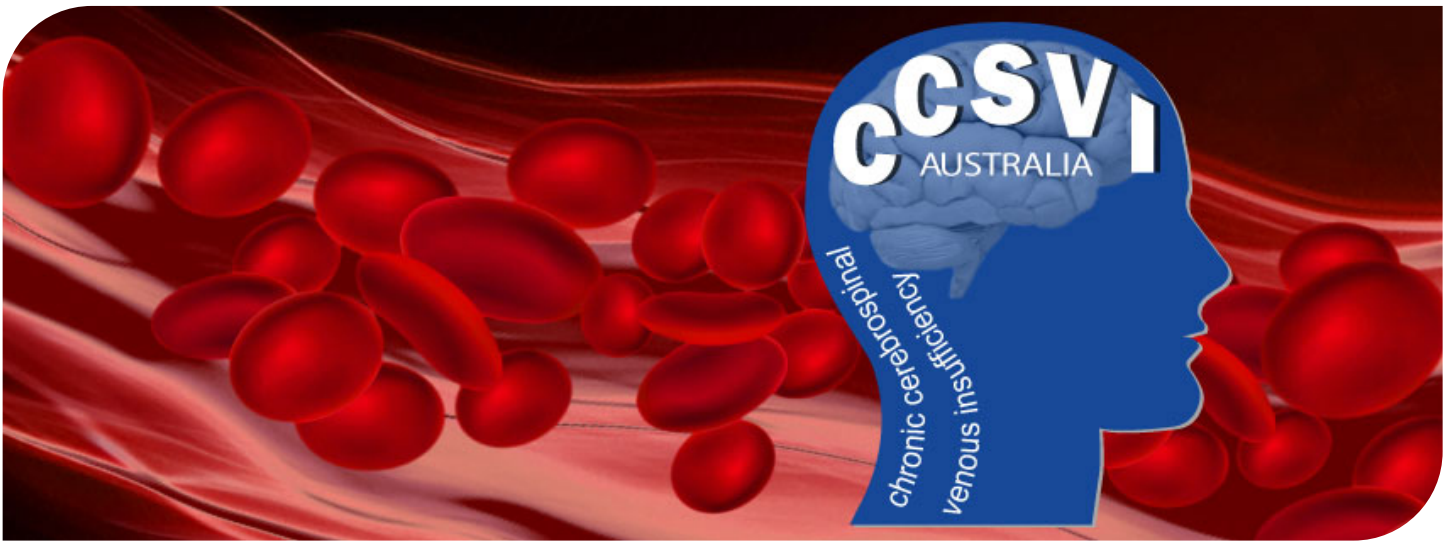




# CCSVI Australia Inc

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2013-2014 Annual Report



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## Message from the Chairperson



It has been extremely pleasing to see the advances made by the organisation over the past 12 months. Our reputation continues to be recognised and enhanced through the work of all of the Board Directors and the broader support network. It was particularly pleasing to have CCSVI Australia recognised internationally by the National CCSVI Society of Canada (NCS) and to receive an invitation for our CEO, Kerri Cassidy, to speak at their national conference in Saskatoon, Canada in October.

The preliminary results from the trial at the Alfred Hospital, Melbourne, are encouraging with 80% of the participants having abnormalities of the jugular or azygos veins i.e. confirmed CCSVI. Our biggest challenge is raising sufficient funds to support a larger group of participants in the trial and it is hoped that the initial results will generate interest from the philanthropic sector to support the next phase.

We continue to face challenges with building a relationship with MS Australia (MSA) and MS Research Australia (MSRA) as both organisations seem to have little, if any, interest in supporting our research and fundraising efforts. CCSVI Australia retains a presence at the Nerve Centre, Blackburn despite the lack of interest or support from the MSL and MSA Executive. We are thankful for the support we receive from some of the MSL staff at Blackburn.

CCSVI Australia will continue to seek philanthropic support to further develop the trial at the Alfred as this is the only trial of its kind in the world. While we remain optimistic that the trial will confirm the existence of CCSVI in people with MS, it is just as important to identify if the condition is caused by MS or if it is a contributing factor to the disabling symptoms that are so commonly associated with the disease.

I would like to take the opportunity to express my deep appreciation and thanks to the CCSVI Australia Board Directors and to our broader support network all of whom have contributed significantly to our cause over the past 12 months. Special thanks to Kerri, Jennifer and Helen for their tireless efforts in identifying and pursuing funding opportunities to support CCSVI Australia.

Sincerely,

*Bill Younger*

Chairperson, CCSVI Australia



## Message from the Chief Executive Officer

“We are people with Multiple Sclerosis trying to make a difference.” When I read this statement written by our Fundraising Co-ordinator Jennifer, I was reminded of just why we do what we do. We are all volunteers, most of us live with an MS diagnosis and have CCSVI. It is out of our own experience that we are motivated to what we do and the hope that we can make a difference for others like us. It has been a tough road, research funding is highly competitive and tackling an issue that challenges current medical paradigms takes all our courage.

At constant front of mind for our board is working towards our core objectives; to provide the latest, accurate research on CCSVI and related issues, to support Neurovascular research such as The Alfred trial, to see treatments available on Medicare and to ensure the interests of people who are most affected has continued representation. You can read a more comprehensive description of our Statement of Purposes on page 8.

For me personally, allowing people a voice, to communicate and share their very real experience is a strong value and I am pleased that our Facebook page continues to be a platform for this nearly five years on with over 2700 participants.

Central to all we do is helping people, to open up new thinking in how we view neurological disease and empowering people to make decisions to best manage their health. We are not just a brain and spinal cord, we have many systems that interact. Living well with an MS and/or CCSVI diagnosis can be supported with good eating, keeping our bodies moving, sleeping well and managing stress.

We continue to receive regular queries from the MS community about CCSVI and people are still seeking testing and treatment. Our team have also been focused on writing grant applications, providing updates to our online community via our website and Facebook and continuing to connect with our parliamentary leaders.

Sincere thanks to the CCSVI Australia board and the wider community who continue to value the need for research of CCSVI.

With gratefulness,

*Kerri Cassidy*

Chief Executive Officer, CCSVI Australia

# Highlights from the year that's been...

We kicked off the 2013-14 with a [ladies breakfast](#) at the Church at 1330. Kerri was pleased to be invited to share about Multiple Sclerosis and CCSVI and we were touched that the event raised \$2,000 for CCSVI research.

September saw the commencement of [Come to My House](#). This initiative came out of conversations between Jennifer Robinson and Leonie Jordan about how difficult it can be to access the homes of family and friends when you require a wheelchair.



They developed the idea that we could host a range of different fundraising events from our homes; from afternoon teas to garage sales. Throughout the year our community held various events across the country, raising important financial support for CCSVI research as well as increasing awareness. Thank you!



Also that month Helen and Kerri met with [MPs Amanda Rishworth](#) and [Kelly O'Dwyer](#) at the Parliamentary Friends of Women in Science, Maths and Engineering function at The Alfred hospital in Melbourne. There was opportunity to discuss CCSVI and let them know about the research underway at the Alfred.

“...our community held various events across the country, raising financial support for research and increasing CCSVI awareness.”

*Come to My House*

In November CCSVI Australia hosted a screening of Jason DaSilva's film "[When I Walk](#)." It was held at the Belgrave Cameo Cinema and was well attended. The movie had everything: humour, tears, romance and inspiration. Thank you to film-maker Jason DaSilva for making this wonderful documentary. This was a great opportunity to raise awareness about CCSVI Australia and meet new people.

The [Hyland Fling](#) was hosted by friends and family of Glenn Hyland in December. They raised several thousand dollars for the Alfred's CCSVI in Multiple Sclerosis study and more importantly shared information on CCSVI and why this research is so important. Sincere thanks.



Jim Lewis and Kerri Cassidy presented on CCSVI and Multiple Sclerosis at the Waverley North Liberal Party Pizza night. The members were deeply encouraging which showed in their understanding of the complex issues we face firing numerous clarifying questions and we were happy to address them.

## ...Highlights

The Alfred study is approaching two years since commencement. To date they have screened 34 people with MS and 27 people have confirmed abnormalities of the jugular and/or azygos veins. It is validating to hear that 80% of people with Multiple Sclerosis tested so far are found to have CCSVI.

An important fact that sets this apart from other CCSVI trials is that they are using a multi-modal approach to diagnose CCSVI, employing not only Doppler Ultrasound, but also Magnetic Resonance Imaging and Venogram.

27 participants have entered the treatment phase where half have been randomly allocated to receive balloon angioplasty and half to receive placebo (14/13).



Jugular vein receiving balloon angioplasty

“it is validating to hear that 80% of people with MS were found to have CCSVI.”

*Alfred Trial Update*

The Alfred report that they are introducing new bio markers and have developed better outcome assessments over the last two years. We are pleased that enrollment will continue into 2014-2015 and look forward to the future.



Dr Bill Code, Medical Director of the National CCSVI Society (NCS) of Canada and fellow person with MS, met the CCSVI Australia board in June. We received update on the progress of CCSVI in Canada as well as enjoyed a lovely meal with Bill and his wife Denise.

Dr Code also met with Professor Ken Thomson and Dr Helen Kavnoudias of the Alfred Hospital to learn about the progress of the CCSVI in Multiple Sclerosis trial. We are thrilled that as a result of these meetings both Dr Helen Kavnoudias and Kerri Cassidy were invited to speak at the NCS conference in Saskatoon in October 2014, “Leading the Way.”

Finally, Kerri had the pleasure to present to the Melbourne Ionian Club in June. Jennifer and her friend Anne Geddes had put CCSVI Australia forward as this year’s charity of choice and we were delighted to receive a cheque for \$2,000 from their fund raising efforts.



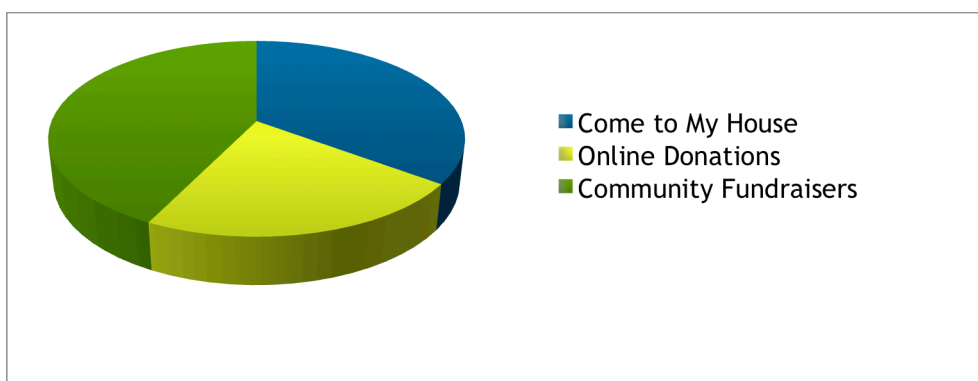
# Fund Raising Report



Our fundraising for 2013-2014 had an encouraging start with an initiative called 'Come to My House.' We are humbled and grateful to those who hosted and generously contributed to raising \$7,174 for CCSVI research.

Additionally there were three significant community fundraisers including the Hyland Fling, Ladies Breakfast at the Church at 1330 and Ionian Club (82) of Melbourne Luncheon. These events contributed \$8,720 to our research fund.

Online donations were received from both Australian and international supporters totaling \$4,518 for the year to June 2014.



In total we have raised over \$20,000 for research in the year ending June 2014.

We have also continued to actively pursue community grants. This has been a steep learning curve! Our applications are now being presented by CCSVI Australia with authorisation from the research team at the Alfred Hospital and we are hopeful of achieving some successful outcomes in the next year.

Our grateful thanks to every person who has worked towards this fantastic result and look forward to seeing these funds contribute to furthering the understanding of the vascular association in MS and other neurological conditions.

*Jennifer Robinson*  
Fund Raising Coordinator



# CCSVI Australia Statement of Purpose

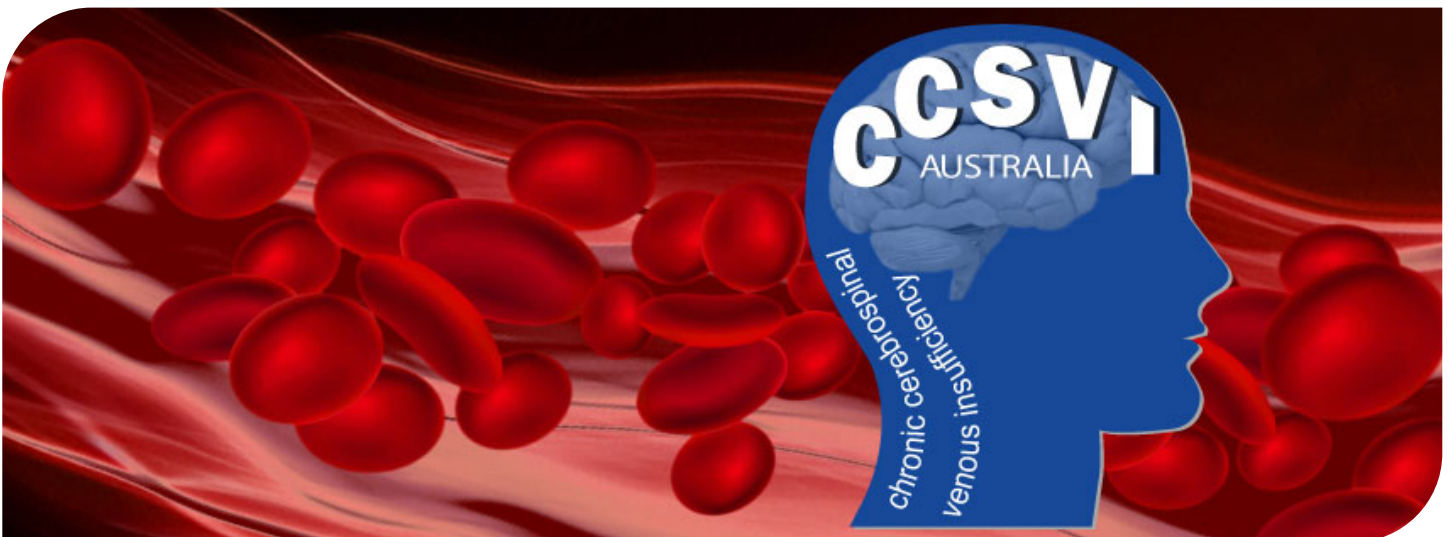
To remain abreast of international advances in Chronic Cerebrospinal Venous Insufficiency (CCSVI).

To supply accurate information to all interested parties including, but not limited to;

- Those seeking testing for treating CCSVI,
- Medical researchers and practitioners,
- Government at all levels, and
- Related community-support organisations

To lobby for treatment of CCSVI to be readily available to all Australians on Medicare.

To ensure the interest of people with CCSVI have continued representation and that the understanding and treatment of CCSVI continues to advance.





# Board of Directors



## **Bill Younger, Chairman**

Bill has enjoyed a wide-ranging career encompassing engineering, business development and executive management roles across the information technology, telecommunications and not-for-profit sectors. Bill has also worked in business and consumer product development, service delivery, marketing and cultural change in major national and international organisations. Bill currently works as a Director of St Vincent's Foundation, following five years as CEO at Multiple Sclerosis Australia. He has a strong interest in the health and community sectors, and champions the causes for people with Multiple Sclerosis.

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## **Kerri Cassidy, CEO and Treasurer**

Kerri is a gifted public speaker communicating to patient groups, medical professionals and parliamentarians. She holds as sacred the responsibility of speaking on behalf of people who are struggling to be heard and respected – in particular people with Multiple Sclerosis and those with CCSVI. In her early career, Kerri operated an Accounting practice in which she trained and employed new mums to be work-from-home bookkeepers. Kerri is currently expanding her knowledge by studying a Bachelor of Social Science with particular interest in health and ethics. She also has two teenagers and is married to Glenn.

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## **Helen Webb, Secretary**

Helen has worked as a scientist and then an IT professional across a range of industries. Her career spans the academic, chemical, energy, healthcare and financial services industries. She has a particular interest in regulatory issues. Helen has a strong sense of justice and devotes her spare time to patient advocacy enjoying seeing the impact her work has on the lives of people and the wider community. She is a founding member of CCSVI Australia.

# Board of Directors

## Jennifer Robinson, Fund Raising Coordinator



Diagnosed with Primary Progressive Multiple Sclerosis (PPMS) in 2000, Jennifer has taken responsibility for the future of her health by keeping informed and connected with others on similar journeys. She stands firm when told that treatment for CCSVI cannot help people with Progressive forms of MS citing her long-lasting benefit (now over four years) to her fatigue levels and heat tolerance. Jennifer's former career was as a Cartographer and in recent times felt that there was little she could do due to her MS, however, has risen up with renewed rigor filling the role of Fund Raising Coordinator for CCSVI Australia with passion and resolve.

## Glenn Cassidy, Board Member



Glenn is a senior business and IT professional with experience in complex corporate organisations such as Coles Myer Ltd (now part of Wesfarmers) as well as large NGOs in a global capacity. This breadth, coupled with his mix of Accounting, IT, operational and senior leadership skills, provides him with unique insight of how different functions within an organisation can work together to help achieve their mission. Glenn was previously Chief Information Officer of World Vision Australia and in recent years has moved to World Vision International as Director of Global Service Delivery. He has a strong understanding of the role of health and disability and its impact on individuals, their family and community.

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## Jim Lewis, Board Member



Jim brings experience to our board as a former President of a local branch of the Liberal Party (Waverley North) and a Director of the Victorian Billiard and Snooker Association. He has had a successful career in financial services and currently operates his own business as a Financial Adviser.

# Finance Report

The audited reports for CCSVI Australia Inc can be viewed on page 12. To summarise:

Net Receipts for financial year ending 30 June 2014:

Total Receipts	\$21,583
Total Payments	<u>\$ 1,746</u>
<b>Net Receipts</b>	<b>\$19,837</b>

When CCSVI Australia was first incorporated in November 2012, it was agreed that no less than 95% of donations received would be contributed to neurovascular research. We are pleased to highlight that this year we have transferred 97.7% of all donations received to our research trust account.

Operating costs are kept to such a minimum thanks to the contribution of talent, skills and personal resources of our board and community. This includes, but is not limited to, administration, information services, web design and maintenance, auditing, printing, collating research, grant writing and travel expenses.

I am thrilled to be handing over the financials to our very capable board member, Jim Lewis, and thank him for his willingness to take on this task!

*Kerri Cassidy*

Treasurer

CCSVI AUSTRALIA INC.  
A.B.N. 15 107 843 012  
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

	Note	2014 \$	2013 \$
<b>INCOME</b>			
Gifts and donations		20,413	2,026
Membership fees		50	125
Functions and events		815	-
Interest received		305	3
Other income		-	1
		<u>21,583</u>	<u>2,155</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>			
Advertising		(435)	-
Bank fees and charges		(108)	(11)
Establishment costs		-	(63)
Functions and events		(850)	-
Internet fees		(150)	-
Office supplies		(96)	-
Postage		(107)	-
		<u>(1,746)</u>	<u>(74)</u>
Current year surplus before income tax		19,837	2,081
Income tax expense	1a.	-	-
Net current year surplus after income tax		<u>19,837</u>	<u>2,081</u>
RETAINED SURPLUS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR		<u>2,081</u>	-
RETAINED SURPLUS AT THE END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR		<u>21,918</u>	<u>2,081</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

CCSVI AUSTRALIA INC.  
A.B.N. 15 107 843 012  
**ASSET AND LIABILITIES STATEMENT**  
AS AT 30 JUNE 2014

	Note	2014 \$	2013 \$
<b>ASSETS</b>			
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	2	<u>21,918</u>	<u>2,081</u>
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b><u>21,918</u></b>	<b><u>2,081</u></b>
 TOTAL ASSETS		 <b>21,918</b>	 2,081
 NET ASSETS		 <b><u>21,918</u></b>	 <b><u>2,081</u></b>
 <b>MEMBERS' FUNDS</b>			
Retained surplus		2,081	-
Current year surplus		<u>19,837</u>	<u>2,081</u>
<b>TOTAL MEMBERS' FUNDS</b>		<b><u>21,918</u></b>	<b><u>2,081</u></b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

CCSVI AUSTRALIA INC.  
A.B.N. 15 107 843 012  
**CASH FLOW STATEMENT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014**

	Note	2014 \$	2013 \$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Receipts from members and donors		21,278	2,152
Payments to suppliers		(1,746)	(74)
Interest received		305	3
Net cash generated by operating activities	3	<u>19,837</u>	<u>2,081</u>
Net increase in cash held		19,837	2,081
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year		<u>2,081</u>	-
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year	2	<u>21,918</u>	<u>2,081</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

CCSVI AUSTRALIA INC.  
A.B.N. 15 107 843 012  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

**NOTE 1. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The financial statements are special purpose financial statements prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Act Victoria*. The committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity.

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historic costs and do not take into account changing money values or, except where stated specifically, current valuations of non-current assets.

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

a. **Income Tax**

No provision for income tax has been raised as the association is exempt from income tax under Division 50 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997, being an endorsed Health Promotion Charity.

b. **Impairment of Assets**

At the end of each reporting period, the committee reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have been impaired. If such an indication exists, an impairment test is carried out on the asset by comparing the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use, to the asset's carrying amount. Any excess of the asset's carrying amount over its recoverable amount is recognised in the income and expenditure statement.

c. **Cash and Cash Equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits held at call with banks, and other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.

d. **Revenue and Other Income**

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable after taking into account any trade discounts and volume rebates allowed. For this purpose, deferred consideration is not discounted to present values when recognising revenue.

Interest revenue is recognised using the effective interest method, which for floating rate financial assets is the rate inherent in the instrument.

Grant and donation income is recognised when the association obtains control over the funds, which is generally at the time of receipt.

If conditions are attached to the grant that must be satisfied before the association is eligible to receive the contribution, recognition of the grant as revenue will be deferred until those conditions are satisfied.

e. **Goods and Services Tax (GST)**

The association is not currently registered for GST. All expenses, assets and liabilities are recognised inclusive of the amount of GST as the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

f. **Comparative Figures**

Where required by Accounting Standards, comparative figures have been adjusted to conform with changes in presentation for the current financial year.

CCSVI AUSTRALIA INC.  
A.B.N. 15 107 843 012  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

	2014	2013
	\$	\$
<b>NOTE 2. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS</b>		
Cheque account	774	452
Cash reserve account	21,144	1,286
Paypal account	-	343
Total cash and cash equivalents as stated in the asset and liabilities statement	<b>21,918</b>	<b>2,081</b>
Total cash and cash equivalents as stated in the cash flow statement	<b>21,918</b>	<b>2,081</b>

**NOTE 3. CASH FLOW INFORMATION**

*Reconciliation of cash flow from operations with surplus after income tax*

Net surplus	19,837	2,081
Cash flows excluded from surplus attributable to operating activities		
Non-cash flows in surplus	-	-
Changes in assets and liabilities	-	-
	<b>19,837</b>	<b>2,081</b>

**NOTE 4. ASSOCIATION DETAILS**

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

CCSVI Australia Inc.  
The Nerve Centre  
54 Railway Road  
Blackburn VIC 3130



**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT  
TO THE MEMBERS OF CCSVI AUSTRALIA INC.**

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of CCSVI Australia Inc. (the association), which comprises the committee's report, the assets and liabilities statement as at 30 June 2014, the income and expenditure statement and cash flow statement for the year then ended, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the certification by members of the committee on the annual statements giving a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of the association.

*Committee's Responsibility for the Financial Report*

The committee of CCSVI Australia Inc. is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report, and has determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 1 is appropriate to meet the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act *Victoria* and is appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The committee's responsibility also includes such internal control as the committee determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a 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 have conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Those standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance 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 judgment, 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 association'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 association's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the committee, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

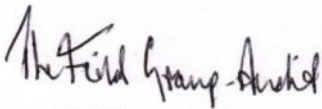
We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

*Opinion*

In our opinion, the financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of CCSVI Australia Inc. as at 30 June 2014 and its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, and the Associations Incorporation Act *Victoria*.

*Basis of Accounting and Restriction on Distribution*

Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to Note 1 to the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared to assist CCSVI Australia Inc. to meet the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act *Victoria*. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose.



The Field Group – Audit  
Chirnside Park, Victoria



Gavin Fraser CA  
Partner

Dated this 31 day of December 2014

# CCSVI Australia Inc

## Contact

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3130

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## Online

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youtube: CCSVI Australia