

HOPE President's Report #5.2 for 2018-2019

(Last amended – 9 November 2019)

Despite a few hiccups here and there, 2018-2019 has been a good year for HOPE.

Highlights included:

- 08/01 Issued nationally a Petition calling on the Australian Government to sign the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons
- 12/02 Received donations of Gigabyte Notebook q2532 and a Brother Laser printer HL1430
- Both items passed on to David Shipp
- 08/04 Issued Special edition newsletter of Places You Love articles (all written by Sasha Adams)
- 25/04 Marie Yandog has volunteered to be our Website Administrator ... and she is doing a fantastic job!
- 26/06 Logan Eco Action Festival (LEAF) → Another successful event for HOPE with \$262.60 raised in donations
- 19/07 Steve Cupitt, Crossroads Rural & Environment with support from Sandy Robertson, Fauna Ecologist and Kym Campbell, Environmental Scientist have offered their combined services to help us with environmental/landcare projects.
- 22/07 Miriam and I submitted an online grant application to the Gambling Community Benefit Fund (GCBF) for a new computer system.
- 27/07 Issued e: Media release globally re: Request for Environmental Poems
- 15/08 Our audited accounts were returned this afternoon. We will be reimbursed \$51 from ATO re GST return.
- 14/09 Ongoing problems with Windows 10 software not upgrading fully
- 24/09 Issues resolved with reinstall of Windows 10 Pro and new MS office 2019
- 27/09-22/10 Office closed due to annual holidays for Frank and Mary Ondrus

Grant applications:

- C/f 17/09 Miriam submitted online Federal Volunteer Grant application for a new computer
- 18/02 Submitted environment grant application to TRC (Toowoomba Regional Council) → *Success! We received \$4,947.50 from council to undertake drone surveys of 2 creek areas*
- March/19 EOI to Communities Environment Program, Federal – c/o Hon John McVeigh, Member for Groom. Management of *Endangered, Vulnerable and Near Threatened (EVNT) Fauna / Flora Species in typical Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES) / Threatened Ecological Communities (TEC) vegetation communities through knowledge – Species Likelihood of Occurrence Matrix, Property Specific Species Mgt Plans and Site Mgt Plans*
- *Online application completed mid-August*
- 10/05 Online application re: National Volunteer Week – \$150 for thank you” morning tea → *Unsuccessful (14/05)*
- June/19 Started grant application to Community Sustainability Action grant, Qld
- 12/07/19 Fed. Govt Volunteer Grant for new computer was unsuccessful)
- 22/07/19 Online application to GCBF for a new computer system)
- 15/08/19 Tucker Foundation – Landholders driving Endangered species conservation on private lands

Lowlights included:

- Several computer hardware and software problems
- High turnover of volunteers
- Loss of members (full and associate) → current membership stands at 560

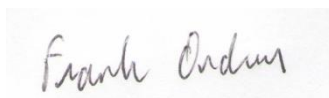
Outstanding matters:

Still awaiting decision from federal Government re application to Register of Environmental Organisations.

Lastly, I wish to thank the Management Committee and Admin Support Staff for their dedicated work throughout the year; the many envNGOs, government agencies and businesses who shared their expertise and resources with us; and particular thanks to local State and Federal politicians who provided free photocopying throughout the year.

In closing, I wish the in-coming committee all the best for 2019-2020.

Regards,



Frank Ondrus, President – HOPE Inc.

(Copies of my quarterly summary reports are enclosed for your reference.)

Significant office highlights:

- We welcomed lots of volunteers over the past 3 months, but not all have been able to contribute
- 10/11 AGM 2018
- 10/11 1st Ordinary Meeting of 2018-2019 team
- 17/11 Updated 'draft' budget sent to Accountant/Auditor for review and input to Transaction file.
- 19/11 Bob Phelps, GeneEthics Network, has agreed to be our contact for genetically modified technology issues here in Australia
- 20/11 Listened in on ICANw webinar re UN Nuclear Weapons Ban Treaty; and what HOPE could do in support of the campaign
- 22/11 Received a donation of a PC camera with built-in microphone from Lifeline DD & SW Qld
- 01/12 Issued E: News Bulletin for December 2018
- 13/12 Received – Blue Card for Frank Ondrus
- 20/12 Computer shutting down often due to over-heating! Sent to Colmac Computers for service.
- 04/01 Received a donated Laptop from Lifeline Darling Downs & South-West Qld
- 08/01 Issued HOPE national petition calling on the Australian Government to sign the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.
- 26/01 Applied to Grill'd for financial donation (via online application)
- 09/02 Ordinary Meeting poorly attended
- 09/02 Completed online annual survey from QWaLC for ongoing insurance purposes
- 10/02 Issued e: letter concerning "Is the future of Australia's economy ... circular?" by Mariana Marabini
- 12/02 Received donations of Gigabyte Notebook q2532 and a Brother Laser printer HL1430
→ Both items passed on to David Shipp
- 13/02 Donated all of Green Harvest's pkts of seeds to the Mulberry Project team
- 13/02 Donated 2,000 QMDC (Queensland Murray-Darling Committee) branded plastic sachets to the Glennie School Fair
- 25/02 Submitted online EOI for LEAF (Logan Eco Action Festival) 2019
- 14/03 Donated residue of QMDC branded promotional items to Newtown State School for their upcoming fete
- 15/03 Students led protest for Climate Action
- 17/03 Resignation of several volunteers – including Gillian Tait who was assisting with Social Media posts
→ Vacancies still exist for Media Officers, Newsletter Editor and Social Media Assistants
- 08/04 Issued Special edition newsletter of Places You Love articles (all written by Sasha Adams)
- 11/04 New volunteer Marie Yandog is assisting with Website maintenance
→ Marie has agreed to act as interim Website Administrator for the remainder of 2018-2019
- 11/04 Sasha Adams and Dan Bielich recently attended separate conferences and they have each provided us with written reports
- 11/04 Two possible community forum proposals for later in the year are: How to constructively use deliberate democracy principles to achieve support for environmental change; and the Benefits of Earth Jurisprudence Laws
- 11/04 Grill'd Toowoomba will be donating \$100 to us shortly
- 19/04 Sasha Adams has stepped away from HOPE
- 25/04 Marie Yandog has volunteered to be our Website Administrator ... and she is doing a fantastic job!
- 25/05 "Thank you" morning tea – National Volunteer Week
- 26/06 Logan Eco Action Festival (LEAF) → Another successful event for HOPE with \$262.60 raised in donations
- 31/05 Welcome new researcher Christina Lamb
- 05/06 Free 'plant' giveaway for Qld Govt Climate Week – outside Grand Central Shopping Centre, Toowoomba
- 18/06 Public Meeting at Gowrie Junction to discuss Drone Survey of Gowrie Creek
- 20/06 Acquitted TRC environment grant – paperwork, reports, etc. hand-delivered to Mark Ready, Parks & Recreation
- 21/06 Received "thank you" certificate from Highfields Pioneer Village & Museum for voluntary contributions throughout the year
- 11/07 An "Art-Science-Nature" project proposal has been sent to Dr Rebecca Scollen, Head of School (creative Arts), University of Southern Queensland (USQ) for her consideration.
- 14/07 HOPE has invited Toowoomba Regional Council (TRC) to consider the merits of using "Deliberative Democracy" practices for future community consultation exercises.
- 15/07 A letter was also sent to Ms. Heckenberg, USQ, regarding a poster series by College for Indigenous Studies, Education and Research (CISER) ISE3000 Research Project 2019 and its relevance to work being undertaken by HOPE.
- 16/07 11am Outlook program not loading/opening. Contacted Colmac Computers for assistance and problem was resolved remotely around 4pm
- 19/07 The planned "conversation on climate" presentation was cancelled due to insufficient registrations. I'll work with Janet Bishop to convene a similar event sometime in the future.
- 19/07 Steve Cupitt, Crossroads Rural & Environment with support from Sandy Robertson, Fauna Ecologist and Kym Campbell, Environmental Scientist have offered their combined services to help us with environmental/landcare projects.
- 22/07 Miriam and I submitted an online grant application to the Gambling Community Benefit Fund (GCBF) for a new computer system.
- 24/07 Handed over accounts for annual auditing
- 26/07 A big thanks to new volunteers – Lea, Max and Gemma who helping with article writing; Cristiano who is producing promotional videos; and Juliette and Thomas who are assisting with posting items to our Facebook page.

- 01/08 Issued "Your support sought for UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons" to Federal Government House of Representative and Senate members.
- 06/08 Mary and I will be taking annual holidays late September to mid-October. Therefore, the September edition of our newsletter will cover 2 months.
- 15/08 Our audited accounts were returned this afternoon. We will be reimbursed \$51 from ATO re GST return.
- 15/08 Windows 'cumulative' Updates still not working properly. Version 1803 was successfully installed on 29 July. But, versions 1809 and 1903 are awaiting a fix from Microsoft Tech Support.
- 28/08 Both Mary and I have been hit by heavy coughs and colds for over a week now – and we're both physically and mentally drained.
- 14/09 Ongoing problems with Windows 10 software not upgrading fully
 → 24/09 Issues resolved with reinstall of Windows 10 Pro and new MS office 2019
- 17/09 Introductory meeting with Thomas Hart and Krystle Hohn from Qld Department of Environment and Science (DES)
- 27/09-22/10 Office closed due to annual holidays for Frank and Mary Ondrus
- 09/11 Annual General Meeting (AGM) and 1st Ordinary Meeting of 2019-2020 Management Committee

Media Releases:

- 09/11 Issued nationally email Media Release re: International Volunteer Day, 5 Dec 2018
- 16/11 Issued nationally email Media Release re: World Soils Day, 5 Dec 2018
- 23/11 Issued nationally email Media Release re: Human Rights Day, 10 December 2018
- 01/03 Emailed nationally media release re ICANw petition
 → Has not gained much traction!? Still less than 500 signatures (29/04/2019)
- 11/03 Issued nationally email Media Release re: Protecting our environment for the future!
- 27/07 Issued e: Media release globally re: Request for Environmental Poems
- 12/08 Issued globally e: mail re: All GM activities now require notification to the OGTR for regulation, but there are proposed exemptions

Grant applications:

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- 18/02 Submitted environment grant application to TRC (Toowoomba Regional Council) → *Success! We received \$4,947.50 from council to undertake drone surveys of 2 creek areas*
- 11/04 Project 'expression of interest' for Community Environment program submitted to Hon John McVeigh, Member for Groom
- 10/05 Online application re: National Volunteer Week – \$150 for thank you" morning tea → *Unsuccessful (14/05)*
- March/19 EOI to Communities Environment Program, Federal – c/o Hon John McVeigh, Member for Groom. Management of *Endangered, Vulnerable and Near Threatened (EVNT) Fauna / Flora Species in typical Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES) / Threatened Ecological Communities (TEC) vegetation communities through knowledge – Species Likelihood of Occurrence Matrix, Property Specific Species Mgt Plans and Site Mgt Plans*
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Account activity:

- 20/11 Reapplied to Officeworks Toowoomba for a 30day Business account → Received 12/12
- 27/12 Paid Colmac Computers account of \$66 with GST = \$6.00 (cheque no. = 200665)
- 03/01 Purchased 5 cartons of photocopy/printer paper from Officeworks Toowoomba – cheque no. 200666, cost \$125 with GST = \$11.36
- 03/01 Purchased a set of speakers for the office computer) from Officeworks Toowoomba – cheque no. 200667, cost \$29.60 with GST = \$2.69
- 20/01 Cheque no. 200669 cancelled due to incorrect invoice amount specified
- 22/01 Paid Telstra ph./internet charges for Jan 2019 --- cheque no. 200670, amount + \$100 with GST = \$9.09
- 29/01 Reimbursed Steve for magnetic car signs – cheque no. 200671, amount = \$29.98 with GST = \$2.73
- 11/02 Annual renewal of Assn Inc. with OFT Qld, cheque no. = 200672 for \$55.35
- 18/02 Submitted updated HOPE Constitution and notification form to OFT (Office of Fair Trading Qld with payment of ...
- 03/04 Paid Telstra account for ph./internet charges, Apr 2019 -- \$100, GST = \$9.09 (cheque no. 200674)
- 27/05 Banked \$262.60 donations from LEAF 2019 event
- 30/05 Venue hire of library resource centre at Gowrie State School for Drone Survey of Gowrie Creek public presentation, 18 June – Cheque no 200676 for \$60 with GST - \$5.45
- 27/05 Banked \$262.60 donations from LEAF 2019 event
- 30/05 Venue hire of library resource centre at Gowrie State School for Drone Survey of Gowrie Creek public presentation, 18 June – Cheque no 200676 for \$60 with GST - \$5.45
- 24/06 Cheque no. = 200677 --- Payment of \$99 (with GST = \$9.00) to CLEVVI for some website maintenance back in April 2019
- 26/06 Cheque no. = 200678 --- Payment of \$489.50 (with GST = \$44.50) to CLEVVI for Annual Hosting of Website
- 28/06 Received \$5,442.25 grant monies from Toowoomba Regional Council
→ \$1,518.95 paid to HOPE for services rendered
- 29/06 Cheque no. = 200680 --- Paid Crossroads Rural & Environment \$3,839 (with GST = \$349) for Drone Survey work and reporting
- 01/07 Banked \$100 donation from Grill'd Toowoomba
- 02/07 Cheque no. = 200681 --- Paid Volunteering Queensland \$110 (with GST = \$10) for 2019-2010 Membership renewal
- 18/07 Paid Colmac Computers, cheque no. = 200682, \$35.25 (GST = \$3.20) for fix to Outlook program
- 15/08 Paid Crosato Country Enterprises \$250 for auditing of accounts (cheque no. = 200683)
- 15/08 Paid QCC Inc \$33 for membership renewal for 2019-20 (cheque no. = 200684, GST = \$3.00)
- 25/09 Pay Colmac Computers \$655 (GST = \$59.55) for Windows 10 Pro reinstall and new MS Office 2019 (cheque no. 200686)
- 23/10 Pay Telstra \$100 (GST = \$9.09) for Phone/Internet charges Oct 2019
- 25/10 Issue with Google Chrome. Problem resolved remotely by Colmac Computers at a cost of \$39.50
- 28/10 Banked \$300 donation

C/f items - Current projects

- The Places You Love (PYL) Alliance and Australian Panel of Experts in Environmental Law's (APEEL) call for a new Generation of National Environmental Laws;
 - United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs); and
 - International Campaign Against Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) – including HOPE's national petition urging the immediate signing of the United Nations (UN) Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) → *Less than 500 signatures collected prior to the Federal Election*
 - The call for a bipartisan approach to developing “a national Climate Policy” is another important issue for us to support. HOPE will be working with key envNGOs such as Climate and Health Alliance (CAHA) <http://www.caha.org.au/> and others to raise awareness and support for a complete review of actions to mitigate climate change.
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