



# THEIR FUTURE OUR FUTURE

Annual Report 2009



**YOUTHCONNECT**  
THEIR FUTURE OUR FUTURE



## Glossary | Abbreviations

|              |   |
|--------------|---|
| <b>AiG</b>   | Australian Industry GROUP                                   |
| <b>ASP</b>   | Adopt-a-School Project                                      |
| <b>CTS</b>   | Career Transitions Support                                  |
| <b>DEECD</b> | Department of Education and Early Childhood Development     |
| <b>WTW</b>   | 'Work This Way' Employment Program                          |
| <b>DEEWR</b> | Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations |
| <b>DHS</b>   | Department of Human Services                                |
| <b>DIIRD</b> | Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development |
| <b>GTO</b>   | Group Training Organisation                                 |
| <b>LCP</b>   | Local Community Partnerships                                |
| <b>PACTS</b> | Parents As Career Transition Support                        |
| <b>RICA</b>  | Regional Industry Careers Advisor                           |
| <b>RTO</b>   | Registered Training Organisation                            |
| <b>SWL</b>   | Structured Workplace Learning                               |
| <b>TAFE</b>  | Technical And Further Education                             |
| <b>TLfS</b>  | Tomorrows Leaders for Sustainability                        |
| <b>VCAL</b>  | Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning                   |
| <b>VCE</b>   | Victorian Certificate of Education                          |
| <b>ASBA</b>  | Australian School Based Apprenticeship                      |
| <b>VET</b>   | Vocation Education and Training                             |
| <b>WPP</b>   | Workforce Participation Program                             |
| <b>YP</b>    | Youth Pathways  |

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**Youth Connect** works with the community to provide all young people with the skills and knowledge to support them to manage a successful pathway through secondary education, further learning and employment. • Engaging with industry, **Youth Connect** builds mutually beneficial relationships which support employers to attract and retain young people. • **Youth Connect** staff work in partnership with a wide range of local organisations and individuals to deliver a number of programmes and services that assist: young people, parents, employers and industry, schools and other education providers and the community. • **Youth Connect** is a not-for-profit, community focused organisation that has offered assistance to young people in the south eastern suburbs of Melbourne for over 18 years.

## Board of Management

The voluntary Board of Management of Youth Connect consists of a range of individual community members and organisational representatives that reflect Youth Connect's broader stake holder groups.

|                       |                 |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Anne Jamieson</b>  | Chairperson     |
| <b>Jeni Ritterman</b> | Deputy Chair    |
| <b>John Dance</b>     | Public Officer  |
| <b>Ross Digby</b>     | Treasurer       |
| <b>Helen Cridland</b> | Secretary       |
| <b>Greg Davies</b>    | Ordinary member |
| <b>Brian Smart</b>    | Ordinary member |
| <b>Suresh Sutrave</b> | Ordinary member |

## Youth Connect Staff

|                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| <b>Danny Schwarz</b>       | Chief Executive Officer                                  |
| <b>Jeremy Barren</b>       | Youth Services & Future Business<br>Directions Manager   |
| <b>Daniela Ascone</b>      | Education, Industry & Community<br>Development Manager   |
| <b>Kathy Woods</b>         | Operational Services Manager                             |
| <b>Geraldine Borgonha</b>  | Administration Officer                                   |
| <b>Tara Couzens</b>        | Adolescent and Family Psychologist                       |
| <b>Esta Campbell</b>       | Youth Services + Right Step Case Manager                 |
| <b>Laura Agrimi</b>        | Youth Services Case Manager                              |
| <b>Victoria Nicoloudis</b> | Youth Services Case Manager                              |
| <b>June Michael</b>        | Employment & Industry Development<br>Program Coordinator |
| <b>Jessica Hickey</b>      | Marketing & Events Coordinator                           |
| <b>Mary Licciardo</b>      | Education & Community Development<br>Program Coordinator |
| <b>Michelle Peterson</b>   | Education & Community Development<br>Project Officer     |
| <b>Michele Sargent</b>     | Work this Way Case Manager                               |
| <b>Josh Kerr</b>           | Youth Services Case Manager                              |
| <b>Goeff Cousins</b>       | Industry Development Project Officer                     |

## Vision

A community where school to work pathways and career choices for all young people are equally valued and respected.

## Mission

Youth Connect works with the community to provide all young people with the skills and knowledge to support them to manage a successful pathway through secondary education, further learning and employment. Engaging with industry, Youth Connect builds mutual beneficial relationships which support employers to attract and retain young people.

## Values

### Choice

Youth Connect believes all young people should have access to information and support in order to make informed career choices regarding their education, training and employment options.

### Equity

Youth Connect embraces the diversity of young people, education, industry and the broader community by providing equitable programs and support.

### Integrity

Youth Connect works with the community to build and establish honest and empathetic relationships to achieve positive outcomes.



## Report from the CHAIRPERSON & CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Youth Connect has been delivering transition and pathway support services and programs to young people, schools and industry for nearly 20 years in Southern Metropolitan Melbourne.

We believe all young people have the potential to be successful, engaged and active lifelong learners, and thus productive and contributing members of the community. Youth Connect has and will continue to support young people to achieve their potential through the development of appropriate tailored and flexible programs and services.

Our philosophy is underpinned by a commitment to continual learning, strong ethics and values and a strength-based approach to all work undertaken with young people, schools, family and community partners.

As 2009 was the last year of both the Youth Pathways and Local Community Partnership programs much time and energy was spent in anticipation of the scope of the new programs. More importantly we continued to look at how Youth Connect can work towards achieving our Vision where career choices and school to work pathways are equally valued. We want to see all young people supported and valued equally. This includes celebrating their successes.

In the pursuit of this vision Youth Connect has developed a Strategic Plan to build on the partnerships we have with schools, industry and the community. This plan aims to clarify and enhance the valued relationships that have developed over the last 20 years. Thus a young person who chooses to become an engineer by completing an apprenticeship is valued as equally, and supported with resources from all aspects of the community and respected as much as a young person choosing to become a lawyer by achieving a high ENTER and completing a university degree.

Government policy is integral to achieving our objectives. The State Government's "Blueprint for Education and Early Childhood Development" includes a focus on improved transitions through an integrated system. This system is designed to ensure easy transitions for children and families with an initial focus from primary to secondary school and then from school to further education, training and employment.

In addition the Federal Government's "Bradley Review" called for greater ease and articulation between the TAFE and University sectors. Both State and Federal Governments have recognised the need to work more collaboratively.

Through COAG they have agreed to implement a "Compact with Young Australians" to ensure that all young people under 25 have the education or training they need to improve their qualifications and ensure that they are skilled for a more productive and rewarding life. Further it should be noted that the "National Partnership Agreement on Low Socio-Economic Status School Communities" has as one of its outcomes that young people will make a successful transition from school to work and further study.

Through this Strategic Plan Youth Connect will continue to work with government, schools, parents, families, industry and the community to better equip and value young people to be able to make their own choices regarding their journey through school to work.

The future is looking bright and we would like to thank the staff, The Board and volunteers for their passion and dedication. We would like to thank the following staff who are hanging up their Youth Connect hats and have played important roles and made a difference to the lives of many young people and their families; Elena Ricciuti, Jeremy Barren and Jessica Hickey. From the Board Ross Digby who has been Treasurer for five years and has been integral in refining our financial systems, is stepping down. We are grateful for the difference they have made.

Finally we would hope you enjoy reading our Annual Report. Should you wish to know more about Youth Connect or become involved in what we do please contact us.

**Anne Jamieson** Chairperson  
**Danny Schwarz** Chief Executive Officer





## Some Statistics

### During 2009 we...

- Placed 154 young people into Structured Workplace Learning placements
- Had 66 employers hosting students in industries including Construction, Retail, Hospitality, Manufacturing, Automotive, Fashion, Music, Business Services
- Engaged over 900 Students in three industry forums with a number of other organisations
- Conducted 134 mock interviews for students
- Conducted Parents as Career Support and Transition Support Workshops to 388 Parents
- Provided 880 students from 21 schools with 61 Industry Showcase activities
- Provided one-on-one case managed support to over 350 young people in schools and in the community to assist them to re-engage with education, training or employment

### Programs that finished at the end of 2009

Since 2006 Youth Connect delivered the Federal Local Community Partnerships (LCP) and Youth Pathways programs. The LCP provided a strategic approach to the implementation of three career and transition programs: Structured Workplace Learning (SWL), Career and Transition Support (CTS) and Adopt a School. Youth Pathways assisted the most at-risk young people aged 13 – 19 with individualised case managed support. Both of these programs finished in December and have been replaced by Youth Connections and school Community Business Partnership Broker Programs.

### A review of the programs and services

Parents as Career Transition Support (PACTS) continued to work with parents in our local schools with many schools now offering PACTS as an important element of the careers program. The emphasis continued to be on year 9 and 10 parents. Through a Careers Lighthouse Program together with Emma Mestitz from Mordialloc Secondary College a focus on the transition from Primary to Secondary School was developed to assist parents in the processes of deciding what Secondary school to send their children.

*'Thank you, I am confident to ask more questions,' (Carolyn), parents at forum for Primary school parents*

*'Absolutely fantastic. Wish my son's school had this program-would have made life a lot easier,' PACTS parent*

*'Easily understandable structure to course and clearly demonstrated with numerous examples,' PACTS parent*

*'I would like to see more of this type of course for people/careers with children in this age group,' Community PACTS session*

The Bunnings Project enabled local Year 9 students from Cheltenham Secondary College to engage in an 8 week program of a variety of D.I.Y activities under the watchful eye of industry experts on the Bunnings staff. Each week focused on a different topic including building a picket fence, creating a tiled plaque to take home, learning the many methods of fixing plasterboard, making & repairing fly wire screens, building a cupboard & lots more.

### Feedback from students in 2009

*'I had fun!!'*

*'It was fun'*

*'I loved it all'*

*'It was so cool'*

*'It was the highlight of the term'*

*'It's a really good program'*

*'Great'*

*'Good as'*

Students from Sandringham College completing VET Certificate II in Screen worked with Bethlehem Hospital to produce a short video outlining the services offered by the hospital. Bob Slater, Corporate & Community Development Manager, provided wonderful organisational support for the project, briefing the students on the hospital's services, needs and organising countless interviews.

Rob Neale, VET Trainer at Sandringham College, agrees that as far as the students are concerned this type of project provides a potent learning opportunity where they are functioning in a real world environment with a real client whose needs they must focus on meeting.

# Right Step - A Young Offenders Diversion and Re-Engagement Program

**Right Step** was officially launched by Melbourne's Chief Magistrate Ian Gray at the Moorabbin Justice Centre in October.

The aim of **Right Step** is to reduce the number of young people in the criminal justice system in particular reduce the number of recidivist young offenders. The social and community impact of the success of **Right Step** will be increased engagement and participation in education, training and employment by young people.

The reduction in recidivist behaviour will decrease the cost to the community of the current punitive approach to processing these young people through the court system.

There is a large body of research which points to a significant increase in the likely hood of a young person re offending once they have gone through the court system. **Right Step** aims to keep them out of the system and ultimately support them to becoming contributing and productive members of the community.

Since commencing 21 young people have been referred to Right Step with 12 successfully completing the program. There are six young people still engaged. We would like to thank the following Trusts + Foundations for their support

**The Sunshine Foundation**

**The RE Ross Trust and**

**The Victorian Police Youth Foundation**

Please contact Danny Schwarz should you be interested in becoming involved with supporting the program.



**What we  
did during  
2009**

**RightStep**





# Case Study

## BACKGROUND

- Young male aged 16
- Attended court with driving offences and criminal damage offences

## RIGHT STEP PROCESS

- Set goals for Case Management
- Attend 8 sessions over 8 weeks
- Develop pathway plan for next year
- Identify underlying issues
- Connect to relevant services
- Establish restitution activity
- Engage in social activity to assist in preventing recidivist behaviour

## OUTCOMES

- Attended TEENS program;  
The TEENS program was developed to address the alarming rise in teenage- related fatalities and injuries involving car crashes. Attending the TEENS program is seen as extremely beneficial to young drivers and especially young male drivers who have a high risk of being involved in car crashes because they lack driving experience, skills and take deliberate risks.
- Explored peer group pressure and coping strategies
- Explored the law and the consequences of breaking the law
- Explored family issues and referred to counselling services
- Participated in Community Services for restitution of criminal damage to property for Graffiti over a 3 week period, 1 hour per week at local op shop
- Participated in counselling
- Joined the local fitness centre



## POSITIVE 'RIGHT STEP'

Client has participated in a variety of activities as part of the Right Step program. He has shown remorse for his offences by undertaking community service and participating in the TEEN program.

Client has shown commitment to making changes in his life by joining the local fitness centre and engaging in counselling to address the underlying issues identified throughout the program and to make sure he is getting the support he needs.

## Family Mediation and Counselling

The purpose of this program was to provide a counseling service for young people and their families in the Southern Bayside Region and to help them work towards overcoming their issues and increasing quality of life and well being.

27 young people were referred to the program with 21 of these attending one or more counseling sessions. 17 of the 21 clients were referred by Youth Pathways, Right Step and Work This Way. One client accessed three Youth Connect programs simultaneously, receiving support through Right Step, Work This Way and the counseling service.

## Applied Learning Awards

The inaugural Applied Learning Awards took Place at Southern Golf Club on October 13. 200 Guests saw the presentation of 34 awards, including 21 to students, six to employers and seven to schools.

The awards recognised the outstanding efforts of secondary students undertaking applied learning programs, including VCAL, VET and school-based Apprenticeships.

A judging panel of senior representatives from the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, the Catholic Education Office, the Association of Independent Schools of Victoria and industry adjudicated on the 34 awards. Students were judged on their excellence within their chosen program, schools on their commitment and innovation in applied learning, and employees on their assistance to students.

The Awards were co-ordinated by Youth Connect and the BGK LLEN and included entertainment from local music students and photography by two local students.

**We would like to thank all of our award sponsors and our Major Sponsor Bendigo Bank for making the awards possible.**

# New Strategic Plan

## New Strategic Plan

Key elements of the programs and services we will develop, deliver and evaluate include:

- **Empowerment**  
Empowering young people to be the best that they can be.
- **Key Programs**  
Maintain key programs such as Youth Connections, Right Step and Work this Way
- **One Stop**  
Developing a one stop shop for youth support services—one step referral from initial contact.
- **Parents**  
Welcoming parents and providing support so that they can support their children; parents supporting other young people through networks.
- **Profile**  
Increase our profile – celebrating successes and partnerships creating a stronger community profile
- **Provider of Choice**  
Becoming the provider of choice for career and transition support; education, training, employment; youth wellbeing within BGK and Inner East region.
- **Schools**  
Providing support including professional development to school personnel.
- **Social Enterprise and Fee for Service**  
Developing diverse funding streams, reducing the risk of dependence on a small number of funding sources.
- **Staffing Culture**  
Maintain and developing our current staffing culture.
- **Transition**  
Facilitating transition to education/training and employment.
- **Volunteers**  
Increasing involvement from volunteers, raising profile and supporting activities.
- **Youth Wellbeing**  
Addressing youth wellbeing issues that will support young people to access Youth Connect programs—working with and complementing existing services.







## KEY STRATEGIES

The five strategies will enable Youth Connect to build on the relationships and reputation built over many years of working with young people, schools, Training Organisations, Industry Groups and Employers. It provides a sound foundation for Youth Connect's sustainability into the future. We look forward to working with all of our stakeholders towards better outcomes for young people.

| STRATEGY  | OBJECTIVE  | EVIDENCE   |
|---|--|--|
| <b>Diversify Youth Connect's Funding Base</b>   | Youth Connect will ensure a diversified funding base, incorporating government and non-government funding and the creation of earned income sources.                           | Fee for service, philanthropy and industry sources will provide 25% of Youth Connect's income by December 2012.  |
| <b>Expand the Engagement of the Community, specifically Young People, Parents, Schools and Industry</b> | Youth Connect will expand the services offered to young people, parents, schools and industry, ensuring that they match the desired outcomes of these stakeholders.            | A diversity of programs that demonstrate that the desired positive outcomes of stakeholders are being met, measured by 'before and after' evidence, research and program outcomes. |
| <b>Enhance the Youth Connect Profile</b>  | Youth Connect will significantly enhance the public profile of the agency, through the development and implementation of a comprehensive marketing strategy.                   | There is evidence of an increasing number of key stakeholders approaching Youth Connect as a 'preferred provider', for services and support.                                       |
| <b>Build the Organisation's Volunteer Capacity</b>  | Youth Connect will establish a strong volunteer capacity within the organisation, supporting all programs.   | A well established and functional volunteer program with active participation across a wide range of Youth Connect programs.   |
| <b>Develop Youth Connect's Organisational Capacity and Culture</b>                                      | Youth Connect will develop and enhance the skills and capacities of its Board and staff members, ensuring the maintenance of a positive and supportive organisational culture. | i) 90% "satisfied or very satisfied" in an annual Youth Connect Board and staff surveys. ii) All staff members have an annual developmental plan with 90% of objectives being met. |



## What we will be doing during 2010...

**To achieve the outcomes of our key strategies we will focus on the following programs over the next three years**

### VET 2010 & Beyond

Youth Connect will be further developing the suite of VET programs which are currently on scope to ensure that they meet both student and industry needs. In May 2010, Youth Connect will engage with schools young people to identify VET training needs and also with industry to explore the current industry requirements and skill shortage areas to introduce VETiS programs which meet all stakeholder needs.

## New and improved for in 2010

### VET Transport and Logistics

Commencing in February 2010, Youth Connect and Cheltenham Secondary College introduced the Certificate II in Transport & Logistics (Logistics Operations).

With MyFreight Careers auspising the program this is the first time it will be delivered within the region.

### VET I.T.

In 2009, the number of VET IT enrolments for the 2010 program exceeded the number of places which were available in the Youth Connect VET IT program.

Youth Connect and Holmesglen worked together in establishing another regional VET IT program which is being delivered at Godfrey Street Community House which will be able to meet emerging needs and training demands.

### iPREP Program

The IPREP (Mock Interview) Program commenced in July 2009. Students are 'interviewed' for a position by an employer. Each student attends the interview with a resume and cover letter, written for a specific job or industry. A 15 min interview provides the student with an opportunity to practice their interview skills and techniques while having their resume assessed and evaluated. 134 students have participated in the program so far. Interviewers for the program are volunteers from Industry including retirees from a volunteer pool or youth connect employees.

### Industry Xplorer

During 2009, 880 students from 21 schools participated in 61 Industry Showcase Activities. Ranging from small local industry tours to full day interactive onsite tours including guest speakers. Industry areas included Accountancy, Architecture & Building Design, Automotive, Aviation, Building & Construction, Careers with Animals, Community Services, Computer Software & Hardware, Defence Force Recruitment, Electrical, Engineering, Essential Services – Police, Fire Brigade & Ambulance, Fashion & Fashion Design, Fitness, Graphics, Hospitality, IT, Legal, Medical, Media & Journalism, Music Industry, Retail and Sport and Recreation.

### Work This Way

Work This Way, funded by the State Government, assists unemployed young people into sustainable fulltime employment and/or to undertake an apprenticeship or traineeship. Work This Way creates individualised and flexible interventions for every young person to enhance their job readiness and employability. The Work This Way Program provides one-on-one support to young people assisting them to become job ready through the development of employability skills, access to training courses or material resources, coordinating work experience opportunities, demystifying industry and training environments and ultimately sourcing sustainable paid employment with local businesses.

## New Programs

### Student Transition Education Programs (STEPS)

Formalised education programs & workshops targeting young people which will better equip students for their transition from school into further education and/or employment.

### Youth Connections

This Federally Funded Program has been established to provide individualised and responsive support to young people who are most at risk of disengaging from education or who have already disengaged. The purpose is to support young people to re-engage and to work towards the attainment of Year 12 or its equivalent and to help them make a smooth transition through education and onto further education, training or employment.



## Treasurer's Report

It gives me great pleasure to present the financial reports on the operation of Youth Connect Inc. for the twelve months ended 31 December 2009.

In summary, at the end of 2009 the organisation has combined assets of \$466,027 and liabilities of \$143,478, leaving the organisation with equity of \$301,665 of which a total of \$60,896 is non-current assets. Whilst Youth Connect is in a sound and stable financial situation, a deficit of \$123,994 was recorded in 2009. The key reasons for this deficit are:

- An overstating of revenue in accounts receivable for money received in 2009, this revenue was for service provision in 2010. This increased the deficit by \$30,000;
- Seed funding to establish the Right Step program at the Moorabbin Magistrates Court \$29,500;
- Due to the GFC and the Victorian Bushfires Youth Connect's strategy to diversify the funding base through applications to Philanthropic Trusts and Foundations during 2009 was significantly limited falling \$60,000 short of budgeted income from this source;
- Continued planning and investing in the Youth Connects ongoing development included a Capital investment of \$13,450 in strategic planning activities.

The Finance sub-committee meets every second month in order to review the financial activities and procedures. This committee has enabled Youth Connect to more closely focus on the Financial Management of the organisation. I would like to thank my fellow financial committee members for their assistance over the past 12 months and their input to ensure that Youth Connect maintains its solid financial procedures.

Finally I am stepping down from the board this year and I would like to thank Kathy Woods our Operational Services Manager, Geraldine Borgonha our Administration Officer, Danny Schwarz our Chief Executive and Jenny Hamilton our Accountant for their magnificent support to the organisation, its contracts and to the Board of Management.

**Ross Digby**  
Treasurer

**YOUTH CONNECT INCORPORATED**  
ABN 86 718 001 362

## Statement by Members of the Board

As detailed in Note 2 to the financial statements, the Association is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial statement should be prepared in accordance with policies outlined in Note 2 to the financial statements.

The Members declare that:

- in the Members' opinion, the financial statements and notes, as set out on pages 1 to 14 are in accordance with the Association Act 1981 (Vic), including compliance with accounting standards and giving a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of the Association.
- in the Members' opinion, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Association will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable;

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Members.

**Anna Jamieson**  
Member

Dated this 16th, February 2010

**For a full copy of the Audited Financial Statement  
please contact Youth Connect**



**YOUTHCONNECT**  
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**INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF YOUTH CONNECT INC.****Report on the financial report**

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial statement, of Youth Connect Inc. ("the Association"), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2009, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year ended on that date, a summary of significant accounting policies, other explanatory notes and the Statement by the Board of Directors ("the Board").

*Board of Directors' responsibility for the financial report*

The Board is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report and have determined that the accounting policies described in note 2 to the financial statements which form a part of the financial report are appropriate to meet the requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Act 1981 (VIC)* and the needs of the members. The Board's responsibility also includes establishing and maintaining internal control 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*

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used, as described in note 2, are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. 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 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 Board, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

The financial report has been prepared for distribution to members for the purpose of fulfilling the Board's financial reporting requirements under the *Associations Incorporation Act 1981 (VIC)*. We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial report to which it relates to any person other than the members, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

Our audit did not involve an analysis of the prudence of business decisions made by the Board or management.

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 Australian professional ethical pronouncements.

**Auditor's Opinion**

In our opinion, the financial report of Youth Connect Inc. presents a true and fair view, in all material respects, of the financial position of the Association as at 31 December 2009 and of its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in note 2 to the financial statements, and the *Associations Incorporation Act 1981 (VIC)*.

**HLB Mann Judd**

**Jude Lau**  
Partner

16 February 2010  
Melbourne

**HLB Mann Judd (VIC Partnership)**

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# STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

YOUTH CONNECT INCORPORATED ABN 86 718 001 362

| STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2009 |       |                  |                 |
|---|-------|------------------|-----------------|
| CONTINUING OPERATIONS   | NOTES | 2009 \$          | 2008 \$         |
| Revenue   | 3     | 1,082,842        | 1,068,916       |
| Gains/(losses) on disposal of assets                                  | 4     | (3,297)          | (9,337)         |
| Employee benefits expense   |       | (829,247)        | (757,064)       |
| Depreciation and amortisation expense                                 | 5     | (14,261)         | (12,803)        |
| Advertising and promotions expense                                    |       | (4,856)          | (5,758)         |
| Auditing Expense  | 5     | (10,660)         | (19,000)        |
| Communication expense   |       | (17,838)         | (21,938)        |
| Consulting expense  |       | (24,800)         | (6,250)         |
| Occupancy expense   |       | (62,475)         | (59,871)        |
| Printing and publications expense                                     |       | (24,163)         | (27,286)        |
| Travel expense  |       | (11,248)         | (11,878)        |
| Workshop facilitation   |       | (159,843)        | (180,006)       |
| Other expenses  |       | (44,148)         | (13,635)        |
| Net loss for the year   | 14    | (123,994)        | (55,910)        |
| Other comprehensive income/ (loss)                                    |       | -                | -               |
| Other comprehensive income for the period, net of tax                 |       | -                | -               |
| <b>TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME/ (LOSS) FOR THE YEAR</b>                |       | <b>(123,994)</b> | <b>(55,910)</b> |

| STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2009 |       |                |                |
|--|-------|----------------|----------------|
| CURRENT ASSETS   | NOTES | 2009 \$        | 2008 \$        |
| Cash and cash equivalents                              | 6     | 305,390        | 424,365        |
| Trade and other receivables                            | 7     | 99,141         | 51,712         |
| Other assets   | 8     | 600            | 6,376          |
| <b>Total Current Assets</b>                            |       | <b>405,131</b> | <b>482,453</b> |
|  |       |                |                |
| NON-CURRENT ASSETS                                     |       |                |                |
| Property, plant and equipment                          | 9     | 53,570         | 40,142         |
| Intangible   | 10    | 7,326          | 5,925          |
| <b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>                        |       | <b>60,896</b>  | <b>46,067</b>  |
| <b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>                                    |       | <b>466,027</b> | <b>528,520</b> |

| CURRENT LIABILITIES                  |       |                |                |
|--------------------------------------|-------|----------------|----------------|
| Trade and other payables             | 11    | 49,455         | 38,065         |
| Unearned Income                      |       | 20,000         | -              |
| Employee benefits liabilities        | 12(a) | 74,023         | 60,145         |
| <b>Total Current Liabilities</b>     |       | <b>143,478</b> | <b>98,210</b>  |
| NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES              |       |                |                |
| Employee benefits liabilities        | 12(b) | 20,884         | 4,651          |
| <b>Total Non-Current Liabilities</b> |       | <b>20,884</b>  | <b>4,651</b>   |
| <b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>             |       | <b>164,362</b> | <b>102,861</b> |

|                   |  |                |                |
|-------------------|--|----------------|----------------|
| <b>NET ASSETS</b> |  | <b>301,665</b> | <b>425,659</b> |
|-------------------|--|----------------|----------------|

| MEMBERS' FUNDS             |    |                |                |
|----------------------------|----|----------------|----------------|
| Reserves                   | 13 | 44,510         | 50,000         |
| Accumulated surplus        | 14 | 257,155        | 375,659        |
| <b>TOTAL MEMBERS FUNDS</b> |    | <b>301,665</b> | <b>425,659</b> |

Thank  
You



Youth Connect's programs run successfully with the support and assistance of its community partners, parents, schools and, most importantly, the young people who are participating in these programs. Thank you to all these partners who have supported Youth Connect's work over 2009.

We look forward to continuing these relationships into the future.





## Partners

### Schools

- Addas Israel School
- Bentleigh Secondary College
- Berendale School
- Beth Rivkah Ladies College
- Brighton Grammar School
- Brighton Secondary College
- Caulfield Grammar School
- Caulfield Park Community School
- Cheltenham Secondary College
- Christian Brothers College
- Collingwood Alternative School
- Collingwood College
- De La Salle College
- DOXA School
- Elwood College
- Firbank Grammar School
- Fitzroy High School
- Glen Eira College
- Heatherton Christian College
- Holmesglen Vocational College
- Kilbreda College
- Kilvington Baptist Girls' Grammar School
- Korowa Anglican Girls' School
- Lauriston Girls' School
- Leibler Yavneh School
- Lynall Hall Community School
- McKinnon Secondary College
- Melbourne Girls' College
- Mentone Girls' Grammar School
- Mentone Girls' Secondary College
- Mentone Grammar School
- Mordialloc College
- Our Lady of the Sacred Heart College
- Parkdale Secondary College
- Princes Hill Secondary College
- Sacre Coeur College
- Sandringham College
- Sandringham College (Sandringham 7-10)
- Sandringham College- Beaumaris Campus
- Shelford Anglican Girls' School
- South Oakleigh Secondary College
- St Bede's College
- St James Regional College
- St Kevin's College
- St Leonard's College
- St Michael's Grammar
- Star of the Sea College
- The King David School
- University High School
- Wellington Secondary College
- Wesley College – Elsternwick Campus
- Westall Secondary College
- Westall Secondary College- Community VCAL
- Yarrabah School
- Yeshivah College

### Community

- 88.3 Southern FM
- Adult Community & Further Education- Southern Metropolitan Region
- Association of Independent Schools Victoria
- Bayside Glen Eira, Kingston Local Learning and Employment Network (BGKLEEN)
- Berry Street
- Big Brother Big Sister
- Brotherhood of St Laurence
- Catholic Education Office
- Centrelink - Cheltenham
- Centrelink - Oakleigh
- Chelsea Community Renewal Project
- Chelsea Occasional Childcare Centre
- City of Stonnington - School Focused Youth Service
- Department of Education and Early Childhood Development - Southern Metropolitan Region
- Eastwork
- Eastleigh Family Services
- Family Life
- Frankston Mornington Peninsula Local Learning and Employment Network (FMPLLEN)
- Frontyard Youth Services

- Fusion Refuge
- Golden Opportunity Shop
- Handbrake Turn
- Hanover Family Services
- Headspace Northern
- Headspace Southern
- Headstart / First Stop
- Interact Employment Services
- Jesuit Social Services
- Jewish Care
- JPET-Brotherhood of St. Laurence
- Kingston Youth Services
- Mackillop Family Services
- Melbourne Business Awards
- Mind Australia
- Moorabbin Justice Centre
- Mordialloc Rotary
- Parent Engagement Network
- Sandy Beach Centre
- SHARC South Eastern Centre Against Sexual Assault
- North Brighton Rotary
- South East Development Melbourne ACC
- South East Local Learning and Employments Network SELLEN
- Southern Youth Justice Unit
- St Kilda Youth Services
- Taskforce
- Victoria Police Kingston & Bayside Districts
- Victorian Applied Learning Network
- Yarra Youth Services
- Youth Substance Abuse Service
- Youthworx
- Youth Affairs Council of Victoria
- Tomorrows Leaders for Sustainability
- The Coaching Institute
- Ritches Supermarket- Bentleigh
- Clarendon Lawyers
- Bendigo Bank Community Sector Banking
- Baked on Fresh

### Registered Training Organisation (RTO) and Training

- Apprenticeships Plus
- Chisholm Institute of TAFE
- College of Fashion Design
- Direct Recruitment
- Franklyn Scholar Learning
- Gipps TAFE
- Holmesglen Employment
- Holmesglen Institute of TAFE.
- Jobs Plus
- Kangan Batman TAFE
- Longbeach Place Inc.
- MEGT
- Northern Melbourne Institute of TAFE
- Pow Wow Training
- Pragmatic Training
- Sandringham Yacht Club
- Skills Plus
- Swinburne TAFE
- William Angliss Institute of TAFE
- Workstar
- 370 degrees Group Training
- Southern Suburbs Group Training

### Industry Association AMCA Australia

- Australia Retailers Association Victoria
- Australian Industry Group
- Boating Industry of Victoria
- Career Education Association of Victoria
- Highett Chamber of Commerce
- Inner Eastern Local learning and Employment Network
- Kingston Women's Business Network
- Manufacturing & Engineering Skills Advisory Board
- Master Builders Association of Victoria
- Mentone Local Business Network
- Murrumbidgee Industries and Traders Association Inc
- Transport & Distribution Training Australia (TDT Victoria)
- VET Network
- Victorian Automobile Chamber of Commerce (VACC)
- Victorian Employers' Chamber of Commerce and Industry (VECCI)

### Employers

- Australian Underground Services
- Apprenticeships Group Australia
- ARTAV Australia
- A & D Plastering
- AFL SportsReady
- Agigi Design
- AG Grinding and Tooling P/L
- All Tek Automotives
- Allstaff Airconditioning
- Andley Air Conditioning
- Applied Automation & Engineering Pty. Ltd.
- Apprenticeships Victoria
- Ashburton Service Centre
- Atlite Skylights
- Austero
- Austin Group
- Austruck Truck Bodies
- Backyard Blessings
- B Safe Consultants
- Bakers Delight - Cheltenham
- Bakers Delight - Hampton
- Bakers Delight - Southland
- Bakers Delight- Mentone
- Basketball Victoria
- Bendigo Bank - Highett
- Best & Less
- Billy Hyde Music
- Brighton Nissan / Hyundai
- Brighton Toyota
- Brown Paper Packaging
- Brumby's Bakery
- Buckingham International
- Buzz and Bloom
- Carmels Fabrics
- Catering and Refrigeration Industries
- Chirag Tooling
- Chives Café
- Classic Picture Framers
- CLB Training & Development
- Cocoon Couture
- Collingwood Football Club
- Colossal Records
- Cookie Concepts
- Credo Group
- D.P.M Service Centre
- Daren Gill Plumbing
- Dockendorff's
- Dom's Bistro
- Dressmart
- ECP Airwell
- Event Affairs
- Everything For Women
- Fat 4
- Fratelli Motors
- Fuetown
- Future Force
- Gadiva Hair Extensions
- Gallins Guitars
- Gardenvale Primary School
- Giordano - Chadstone
- Giordano - Southland
- Golden Op Shop
- Grass & Garden
- Guitar Village
- Hampton Ladies Health Club
- Harvest Engineering
- Headworks
- Heckrath Engineering
- Hella Australia Pty Ltd
- Hocking Stuart- Brighton
- Hotel Ibis (Little Bourke Street)
- HSD Developments
- Hungry Jacks - Moorabbin
- Hungry Jacks - Southland
- Imlachs Auto Parts
- ISM Objects Pty. Ltd.
- Joanne Mercer Chadstone
- Kem Signs
- KFC - Chelsea Heights
- Kingston Garage Pty. Ltd.
- Kingston Trophies
- Labsonics
- Lewis Australia
- LG Travel Tower Services
- Lowe Constructions
- LX Productions
- Mables Australian Cheese
- Mainline Automotive
- Material by Product
- McKinna Sheet Metal
- Megan Park
- Melbourne Design and Fashion Incubator (MDFI)
- Melbourne Kids
- Melbourne Music Centre
- Melbourne Performance Centre
- Melbourne University Bookshop
- Mentone Motor Group
- Mentone Motafix
- Mentone Vehicle Maintenance
- Metaltec
- Miles Wilson Hairdressing
- Midas Touch
- Mofo Lounge
- MWT Australia
- Ormond Childcare
- Paint N Panel
- Palm Motor Body Works
- Peach Air Conditioning
- PLE Casing
- PMP Printing
- Pro Light and Sound
- Professional Locksmiths
- Promocorp
- Pronto Cabinets
- Rebel Sport
- Revolver Drums
- Rod Hand Service Centre
- Ron Leigh's Music Factory
- Ronstan International
- Royal Victorian Aero Club
- RSPCA
- Sails on the Bay
- Salmat Sales Force Australia
- Sarina Russo Apprenticeship Services
- Satisfaction Productions
- Say Yeah Pty Ltd
- Screenline
- Spotlight (Moorabbin)
- Stutz Industries
- Suttons Classic Car Restorations
- Swift Maintenance and Installations
- Tempo Media
- The Ark
- The Buckingham International
- The Dwarf
- The French Corner
- The Minter Group
- The Music Store
- The Print Place
- The Stable Group
- Thompson's Radiator Service
- Tonic Product Development
- Trishes Lunch Stop
- True Form Engineering
- VASEY RSL
- Vega FM
- Vicious Vinyl
- Victoria All Seasons Hotel
- Vintage Rose
- VT Reece
- Warehouse Sound System
- Wash N Shop - Bentleigh
- Waves Restaurant
- Yamaha Music
- Zagames Caulfield

### Government

- Bayside City Council
- City of Kingston
- Glen Eira City Council
- Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations
- Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development
- Community Enterprise Foundation
- Bendigo Bank - Highett Community Bank
- Department of Human Services (Youth Justice)
- The Hon. Andrew Robb AO Member of Parliament
- The Hon. Mark Dreyfus Member of Parliament
- The Hon. Rob Hudson Member of Parliament
- The Hon. Jenny Lindell Member of Parliament
- The Hon. Janice Munt Member of Parliament

## Testimonials

*"Youth Connect's Work This Way Program has enabled me to go back to studying in the industry that I love! Without this program I would never have been able to accomplish this!"*

**Young Person – Work This Way Program**

*"Before I registered with Youth Connect's Work This Way Program I never thought that I would actually be able to achieve the things I'm achieving now!"*

**Young Person – Work This Way Program**

In term 2 of 2009 12 students from Cheltenham Secondary College attended an 8 week D.I.Y. course at Bunnings Moorabbin. The Students participated in a range of clinics. Making a Flywire screen, tiling, water saving around the home, building a picket fence, repair a leaking tap, repair plaster board and cabinet making. The students had a great time with these clinics as they are all "hands on". It is an opportunity for these students to see if there is an interest in pursuing a trade as a career. From the Bunnings side of things, it's a fantastic opportunity for different team members to do some community work. It is very satisfying when team members come up to me saying they had a great time and would love to participate next time. It is just as satisfying when the Cheltenham students walk away feeling proud of what they have achieved during the clinic and a big smile on their face. Bunnings Moorabbin thoroughly enjoys working and running this program with Cheltenham Secondary College.

### Sally Thornton

Activities Organiser, Bunnings Moorabbin

The Youth Connect Staff who visit our School to deliver the Youth Pathways Program have proved to be a valuable resource for our participating students. The Youth Connect staff have the time and expertise to provide the extra support and level of care, when combined with school-based assistance, has resulted in improved outcomes for many of our students.

### Emma Mestitz, Mordialloc College

*"I am more likely to pursue a career in engineering/architecture or other SET ( Science Engineering + Technology) areas than I was at the start of the day." (Male, Year 10)*

*"I'm more interested in scientific careers now." (Female, Year 10)*

*"I got information about the engineering course that I'm interested in." (Male, Year 12)*

*"I am more aware of how my school subjects will help me with my career choices." (Female, Year 10)*

## Right Step

*"I'm glad there was an option to participate in a court diversion program I found it was successful, helpful and very effective"*

*"The right step program has definitely helped me, I feel like I have more direction for my future!"*

*"Thankyou for all your help, I'm so glad I was able to participate in this program it has helped me a lot and I'm now excited about my future".*

**Young Person – Work This Way Program**



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