



CNA
Catholic Network
Australia

Annual Report 2022-23







Acknowledgement of Country

Catholic Network Australia Limited recognises and respects Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians as the Traditional Owners of these lands.

In the spirit of reconciliation, we acknowledge and pay respect to the Traditional Owners and Elders – past, present and emerging.

Catholic Network Australia Limited

Catholic Network Australia Limited (CNA) is a subsidiary company of the Australian Episcopal Conference of the Roman Catholic Church. It was set up in 2009 by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference (ACBC) to advance and promote the religious, educational and general charitable purposes of the Church and its entities. It has since evolved to become a broader consortium of Australian Catholic Education organisations committed to sharing resources and expertise.

CNA is focused on elevating Catholic education through collaboration, shared resources, and centrally negotiated technology solutions.

The following dioceses, school authorities, colleges and religious institutes are CNA Participants:

- All Hallows' School, Brisbane
- Marist Schools Australia

Catholic Education Australian Capital Territory / New South Wales

- Archdiocese of Canberra & Goulburn

Catholic Education New South Wales

- Sydney Catholic Schools
- Armidale Catholic Schools
Diocese of Armidale
- Diocese of Bathurst
- Catholic Schools Broken Bay
- Diocese of Lismore Catholic Schools
- Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle
- Catholic Schools Parramatta Diocese
- Catholic Education
Diocese of Wagga Wagga
- Diocese of Wilcannia-Forbes

Catholic Education Queensland

- Archdiocese of Brisbane
- Diocese of Cairns
- Catholic Education
Diocese of Rockhampton

- Diocese of Toowoomba
- Diocese of Townsville

Catholic Education South Australia (CESA)

- Archdiocese of Adelaide
- Diocese of Port Pirie

Catholic Education Tasmania

- Archdiocese of Hobart

Catholic Education Victoria

- Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic School
- Diocese of Ballarat Catholic Education
- Diocese of Sale Catholic Education
- Catholic Education Sandhurst

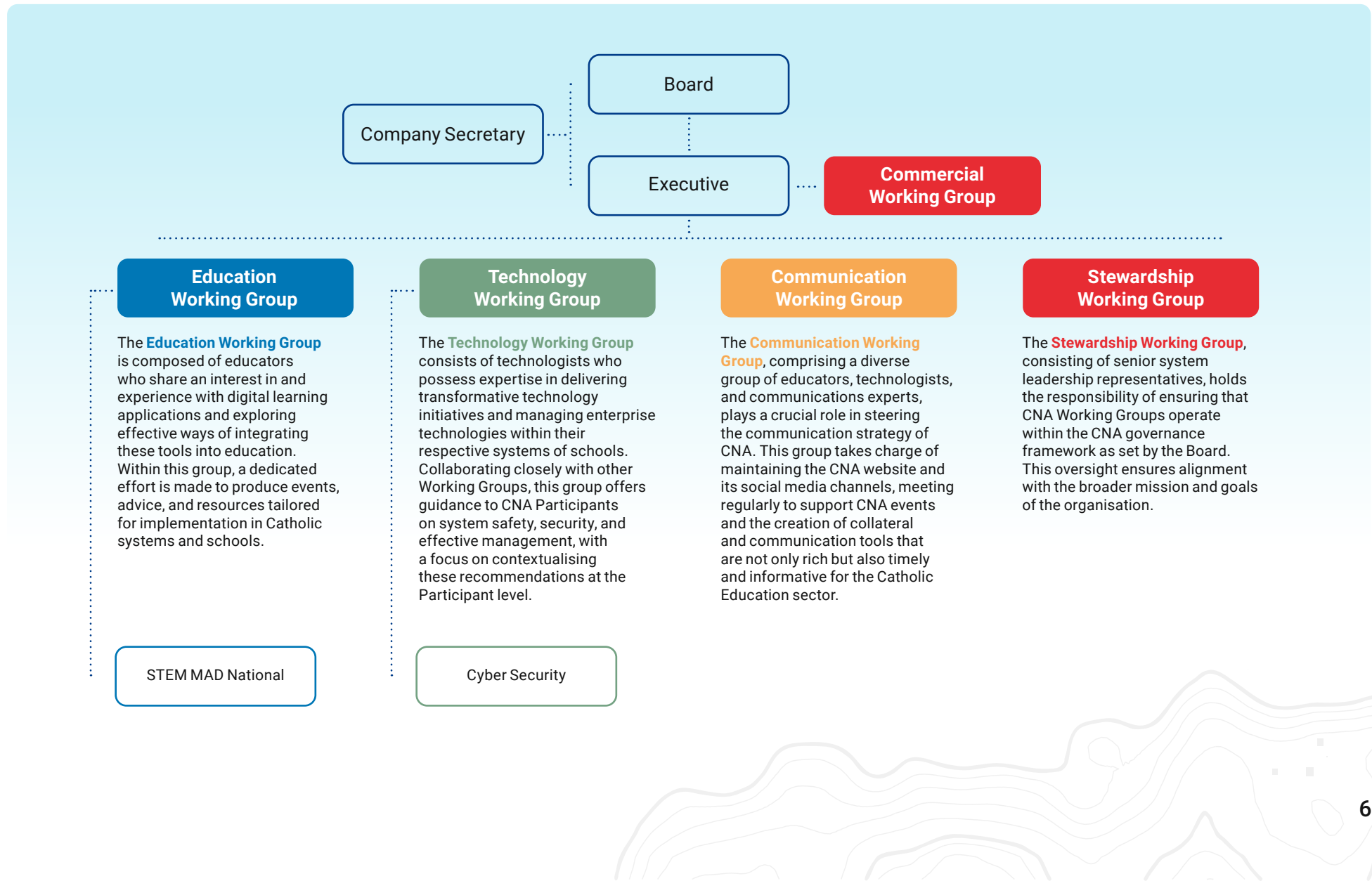
Catholic Education Western Australia (CEWA)

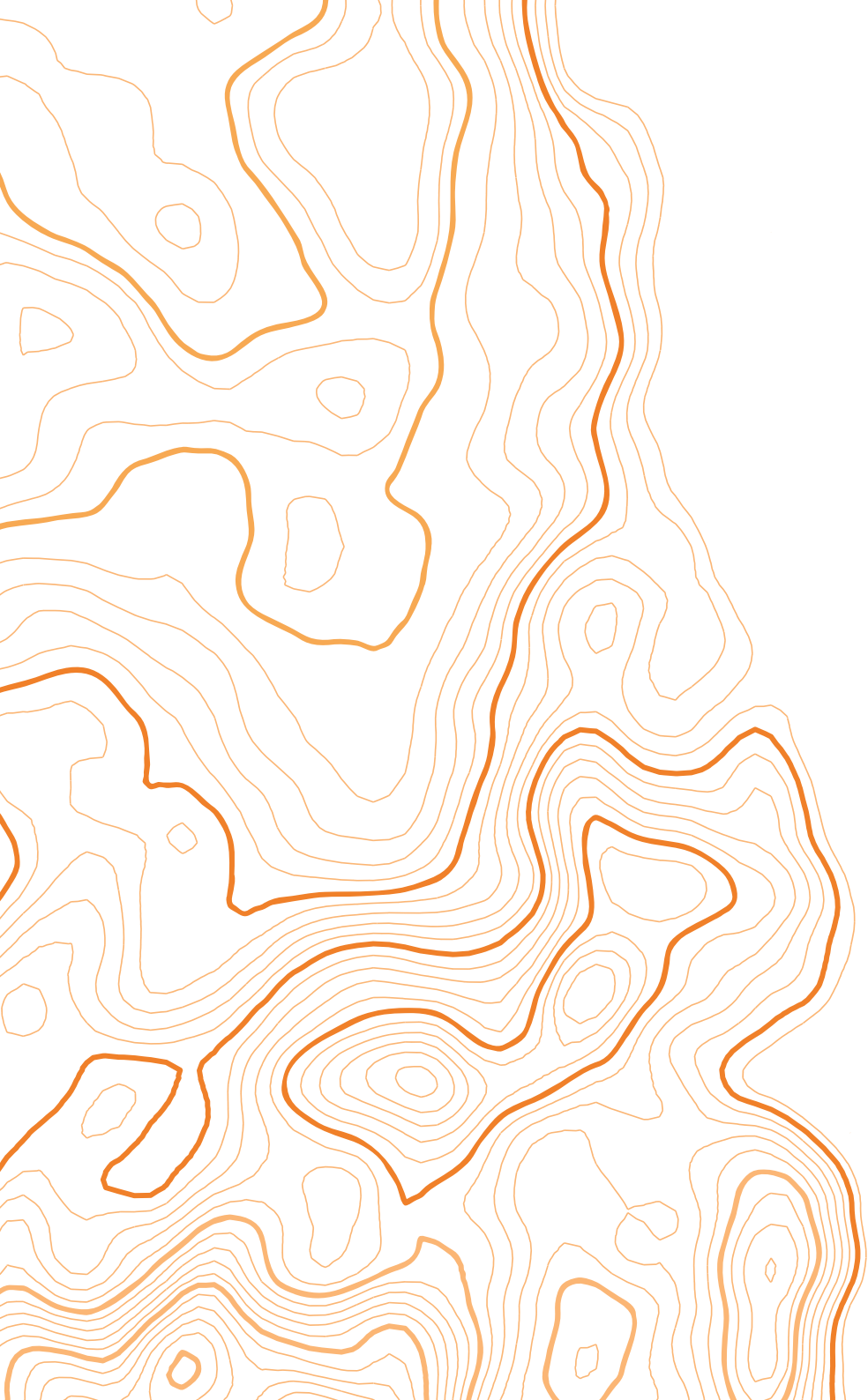
- Archdiocese of Perth
- Diocese of Broome
- Diocese of Bunbury
- Diocese of Geraldton

CNA's strategic vision



CNA Structure





Key Activity

CNA was founded in 2009 for the purpose of consolidating contracts for network services and software licenses for Catholic schools, school authorities, and associated Catholic jurisdictional bodies. Over the years, CNA has evolved into a pioneering organisation, currently overseeing one of the nation's most extensive networks of private connections. Furthermore, it promotes technological collaboration, facilitating the exchange of strategies to support Catholic educators and their communities across participating states and territories. This collaborative effort is aimed at enhancing both teaching and student learning outcomes, as well as streamlining school administration.

CNA is composed of volunteers from participating Australian Catholic Education schools and school systems. In all endeavours, CNA remains steadfast in its commitment to showcase the value of collective focus and action, demonstrating that working together leads to improved outcomes for all.

From the board

It is with great pleasure that the CNA board presents the 2022–2023 annual report of Catholic Network Australia Limited.

CNA plays a pivotal role in serving over 1,500 Catholic schools across Australia and over 770,000 students, teachers and staff.

CNA's reach spans the northernmost point of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, Thursday Island, to the southernmost Sacred Heart Catholic School, Geeveston. From the easternmost St Augustine's Parish Primary School, Currumbin Waters, to the westernmost St Mary Star of the Sea Catholic School, Carnarvon.

In late 2021-2022, CNA concluded its strategic planning for the 2022 to 2025 period. This resulted in an organisational restructure, established to support the effective delivery of CNA's ambitious strategic goals and objectives for the period.

2022-2023 marked the execution phase for the new strategic plan. The restructure led to the creation of four core working groups, reflecting the 4 focus areas embedded in the strategic plan - Education, Technology, Communication and Stewardship. A fifth working group was also established - the Commercial working group to continue the negotiation processes established over the past couple of years.

In all instances, pre-existing committees and

working groups were replaced, so the Digital Learning Network (DLN) and Contemporary Learning Working Group (CLWG) became the Education Working Group (EWG), representing a diverse and productive body of educators from 18 Participant organisations. The Negotiating Team was separated into the Commercial Working Group and the Technology Working Group.

Two new working groups were also created, in response to feedback and renewed commitments to improved and streamlined communication (Communication) and ensuring consistent templates, policies, and guidelines to enhance CNA's governance (Stewardship).

CNA has made significant progress towards its strategic goals in this first year of the new strategic planning horizon, delivering on most of its objectives with renewed energy. We are excited about the momentum that's been established, the collaboration experienced between Participants and the organisation's impact on providing schools with equitable access to affordable technologies.

Our board extends heartfelt gratitude to the numerous individuals who have contributed to CNA's success in 2022-2023. Special mention goes to Mr. Michael Haigh, whose tireless efforts have fostered a vibrant community of Catholic Education experts dedicated to enhancing the experiences of staff and students in Catholic schools across Australia. We also express our appreciation to the volunteers who empower the working groups and Executive. CNA's strength lies in the dedication of volunteers from our diverse

range of Participants.

The delivery of information and communication technology (ICT) services to Participants relies on close collaboration with external partners. We extend our heartfelt thanks to them for their invaluable service to our Participants. These include Orro, Telstra and Microsoft as well as SoftwareOne and Insight all of whom have agreements with CNA.

Lastly, I would like to extend my personal gratitude to my fellow directors for their outstanding thought leadership and unwavering support of CNA's vital mission.



Peter Matthey



Supporting the **770,000+** students, teachers and staff spanning the **1,500+** Catholic schools of Australia that are Participants of CNA.

Benefits realised



Equity

Support for Participants of all sizes, geographies and level of need



Child Safety

Improved security for staff and students through new edge security capabilities



\$0

increase in membership fees over the past three years



Inclusion

100% of Participants use at least one negotiated CNA offering



380%

Average annual return for Participants who consume CNA negotiated MSAs



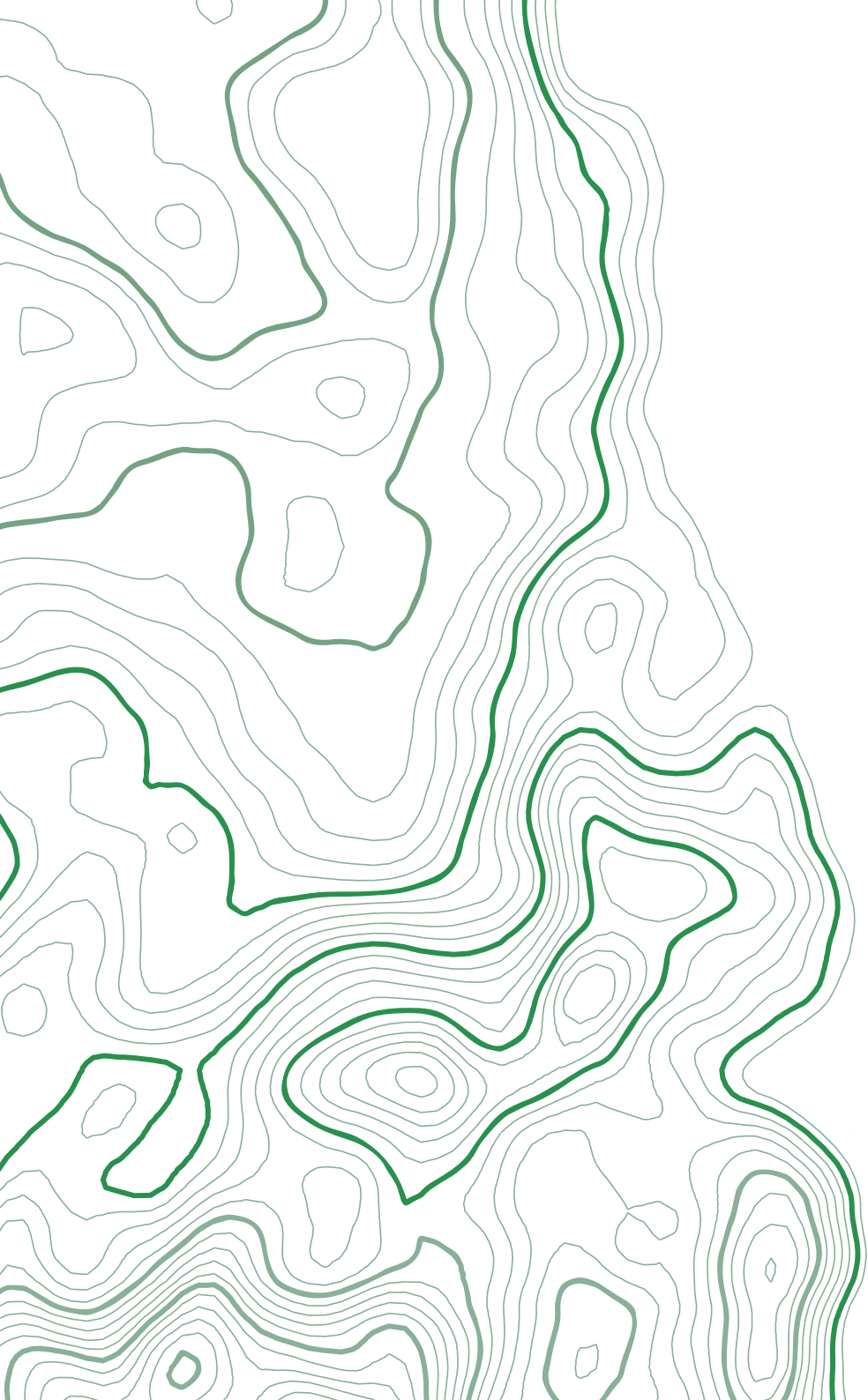
3x

increase in bandwidth compared to previous contract at no extra cost

Events

| September 2022 | November 2022 | October 2022 | March 2023 | May 2023 | June 2023 |
|--|---|--|---|---|--|
| <p>STEM MAD National</p> <p>Students and educators participate in this in-person event, learning from STEM leaders and empowering students to demonstrate key skills and capabilities of contemporary learning.</p> | <p>CNA Forum</p> <p>A Cyber Security-focused in-person event for technology specialists and school leadership.</p> | <p>Education Working Group</p> <p>In person and virtual, quarterly events to plan the Education focuses of CNA: Perth (18-20 October 2022).</p> | <p>Minecraft: Education Edition Challenge</p> <p>A virtual event for students and educators to engage in students' creativity and strengthen 21st century skills linked to <i>Laudato Si'</i>.</p> | <p>CNA Leaders' Symposium</p> <p>An Artificial Intelligence-focused in-person event for technology specialists, educators and school leadership.</p> | <p>Education Working Group</p> <p>In person and virtual, quarterly events to plan the Education focuses of CNA: Parramatta (20-22 June 2023).</p> |

Interested? Learn more on our [website](#)



Working Group Achievements

CNA is a consortium of Australian Catholic Education organisations committed to empowering Catholic Education through access and collaboration. Its four focus areas are Education, Stewardship, Communication and Technology. Key achievements of each Working Group are summarised below.

Commercial Working Group

The Commercial Working Group, led by Mr. Tony Panetta, Chief Information Officer of CEWA, is a collaborative effort encompassing participants from CESA, CEWA, and Marist Schools Australia. This diverse group caters to participant needs gathered from the Voice of the Diocese survey and Working Group requests.

The primary mission of the Commercial Working Group is to streamline service, software, and hardware procurement processes in order to provide affordable access to technology for Catholic Education organisations. Notably, a comprehensive analysis of return on investment has revealed an impressive average return of approximately 380% for Participants, with even higher returns for those leveraging Master Service Agreements (MSAs) extensively. It is worth noting that utilisation rates remained consistent throughout the 2022-2023 period.

Furthermore, the Working Group is actively exploring the potential for centralised partnerships with a number of vendors, in addition to its existing offerings encompassing Data Carriage, Microsoft, and Licensing Solution Provider (LSP) services. This forward-thinking approach ensures continued growth and efficiency in Catholic Education services.

Communication Working Group

The Communication Working Group, led by Mr. Ben Beaton, Team Leader Digital Services and Partner Engagement at CEWA, was established with a mission to amplify awareness and engagement with CNA. This dynamic group boasts a diverse composition, drawing talent from across the country, including representatives from CESA, CEWA, Brisbane Catholic Education (BCE), Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools (MACS), and Diocese of Ballarat Catholic Education Ltd (DOBCEL).

The Working Group has championed several initiatives including implementing CNA's rebranding, creating visual assets, establishing a social media presence, rebuilding the CNA website, and extending marketing support to other working groups. Collaborating closely with the Education Working Group, the

Communication Working Group has promoted its endeavours, generating a stream of content for the CNA website and LinkedIn. Additionally, the team has developed standardised templates, ensuring that its efforts are replicable and scalable for the benefit of all stakeholders.

CNA Website & LinkedIn

The redesigned CNA website has been thoughtfully structured around the core CNA strategic pillars: Education, Technology, Communication, and Stewardship. This strategic overhaul has been carefully executed to provide CNA's Participants with a wealth of valuable resources and events tailored to support educators, school leadership and technology specialists within the Catholic school systems.



LinkedIn, complementing the website, serves as a versatile tool for actively engaging with Participants, attracting new membership, soliciting committee participation, and informing external stakeholders about the diverse activities of CNA.

CNA's digital presence is harnessed to achieve several vital objectives, including creating excitement around CNA and Participant events, highlighting the significance of CNA's initiatives, promoting interest in the Annual Report, and facilitating the distribution of surveys, research, and relevant content to Participants.

While striking a balance between Participant requests and available resources, the Communication Working Group is committed to maintaining a steady stream of high-impact, yet concise and relevant content on both website and LinkedIn channels.

Education Working Group



The Education Working Group was formed through merging the former Contemporary Learning Working Group and the Digital Learning Network under the leadership of Matthew Ferrinda, Team Leader - Digital Learning at CEWA. The Working Group's goal is to support improved digital literacy, and its

membership is from most of the dioceses across the country.

The Education Working Group has identified a range of technology tools to support teaching and learning. The list of resources can be found on the CNA website. The Working Group held two in-person meetings over the year in Parramatta and Perth focused on activating the new structure, refining the Terms of Reference, creating a STEM MAD National sub-committee, enhancing the website and preparing for other education events.

STEM MAD National

73 teams from 59 schools across Australia attended the showcase which was held on 6 September at Melbourne Conference and Exhibition Centre (MCEC) in conjunction with the National Catholic Education Commission (NCEC) Conference.

Themed '*A human's guide to the future: How humanity can thrive through our ever-evolving technology*', students confidently demonstrated key skills and capabilities of contemporary learning. The event included fun media opportunities and a personalised keynote from one of Australia's most inspirational and influential superstars of STEM, Dr. Jordan Nguyen.

Special 'People's Choice' Showcase awards including Best STEM Ambassadors for primary and secondary teams were announced at the end of the day.

Technology Working Group

The Technology Working Group was formed under the leadership of Mr. Phil Proctor, Director Information and Communications Technology at CESA. The Working Group's goal is to enable equitable access to technology. It is composed of cross-country membership inclusive of participants from Catholic Schools Parramatta Diocese (CSPD), CESA, CEWA, BCE, Catholic Education Tasmania, Diocese of Ballarat Catholic Education, Catholic Education Sandhurst and Catholic Education Diocese of Cairns.

Technology Provider Update

The Microsoft licensing agreement is on year 2 of a 5-year contract. Services are well utilised by the majority of Participants. The CECV transition from Telstra to Orro is near complete. All other Participants using the previous Telstra agreement have completed their respective transitions. Centralised reporting of the Wide Area Network (WAN) performance has been produced for Participants using Orro. The Technology Working Group will monitor ongoing performance at their discretion.



A complete catalogue of CNA products and services has been produced and is available on the CNA website.

Enhancing Child and Staff safety

In an effort to bolster the security of students and staff, the Technology Working Group has partnered with Fortinet, a leading cybersecurity provider, to offer a cutting-edge network firewall solution, Fortigate NGFW, to all Participants. This advanced firewall supersedes previous Cisco Firepower and Palo Alto devices, offering enhanced features, ease of deployment, and improved service and support. The Fortigate solution has been successfully implemented by several Participants and is now accessible to all, irrespective of their operating platform.

The CNA negotiated discounts for Edge devices completed in September 2022. However, Participants are still able to purchase these devices through the MSA without the discount.

Kimberley Project

CNA has consistently supported CEWA’s commitment to improve internet connectivity for its most remote schools in the East Kimberley, namely Balgo (Wirrimanu), Billiluna (Mindibungu), Mulan and Ringer Soak (Kundat Djaru). A project supported through the Regional Connectivity Program (State and



Commonwealth funding), as well as contributions from CEWA has been established, to install a private radio network that will provide terrestrial services to these remote communities.

Despite significant effort and strong community and government support throughout 2022-2023, the

process to conclude land tenure for the location of all 13 radio towers has taken longer than expected, resulting in construction delays. CNA has actively supported the project team in its efforts to engage with Amplitel and Telstra to ensure progress is made.

An interim solution will be introduced in early 2023-2024, with low orbit satellite technology installed to support improved internet access for the students and staff at these schools while native title holder support is finalised.

Cyber Security Forum

On November 16, 2022, CNA and Catholic Education Network (CEnet) collaborated to run a Cyber Security Forum, which was generously hosted by Sydney Catholic Schools. The event drew more than 80 attendees hailing from 15 Participants, as well as representatives from National Catholic Education Committee (NCEC) and CEnet. Distinguished security and technology experts

from Microsoft, Razilio, Fortinet, Telstra, and Orro led the forum, providing updates and insights into current technologies. These sessions encouraged Participants to delve into the challenges faced by the Catholic Education sector, enhance security measures, and fortify defences.

The forum revolved around three key themes: governance, education, and training, with a special focus on the Essential 8 cybersecurity strategies developed by the Australian Signals Directorate. The day offered a platform for attendees to exchange knowledge with peers and industry specialists, empowering them to refine their individual security strategies.

Post-forum, CNA worked with the NCEC and CEnet to establish a governance structure and a Cyber Security Working Group (CSWG) reporting directly to the NCEC Information Technology Working Group (NCEC ITWG). This collaborative effort aims to advance cybersecurity within the whole Catholic Education sector.

Digital Inclusion for Online Learning Research Initiative

In early 2022, CNA jointly sponsored the Digital Inclusion for Online Learning Research Initiative, a year-long research project focused on digitally marginalised students in three regional and metropolitan West Australian Catholic schools. The objective was to assess the impact of providing these students with access to technology and bridge the learning gap that exists outside the classroom.

This comprehensive research initiative furnished digitally excluded students with essential digital resources, including laptops and laptop bags, home internet access, digital literacy and cyber safety training, as well as ongoing support. Collaborating partners included the Auda Foundation, CEWA, nbn™, Western Sydney University, Enigma Business Partners, Aussie Broadband, SkyMesh, and Comp Now. The research was conducted under the oversight of Western Sydney University’s Young and Resilient Research Centre, adhering to ethical review processes.

Commencing in Term 1, 2022, the initiative spanned the entire school year, benefiting 69 students across three CEWA schools. These schools had a

significant indigenous population, a high number of students with disabilities, a substantial English as an Additional Language or Dialect (EALD) demographic, and low Direct Measure of Income (DMI) scores. Participating families were provided with home broadband, laptops (if required), laptop bags, cyber safety and digital literacy training, and technical assistance.

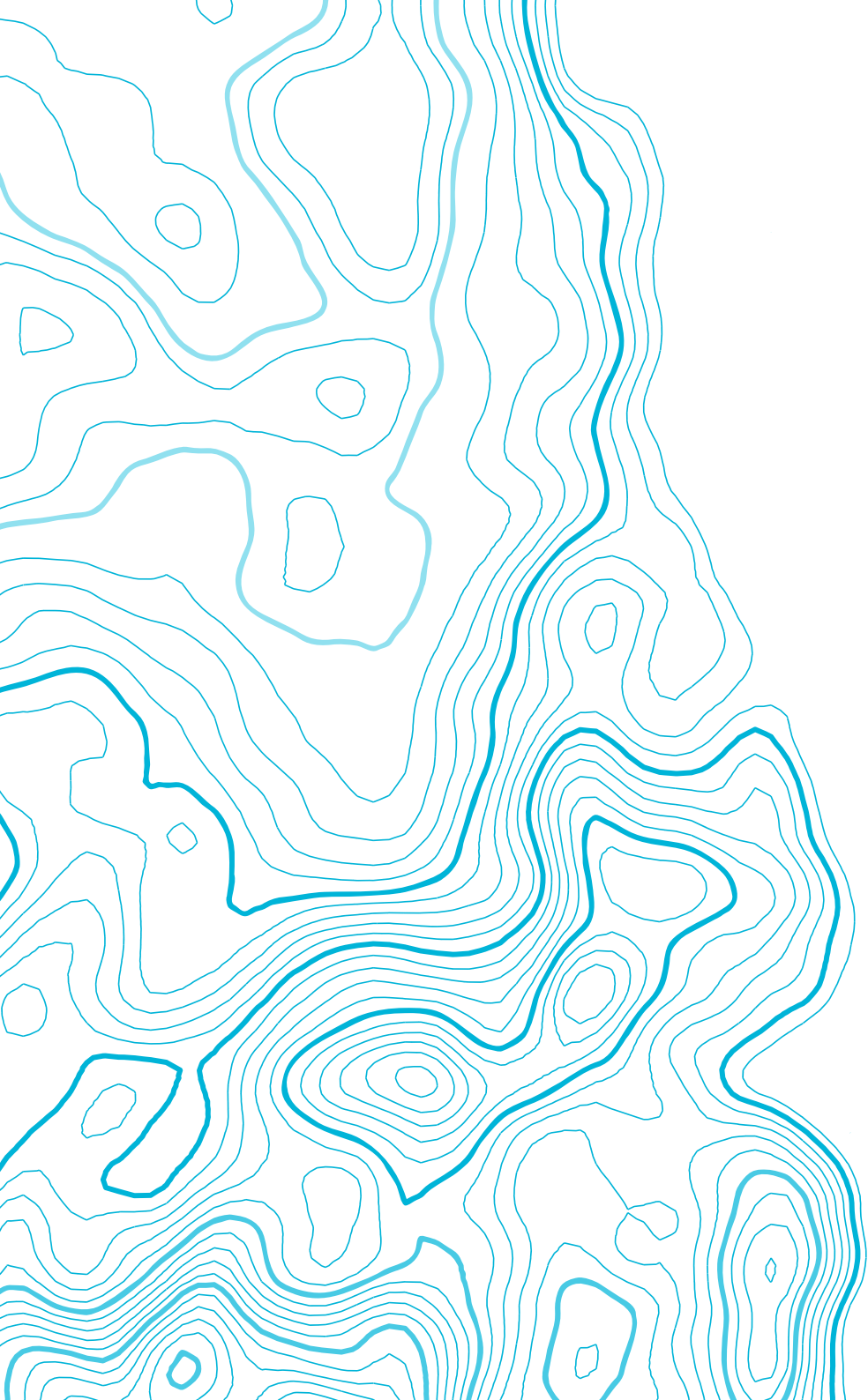
The research initiative concluded in late 2022, and its findings contributed to the Commonwealth Department of Infrastructure's School Student Broadband Initiative (SSBI), a nationwide effort launched in February 2023.

The SSBI aims to provide 30,000 digitally excluded families with free internet access and support. All families who received 12 months of free internet within the research initiative were seamlessly transitioned to continue receiving this support through the School Student Broadband Initiative.

Stewardship Working Group

Under the guidance of Ms. Leesa Jeffcoat AM, Diocesan Director of Catholic Education Diocese of Rockhampton, the Stewardship Working Group has been established. This Working Group is dedicated to streamlining improved governance practices, and has a diverse membership spanning CESA, BCE, Catholic Education Tasmania, and the Catholic Education Diocese of Cairns.

Notably, the group has accomplished the creation of crucial governance documents, including protocols for conflict of interest and confidentiality, detailed Terms of Reference for each Working Group, and an approval system for vendor management. In addition, they have developed a comprehensive governance framework, a robust risk management framework, an informative induction package for incoming Executive and Board members, and have successfully updated the CNA Constitution in conjunction with the Australian Catholic Bishops' Conference (ACBC).



Financial Accounts

1. The summary of the financial statements of Catholic Network Australia Limited was extracted from the audited 30 June 2023 financial statements. These are available upon request from the company secretary or via a company search of the Australian Charities and Non-for-profits Commission (ACNC).
2. The Statement of Comprehensive Income is to be read in conjunction with the notes to, and forming part of, the financial statements.

Statement of Comprehensive Income

for the Financial Year ended 30 June 2023

| Revenue | Note | 2023 (\$) | 2022 (\$) |
|--|------|----------------|----------------|
| Revenue from services provided | 3 | 730,292 | 701,254 |
| Other revenue | 3 | 41,548 | 5,617 |
| Total Revenue | | 771,840 | 706,871 |
| | | | |
| Consultancy and Marketing Expenses | 4 | 372,816 | 307,260 |
| CEnet Management Fees | | 173,778 | 167,894 |
| Accounting Fees | | 54,974 | 53,805 |
| Seminars and Conferences | | 34,319 | 9,800 |
| Legal Expenses | | 19,868 | 29,241 |
| Audit Fee Expense | 5 | 16,529 | 15,038 |
| Subscriptions | | 11,691 | 12,177 |
| Corporate Registrations | | 7,404 | 7,404 |
| General Expenses | | 3,152 | 3,188 |
| Educational Services Expenses | | 1,582 | 2,301 |
| Strategic Program Contribution | | - | 40,000 |
| Total Expenditure | | 696,113 | 648,108 |
| Surplus for the year | | 75,727 | 58,763 |
| Other Comprehensive Income | | - | - |
| Total Comprehensive Income for the year | | 75,257 | 58,763 |
| Retained surplus of the company | | 75,257 | 58,763 |

Statement of Financial Provision

as at 30 June 2023

| Assets | Note | 2023 (\$) | 2022 (\$) |
|-----------------------------|-------------|------------------|------------------|
| Current Assets | | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 6 | 1,753,967 | 1,559,096 |
| Trade and other receivables | 7 | 278,706 | 377,687 |
| Prepayments | 9 | 9,579 | 7,970 |
| Other current assets | 8 | 8,418 | 4,713 |
| Total Current Assets | | 2,050,670 | 1,949,466 |
| Total Assets | | 2,050,670 | 1,949,466 |

Liabilities

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|----|------------------|------------------|
| Current Liabilities | | | |
| Trade and other payables | 10 | 500,512 | 475,035 |
| Total Current Liabilities | | 500,512 | 475,035 |
| Total Liabilities | | 500,512 | 475,035 |
| Net Assets | | 1,550,158 | 1,474,431 |

Equity

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|--|------------------|------------------|
| Members' Funds | | | |
| Retained earnings | | 1,550,158 | 1,474,431 |
| Total Members' Funds | | 1,550,158 | 1,474,431 |

Statement of Changes in Equity

for the Financial Year ended 30 June 2023

| | Retained Earnings (\$) | Total (\$) |
|---|------------------------|------------------|
| Balance at 1 July 2021 | 1,415,668 | 1,415,668 |
| Net Surplus for the year | 58,763 | 58,763 |
| Total other comprehensive income for the year | - | - |
| Balance at 30 June 2022 | 1,474,431 | 1,474,431 |
| Balance at 1 July 2022 | 1,474,431 | 1,474,431 |
| Net Surplus for the year | 75,727 | 75,727 |
| Total other comprehensive income for the year | - | - |
| Balance at 30 June 2023 | 1,550,158 | 1,550,158 |



Key people

Directors

Mr Peter Matthey (CNA Board Chairperson)

Dr Neil McGoran

Dr Debra Sayce

Office Bearer

Michael Haigh (Company Secretary)

Technology Working Group Members

Phil Proctor (CESA - Chairperson)

Dr. Raju Varanasi (Parramatta)

Tony Panetta (CEWA)

Boyd Bostock (Brisbane)

Ross March (Cairns)

Astrid Goss (Tasmania - Deputy Chair)

Stewardship Working Group Members

Leesa Jeffcoat (Rockhampton - Chairperson)

John Favretto (CESA)

Matthew Wissell (CESA - Invitee)

Jennifer Caro (Brisbane)

Ben Cooper (Tasmania)

Kerryn Callaghan (Cairns)

Education Working Group Members

JJ Purton Jones (Diocese of Lismore - Chair - leave)

Matthew Ferrinda (CEWA - Acting Chair)

Liam Garvey (QCEC)

Wendy Tisbury (Cairns)

Tracey Catling (Lismore)

David Williams (Sandhurst)

Sharyn Creed (Brisbane)

Charlotte Pezaro (Brisbane)

Jane Heatley (Tasmania)

Steven Newman (Maitland-Newcastle)

Hayley Bertwistle (Maitland-Newcastle)

Marc Hattam (Maitland-Newcastle)

Louise Lambert (MACS)

Chris Anthony (Canberra-Goulburn)

Paula Leadbitter (Wilcannia-Forbes)

Clynt Breen (Wilcannia-Forbes)

Karen Gardiner (Wagga Wagga)

Jason Ranieri (Sydney)

Lisa Nash (Parramatta)

Janice Mendham (Bathurst)

Jo Quinlan (Broken Bay)

Kimberley Shean (CESA)

Deborah Hansen (CESA)

Paul Norton (Rockhampton)

Nyree Buchanan (Townsville)

Frank Brooks (CENet - invitee)

Mark Woolley (Wollongong - invitee)

Communication Working Group Members

Ben Beaton (CEWA - Chairperson)

Danielle Purdy (MACS - Deputy Chairperson)

Alex Brodie (Ballarat)

Amy Robinson (Brisbane)

Lyle Skipsey (CEWA - Invitee)

Shannon Short (CESA)

Commercial Working Group Members

Tony Panetta (CEWA - Chairperson)

Phil Proctor (CESA - Deputy Chairperson)

Ernie Zibert (Marist Schools Australia)

Subject Matter Experts - per invite

CENet Service Delivery Team

Chris Burrows (Service Delivery Team)

Garry Anderson (Service Delivery Team)

Ian Gregory (Technical Officer)





cna.catholic.edu.au

info@cna.catholic.edu.au

PO Box 3, East Melbourne VIC 8002

03 9267 05241