronald, Dianne Gow, Janise Sibly, Vaughn Clarke, Suzanne Clarke, Elisabeth Bentley-Stevens, Elaine Cleary, Judith (Judy) Walsh, Bernie Capicchiano, Ursula de Jong and Eddy de Jong.

4. MINUTES

The Chair invited amendments to the minutes of the 2023 AGM, with no amendments received.

Motion: That the membership propose the Minutes of the 67th Annual General Meeting held on 25 November 2023 be adopted and confirmed as an accurate record. (Noting the proxy votes held by the Chair: For = 12. Against = 0. Abstain = 0. Open = 2).
Moved by Barry Janes; Seconded: Jason Kambovski. Carried as noted by the Chair.

5. BUSINESS ARISING

The Chair advised members that there was no business arising from the 67th Annual General Meeting.

The Chair invited members to raise any further business with none raised.

6. APPOINTMENTS TO NATIONAL TRUST OF AUSTRALIA (VICTORIA) BOARD

The Chair informed the meeting that nominations were sought for two positions on the Board of the National Trust of Australia (Victoria), with the number of nominations not exceeding the vacancies.

On behalf of the National Trust of Australia (Victoria) and its Board, the Chair congratulated returning director Ruth Oakley, for her second term, thanking her for providing the Trust with her expertise as an arts and cultural professional focusing on heritage and audience development, acting as the Chair of the Collection and Cultural Programming Committee and Heritage Advocacy Committee.

On behalf of the National Trust of Australia (Victoria) and its Board, the Chair congratulated new director Wesley Spencer, on the appointment for his first term, advising that he has over 18 years practical experience in Victoria's architectural landscape, including having worked on the Polly Woodside Museum while at Trethowan Architecture. Wesley is enthusiastic and committed to contributing to the NTAV's vision of impact, advocacy, and financial sustainability, and is willing to offer his experience and network to achieve them.

The Chair informed the membership that Director Jock Murphy would be retiring at the 2024 AGM.

On behalf of the National Trust of Australia (Victoria) and its Board, the Chair formally acknowledged and thanked Director Jock Murphy for his time, dedication and exemplary service to the National Trust throughout his almost 20 years on the Board, first holding the position from 1977 to 1987 and then again from 2015 to 2024. Jock has been an invaluable asset to the organisation and Board, contributing his extensive skills and expertise in collections and archive management, exhibitions and governance, acting as the Chair of the Trust's Governance and Risk Committee and as a long-term member of the Collections and Cultural Programming Committee. Jock was also a member of the Australian Council of National Trusts from 2015-2021. He leaves an enduring legacy that the Trust is grateful for.

The Chair congratulated the successful candidates and thanked all Directors for their dedication to the National Trust of Australia (Victoria) Board, especially throughout another challenging year. Directors of the National Trust Board regard it an honour to serve the National Trust and represent its Membership.

7. CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair's report highlighted the work undertaken over the last 12 months implementing the 2023 – 2028 National Trust of Australia (Victoria) Strategic Plan, acting as stewards of heritage and as innovators in how we connect people with Victoria's rich history. From our landmark properties to groundbreaking partnerships, the Trust team has worked tirelessly to uphold our mission: to champion our heritage, deepen connections to place, and inspire the next generation to treasure our past for the future.

The Chair spoke to the significant strides the Trust has made in expanding our reach and in the stewardship of our properties, reflecting on the public's strong desire to connect meaningfully with Victoria's heritage through the Trust's portfolio. The Chair noted the need to be realistic and transparent about the financial challenges the Trust faces in today's economic climate, advising that while the Trust increased our visitor numbers and expanded our impact, the Trust is also contending with sharply rising costs associated with preserving and operating our sites. Like many heritage organisations, balancing our mission with these economic pressures is challenging, advising that the Trust is committed to finding creative solutions to thrive in the years ahead.

The Chair spoke to a number of highlights throughout the year, including the 50th anniversary of our custodianship of Rippon Lea, 100 years of the Old Melbourne Gaol and the completion of the Endeavour Fern Gully - Nearkey Biik Education Centre, allowing the Trust to extend our educational programs to include a focus on the biodiversity and ecosystems of the Mornington Peninsula, underscoring our commitment to environmental sustainability.

The Chair acknowledged that the work of the Trust would not be possible without the input and hard work of our staff, volunteers, branches, members and suppliers. The Chair noted the contribution of volunteers that help the National Trust both survive and achieve so much, including those that work at a grass-roots level at all our properties, metropolitan and regional.

On behalf of the organisation, the Chair thanked and recognised the Trust's previous leadership, including former CEO Simon Ambrose and Interim CEO Phillip Martins for their guidance and support during the financial year 23/24.

The Chair welcomed and introduced the new Chief Executive Officer for the National Trust of Australia (Victoria), Collette Brennan, speaking to her more than 25 years of arts leadership and management experience, with a track record of delivering complex arts and cultural programs in Australia and internationally. As the CEO and Artistic Director of the Abbotsford Convent for the last eight years, Collette led heritage and facility management, government and community engagement, and arts and cultural programming across 11 buildings, 16 acres and 121 tenancies. With the support of the Board and team, Collette is quickly getting across a range of complex issues and opportunities at the Trust and is introducing some necessary change to enable sustainability as we build our ambitious future.

In conclusion, the Chair thanked Board members for their hard work and tireless commitment to leading the Trust through a difficult yet rewarding year. The Chair thanked the Executive Management team, staff, branches and volunteers for their dedication and support throughout the year.

8. WELCOME CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Collette Brennan acknowledged the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation, their elders past and present and all Aboriginal and Torres Strait islander people joining the meeting in person.

Collette Brennan thanked the Chair, speaking to the privilege it was to stand before Directors, members and staff as the Chief Executive Office of the National Trust as we reflect on the achievements of the past year and look to the future.

The CEO noted that as she commenced her second month in the position, that she has been inspired by the passion and dedication of the Trust team, staff and volunteers alike, whose expertise ensures our heritage places are not just preserved but are enlivened in ways that make meaning, engagement, and impact for the community, from local to global visitors.

The CEO advised that the role unifies the work and passions that have defined her career: connecting people to each other through arts, cultural and heritage experiences, to support our community's sustainability, well-being and identity.

Looking ahead, the CEO noted her vision, that the National Trust is a place of visionary and strategic intentional action and maximum impact. A place of diversity, inclusion, welcome and innovation. At times entertaining, unexpected, and challenging – and always generating valuable impact.

The CEO spoke to four key areas of focus of the National Trust: 1. Celebrating NTAVs Placemaking Function to Support Community Development, 2. Places for all Victorians, 3. Leading change and 4. Collaboration is central, noting that the Trust's strength comes from its incredible network of collaborators, including Directors, Committee members, our members, volunteers, staff, and partners.

The CEO thanked attendees for their unwavering support of the National Trust of Australia Victoria, as the organisation looks to the future.

9. ANNUAL REPORT

The Executive Manager - Brand, Marketing and Tourism spoke to the 2023 – 2024 Annual Report, providing an overview which highlighted the achievements of the Trust in accordance with the new Strategic Plan. This included the Trust's ongoing response to the impacted heritage and tourism sector, a focus on advocacy, commercial activity, robust financial activity, the diversity of our business, the strengthening of partnerships with stakeholders, philanthropic organisations, Trusts and Government, and an increasing emphasis on cultural engagement through education, tourism offerings, Trust collections, the digital sphere, and events.

The Executive Manager - Brand, Marketing and Tourism acknowledged the work in conservation and advocacy, an area highlighted as a key priority within the Strategic Plan 2023 – 2028, noting the success of the Traditional Trades Expo, partnering with Heritage Council Victoria to deliver a panel discussion for Design Week at Como titled the Fine Art of Traditional Trades.

The Executive Manager - Brand, Marketing and Tourism acknowledged the tireless work of the Assets Department and the Trust's ongoing focus on its regional properties, with Mooramong seeing three Tiny Houses launched in phase one of the Accommodation Project as work also continuous on the three Cottages in preparation for their opening in late 2024. Members also noted the launch of a cross-cultural program in partnership with the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation at Polly Woodside.

The Executive Manager - Brand, Marketing and Tourism reported on the work undertaken in Collections, Cultural projects and Education, including the Mooramong Collection Relocation Project and the Como House Significance Assessment that saw the Como House collection acknowledged as being the first house museum in Australia with an in-situ collection.

The Executive Manager - Brand, Marketing and Tourism spoke the Trust's strengthening tourism and commercial activity, noting the increase in wedding and function bookings, as well as Old Melbourne Gaol, Pentridge Prison Tours, and Rippon Lea Estate achieving Australian Quality Tourism Framework Accreditation, reinforcing NTAV's commitment to sustainable tourism.

The Executive Manager - Brand, Marketing and Tourism spoke to the Trust's financial results, acknowledging the Board and organisation's careful management of finances throughout the financial year, advising the membership that for the 2023/24 financial year the total comprehensive income for the consolidated entity was \$10.9 million (2022/23: \$802,000). This result was mostly attributable to the revaluation of nine of the National Trust of Australia (Victoria's) properties. The profit of \$962,000 (2022/23: \$652,000) was noted as the other contributing factor to total comprehensive income.

The Executive Manager - Brand, Marketing and Tourism then opened the report to questions from the membership, the following were noted.

Andrew Perkins, Statement: Noted the \$6.5m spent on staffing and the \$1.5 on activities, querying this allocation spent on staffing and noting that the Trust needs to increase its revenue activity.

Margaret Birtley, Response: Noted that many professionally staffed museums and cultural collecting organisations spend around 80% of their annual budget on employment costs, because it is only personnel who can manage inanimate assets such as places, built heritage and movable cultural heritage, and because paid personnel can help coordinate volunteers and mobilise extraordinary effort from those unpaid personnel.

Jennifer Bantow OAM, Response: Noted that the National Trust membership provided a wealth of underused volunteers with specialised skills and experience that the Trust could utilise for strategic and other priorities. J Bantow also noted the previously held Branch Forums, advising that they provided opportunities for these members to work with the Trust and share their skills, requesting that these be reintroduced.

The Chair, CEO and Membership noted this feedback.

In conclusion, the Executive Manager - Brand, Marketing and Tourism thanked National Trust staff, directors, branches, volunteers, and the membership for their great work, passion and commitment to the National Trust of Australia (Victoria).

10. HONORARY MEMBERS

The Chair advised the meeting that Annette Xiberras and Kristin Stegley AM had been nominated by the Board for election by the Membership as the 2024 Honorary Members.

The Chair welcomed NTAV Director Maddison Miller, to speak to the nomination of Annette Xiberras.

M Miller introduced herself as a Darug woman, noting that Annette Xiberras is an esteemed Wurundjeri Elder and supporter of the National Trust. M Miller spoke to Annette's long-standing service to the National Trust and its Committees, including her role as a foundational and long-standing member of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee, providing frank and fearless advice across the operations of the Trust and informing the positive and strategic working relationships between the National Trust and Traditional Owner Organisations. M Miller noted that Annette Xiberras is a valued member of the broader heritage community and thanked the Board for recognizing her contributions.

The Chair then welcomed any members present to speak to the nomination Annette Xiberras. With none noted, the Chair moved the following motion.

Motion: That Annette Xiberras, being a long-standing supporter of the National Trust of Australia (Victoria), who has rendered distinguished service, be elected as a 2024 Honorary Member. (Noting the proxy votes held by the Chair: For = 12. Against = 0. Abstain = 0. Open = 2).

Moved by Maddison Miller, seconded by Dr. Jacqueline Healy. All in Favor. Carried as noted by the Chair.

Annette Xiberras advised that she was a proud Wurundjeri Elder, welcoming the membership to her Country, the land on which the meeting was held at Pentridge Prison Tours. Annette noted how honored she was to be nominated as a 2024 Honorary Member. She spoke to her relationship with the Trust, advising that she loved working with the organisation as it works to associate people with place and protect and connect people to their culture and heritage like her people do. Annette thanked the membership and the Board for the successful nomination.

The Chair welcomed NTAV Director Jock Murphy to speak to the nomination of Kristin Stegley AM.

Jock Murphy spoke to Kristin Stegley's dedication to the Trust for over 40 years, starting as a volunteer after service as a City of Bayside Councilor, joining the Board in 2002 and then becoming Chair of the organisation from 2015 – 2022. J Murphy noted her passionate leadership of the organisation, speaking to her achievements, including the creation of the National Trust of Victoria Foundation, of which she is the inaugural Chair, which plays a key role in strengthening the organisation's financial stability now and into the future. J Murphy noted that she leaves a legacy the Trust is forever grateful for.

The Chair then welcomed any members present to speak to the nomination of Kristin Stegley AM.

National Trust Director Barry Janes noted his support of the nomination of Kristin Stegley AM as a 2024 Honorary Member, speaking to her exemplary service to the National Trust, advocating for the importance of Victoria's heritage and the recognition of the National Trust, while working to support its financial longevity with the creation of the Foundation.

Motion: That Kristin Stegley AM, being a long-standing supporter of the National Trust of Australia (Victoria), who has rendered distinguished service, be elected as a 2024 Honorary Member. (Noting the proxy votes held by the Chair: For = 12. Against = 0. Abstain = 0. Open = 2).

Moved by Jock Murphy, seconded by Barry Janes. All in Favor. Carried as noted by the Chair.

Kristin Stegley AM thanked Directors Jock Murphy and Barry Janes, the National Trust of Australia (Victoria) Board and the Membership for the nomination. K Stegley AM noted the privilege it was to work with and serve the National Trust throughout her time on the Board and as the Chair of the organisation, promoting the mission and vision of the National Trust. She noted the importance of the work of NTAV Staff and Volunteers and thanked everyone present for contributing to the important work of National Trust. Kristin Stegley AM thanked the membership and the Board for her successful nomination as a 2024 NTAV Honorary Member.

11. 69TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Motion: That the 2025 69th Annual General Meeting of the National Trust of Australia (Victoria) be conducted at a time and place to be determined by the Board.

(Noting the proxy votes held by the Chair: For = 12. Against = 0. Abstain = 0. Open = 2). **Moved by: Dr Elizabeth Lanyon, seconded by Barry Janes. All in favor. Carried as noted by the Chair.**

12. OTHER BUSINESS

The Chair advised members that questions had been requested by the Company Secretary prior to the meeting. He invited questions and feedback from members; the following answers were noted.

Claudia Lassetter, Statement: I am a member who will attend the AGM on Saturday. No questions but rather, I would like to welcome the new CEO; acknowledge the crucial work of the National Trust and encourage her to push further with regards to protecting significantly important architecture.

Jennfier Bantow OAM, Question: When NTAV was considering disposing of the Portarlington Mill were there any applicable policies, guidelines or processes that applied to the sale of gifted properties?

Answer: The National Trust adhered to the NTAV Constitution, and the authority granted to the Board under its Delegations of Authority. This process was carried out in accordance with the guidance of the 2023 – 2028 NTAV Strategic Plan and the Strategic Policy for National Trust Properties, which was approved by the Board in 2018.

Jennfier Bantow OAM, Question: As Portarlington Mill was bequeathed to the Trust c1970 from the former Shire of Bellarine, was there an Agreement with the Shire which included a Deed of Gift?

Answer: No. The National Trust owns the property freehold.

Jennfier Bantow OAM, Question: What were the considerations that persuaded the Board to agree to putting the property on the market?

Answer: The decision to sell Portarlington Mill reflects NTAV's commitment to financial sustainability and future preservation efforts. All protections have been secured.

Jennfier Bantow OAM, Question: Why was there no consultation with local National Trust in the Geelong region, where there are more than 500 members who could provide ideas and solutions?

Answer: The decision to sell Portarlington Mill reflects the needs of the organisation more broadly. We carefully considered what it meant for the future health and vitality of the National Trust - across the state and all our 14.5K Members.

Jennfier Bantow OAM, Question: Where is the Portarlington Mill collection now stored?

Answer: Over the past few months, the Trust methodically inventoried the collection and reviewed all available paper records and information. We then carefully assessed all objects and identified best outcomes for use, display, education and interpretation across the wider Trust collections and properties. We are in the process of dispersing these objects accordingly.

The National Trust took all reasonable steps to contact past owners. Some objects were transferred to appropriate third parties including Portarlington and St Leonards RSL, Portarlington Primary School, Queenscliffe Maritime Museum, Hand Tool Preservation Association Australia and the Bellarine Vintage Machinery Group.

If any National Trust members donated objects to Portarlington Mill in the past and have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to our Collections Team.

Jennfier Bantow OAM, Question: Is the Board prepared to consider retaining the Mill in the NTAV property portfolio and exploring an alternative future?

Answer: The Board is committed to this decision, driven by the need to raise funds for ongoing financial sustainability, while NTAV has placed all relevant protections on the building and site.

Following this, Jennfier Bantow OAM noted that the answers to her questions did not meet her concerns, advising that local members and Branch members received poor communication on the matter, with the sale going against the mission of the Trust to protect and conserve these important places.

The Chair, CEO and Membership noted this feedback.

The Chair invited the CEO to speak to the operational questions raised.

Amanda Bede, Question: I have been involved in volunteering for the Big Cat project for Mulberry Hill. Twice the project has been cancelled with literally no notice. The project had an excellent part-time leader and excellent induction training and a very good guide for volunteers to follow. It attracted young museum or fine arts trained volunteers as well as me - older and with library experience. What is happening to ensure that projects that are invested in and started, don't 'suddenly' fall short of funds?

Answer: The Big Community Cataloguing Project has seen community members socially connected, engaged with history and art, and gaining tangible museum skills while documenting and preserving Victoria Heritage via the NTAV Art and Heritage Collections.

The pilot BIG CCAT program funded by the NTAV has been successful. It was trialed and revised with a range of community volunteers, together with students seeking practical skills experience. BIG CCAT includes training in object handling, cataloguing, Vernon CMS, scanning and digitisation, data enrichment, research and content development. We engaged a museum collections graduate on a casual basis to assist with coordination and training.

The Trust is developing training modules and seeking funding to fully implement BIG CCAT and mass cataloguing of our collections, while connecting volunteers within an inclusive, social space.

The National Trust is committed to ensuring that all projects undertaken are adequately resourced and successfully completed, with comprehensive assessments of funding requirements and risks to ensure every project is viable, sustainable, and delivers meaningful outcomes for all stakeholders.

Following this, Amanda Bede noted her dissatisfaction at the management and sudden cancellation of the program and the impact the redundancy of the Executive Manager, Collection and Cultural Projects, has had on the organization, noting this as a core role and department for the Trust.

The Chair advised that management of that department was now the remit of the CEO, speaking to her more than 25 years of arts leadership and management experience, noting that he was confident with the management and vision of the CEO and thanked her for her management of the Trust during a difficult time.

The membership is advised that the meeting was formally closed before the question submitted by Margaret Birtley could be addressed. This question and answer were circulated to attendees following the AGM and is being formally minuted.

Margaret Birtley, Question: How does the CEO plan to ensure the development, preservation and interpretation of the Trust's Collection of movable cultural heritage items?

How does the CEO intend to resource these important functions (collection development, preservation and interpretation) as part of the Trust's operations?

How will she ensure that the high standards achieved by the Trust's accredited museums (including Old Melbourne Gaol, Polly Woodside, the Rippon Lea Estate, Como House and Garden) are maintained, so that these museums gain reaccreditation at the appropriate time?

Answer: The NTAVs collection is remarkable and an asset. Our collections support our research, story-telling, and learning. To resource the collection, we utilise our own investment alongside support from donors as well as grants from the philanthropic sector and government. Our collections managers will continue to work hard to achieve best practice in museum standards and in our care and management of NTAV's MAP accredited properties. MAP accreditation has always been an important part of our work and will continue to be so.

With no further questions or matters raised by members, the Chair thanked the membership for their ongoing support of the Trust throughout the challenging year that 2024 has been for all. The Chair thanked the Board, the CEO, Staff, Branches, Volunteers and Members for their dedication to the core values and business of the Trust, as we look forward to another successful year in 2025.

The meeting was closed at 12:51 pm and members were thanked for their attendance.

APPENDIX TO AGENDA

RESOLUTION TWO

Deletion of Constitution. Clause 6.5

Explanation

NTAV Constitution Clause 6.5(a) requires that, at each AGM, one-third of directors retire from office. Clause 6.5(b) applies 6.5(a) to those who have been in office longest since their last appointment.

Clause 6.5 (c) provides that the rotation does not apply to directors appointed by the board for a three year term. Currently those directors subject to rotation are 6, and one third is 2.

The retention of the rotation provisions is now inappropriate since all members, including those elected, have three year terms (the three year term change did not operate retrospectively and there were some board directors who did not have a fixed term)

RESOLUTION THREE

Change to Clause 3.3(c) of the NTAV Constitution - Honorary Member numbers.

Explanation

To sub-clause 3.3(c)(iii) shall be added the words before the word "and":

"or, where a group of individuals have jointly provided distinguished services to the National Trust and it would be inappropriate to elect only one of them as an Honorary Member, no more than one Honorary Member together with a group of up to four additional Honorary Members, shall be elected in any one financial year;"

The Board considers that provision should be made in the Constitution to allow the flexibility to award Honorary Membership to a group.