



CNA

Catholic Network Australia

**ANNUAL REPORT
2019-20**

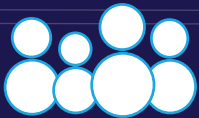


Catholic Network Australia Limited

Catholic Network Australia Limited (CNA) is a subsidiary company of Catholic Resources Ltd. It was created to procure and manage a private telecommunications network and associated technology services for the Catholic Church.



1,400+
EDUCATION SITES



660,000
STUDENTS AND STAFF

Participants

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

- Archdiocese of Adelaide
- Archdiocese of Brisbane
- Archdiocese of Hobart
- Archdiocese of Melbourne
- Archdiocese of Perth
- Archdiocese of Sydney
- Diocese of Ballarat
- Diocese of Bathurst
- Diocese of Broken Bay
- Diocese of Broome
- Diocese of Bunbury
- Diocese of Cairns
- Diocese of Geraldton
- Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle
- Diocese of Parramatta
- Diocese of Port Pirie
- Diocese of Rockhampton
- Diocese of Sale
- Diocese of Sandhurst
- Diocese of Townsville
- Diocese of Wagga Wagga
- Diocese of Wilcannia-Forbes
- All Hallows' School, Brisbane
- St Augustine's College, Sydney
- Marist Brothers.

A photograph of two young women in school uniforms smiling and looking towards the right. They are in a library setting with bookshelves and other students in the background. The image has a light blue overlay.

Key activity

Since 2009, CNA has aggregated purchasing of network services and software licences to drive down costs for the Catholic education sector. CNA continues to manage the largest national private network for Catholic schools and associated administrative offices across Australia. It has also fostered collaboration, sharing approaches to support Australian Catholic educators and their communities to enhance student learning and school administration through the use of technology.

From the Chair

It is with great pleasure that the CNA Board presents this annual report of Catholic Network Australia Limited. CNA provides services to more than 660,000 staff and students at over 1,400 Catholic schools and offices across Australia.



In 2009, CNA established a private online network. This network is still Australia's only truly national school education network with schools from Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, Thursday Island, in the north, to St Joseph's School, Wonthaggi, in the south; from St Augustine's Parish Primary School, Currumbin Waters, in the east to St Mary Star of the Sea Catholic School, Carnarvon, in the west. The establishment of the network was

possible because various entities within the Catholic education sector combined their energy and resources to participate in a project that delivered mutually beneficial outcomes.

The agreement with Telstra to provide CNA network services was renewed in January 2015 for a further five years.

The completion of the rollout of new services with Participants being able to access a unique virtual local area

network (VLAN) bundled configuration for the first time was seen in 2016. This configuration enabled them to significantly increase download capacity by being able to distinguish between ‘primary’ or premium secure traffic and ‘secondary’ or non-premium regular Internet traffic. This cost-effective solution has resulted in schools doubling or even trebling the capacity of their connections. Twenty-four CNA Participants representing over 1,300 Catholic schools and offices use these CNA network services.

Capital works costs at school sites

In 2017, Telstra agreed to set up a CNA Installation Works and Service Fund (IWSF) to be held by Telstra. The fund is specifically intended to cover installation and relocation works, including associated professional services costs where they arise. The 2016–17 IWSF, available to CNA, was \$1.284 million of which \$884,000 had been used to

provide installation works and other associated services. A further \$440,000 had also been allocated for services to remote schools in Western Australia. In 2018–19 a further \$673,000 was allocated to the fund. By the end of June 2019, \$1.62 million had been utilised to assist schools and dioceses. This included \$1.42 million across thirteen new schools and \$141,000 for relocations at fourteen schools, two diocesan offices and a Queensland data centre. Over the 2019–2020 financial year, a further \$110,000 was spent across projects in the Adelaide, Ballarat, Melbourne, Parramatta and Sale dioceses. After careful analysis of the minimum spend of all Participants for the period of the contract (i.e. the Telstra Business Services Agreement), an additional allocation of approximately \$2 million was deposited into the fund in June 2020. Since that time there has been more than \$100,000 in expenditure approved.

2019 Participants Forum

In November 2019, more than 50 Catholic educational leaders from all states in Australia gathered for the Participants Forum titled *Challenge Connect Create* for a day focused on science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education.

As part of the forum, two keynotes were delivered. The morning keynote from Andrew Douch was an outstanding presentation covering the use of technology in teaching and learning. It was no surprise to see he had won the Microsoft Innovative Teacher of the Year award earlier in his career. The key discussion points from the keynote were ‘how do we make learning stimulating?’ and ‘how do we increase feedback to teachers?’

The afternoon keynote was from two Monash University academics: Professor Amanda Berry and Dr Kathy Smith. Their presentation looked at creating

From the Chair (continued)

the enabling conditions for critical and creative thinking in integrated STEM learning.

The morning session was followed by an open session where students from nine Melbourne schools demonstrated their STEM projects to the attendees while they mingled and had their morning tea. The attendees were asked to vote for the best primary and secondary presentations. The Wellbeing App from Holy Saviour Parish School, Vermont South, was considered the best primary school presentation and the Robotic Arm from St Monica's College, Epping, was voted the best secondary school presentation.

The program continued with two sets of 'hands-on' workshops from the Digital Learning Network (DLN) dioceses. Schools from Catholic Education South Australia (CESA) provided a number of workshops – one of which included teachers and

students from Cabra Dominican College running a session on the use of Minecraft in learning. The Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle provided a student-led hands-on workshop from their virtual academy. The Diocese of Sandhurst provided coverage of their students' film festival. All workshops were very well received with the student participation being of particular note.

The day finished with a brainstorming session to assist in the planning for 2020 and 2021. The two main streams to emerge were:

1. Pursue ideas around supporting the introduction of artificial intelligence/augmented reality/virtual reality for deep learning in schools
2. Pursue further inter-diocesan sharing mechanisms, such as a 2021 National STEM Showcase building on the Catholic Education Melbourne STEM MAD Showcase.



Planning for the future

In 2017, CNA initiated an important project designed to plan for the options available to CNA Participants at the end of the current Telstra contract in 2020. The initial phases informed Catholic education leaders of the range of current and emerging Wide Area Networking (WAN) technology options likely to be available by 2020. The subsequent phase led to a report on the options available to CNA to be ready for use across its network.

It was agreed to go to market by approaching the larger vendors. However, it was felt that increased options would be achieved by including a number of smaller players. This included aggregators capable of building the network using their own or other carriers' infrastructure. An open market Expression of Interest (EoI) was run in March 2019. This was done to select

a small number of these vendors with the additional aim of increasing CNA's understanding of the data carriage approaches in the market.

The successful EoI vendors provided a mix of solutions utilising their own infrastructure, Telstra wholesale and National Broadband Network (NBN) Enterprise Ethernet. The outcome was that the list of vendors to be invited for the Request for Proposal (RFP) was agreed by the CNA Board as Telstra, Optus, Vocus, TPG, AARNET, Superloop, Broadband Solutions and Comscentre.

The RFP went to market in late 2019 and closed in Jan 2020 with all vendors providing compliant responses. A shortlist of Comscentre, Telstra, TPG and Vocus was agreed by the board in April. The RFP process was completed in December 2020 with Comscentre and Telstra executing Master Services Agreements with CNA.

These agreements, along with various negotiated schedules, will form the basis of individual Participant Service Contracts with the relevant supplier.

The board is grateful to the many people who have made CNA the success it is.

Our thanks go to those who serve with dedication on board subcommittees. Those on the Education Standing Committee continue to plan the enhancement of services delivered on the network and coordinate joint procurement activities. CNA's Negotiation Team have been very successful in working with both Telstra and Microsoft.

Delivery of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) services to Participants requires close cooperation with service partners. This includes Telstra, Catholic Education Melbourne, Brisbane Catholic Education, Catholic Education Western Australia and CEnet. We thank them for their service to Participants.

From the Chair (continued)



I would also like to thank my fellow directors for their contribution to this worthwhile platform.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Peter Matthey".

Peter Matthey

Services Summary

There is a range of services available for CNA sites belonging to the Catholic education sector.

Telecommunication services

CNA's telecommunication services include Internet access and Internet data, site connections, jurisdiction-based virtual private networks, network router monitoring and management, and router lease and maintenance. These are all sourced via CNA's contract with Telstra.

Some of these services are discrete to a Participant (e.g. site connections). However, some services are shared across numerous or all Participants.

The CNA Core Network interconnects the five major data centres currently servicing Catholic schools across Australia. These data centres are located in Perth (CEWA), Adelaide (CESA), Melbourne (CECV), Brisbane (BCE) and Sydney (CENet).

The IWSF is available to assist with Telstra charges for installation works and related services typically at new schools but it is increasingly used for moves, adds and changes for new administration buildings. These can include charges for project management, design and architecture, as well as physical trenching and fibre installation. The fund comprises contributions equal to a percentage of the amount spent by Participants above their annual minimum spend. The funds are pooled so that they can be transferred to other Participants across CNA.

Education services

CNA's Contemporary Learning Working Group (CLWG), together with the DLN, continued to operate over 2019–20. They held a DLN meeting in Hobart.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, no formal meeting was held in 2020, although there had been a great deal of collaboration for 'learning from home'.

The purpose of the CLWG is to provide advice to CNA on:

- initiatives to share experience, lead and support Australian Catholic educators and their communities. The purpose of this is to achieve better student learning outcomes and value for the education sector with the use of enterprise IT systems, web-based applications and resources
- opportunities to aggregate purchasing of ICT services and technologies
- identifying emerging technologies that support contemporary learning.

Services Summary (continued)

The purpose of the DLN is to develop and provide resources which support digital pedagogy in member dioceses. This is achieved by:

- networking
- creation and curation of resources
- the exploration of research into current and emerging agendas
- establishing a CNA DLN repository of resources for DLN members to access and use within their diocese
- supporting pedagogical change and professional learning through the use of digital technologies.

Aggregated purchasing — Microsoft licensing

CNA completed the formal process for the three-year Microsoft (Enrolment for Education Solutions Agreement) licence renewal. There are 24 CNA Participants using this agreement which started in April 2019. This is an

increase of three dioceses relative to the previous agreement.

The new agreement includes:

- the ability to procure a blend of different levels of licences across sites, schools and dioceses
- the addition of Minecraft Education with all standard licensing
- pricing levels and concessions (e.g. Azure commit) based on CNA Participants as a collective group rather than as a group of individual entities. This has benefited members from a volume and pricing perspective, with higher tier pricing available to all due to the collective buying power of multiple CNA Participants
- the ability to adjust licence count annually – true up/true down relative to assumed volumes
- ‘... As a Service’ options. This includes Surface as a Service,

Azure as a Service and Skills as a Service specific to the Catholic sector. These are all innovative offerings that each CNA member can take advantage of, depending on their maturity and capacity now that the foundational agreement is in place.

Premier Services options have also been provided. These are unique and specific to CNA Participants.



Financial accounts

Notes:

1. The summary of the financial statements of Catholic Network Australia Limited was extracted from the audited 30 June 2020 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 2020

	Note	2020 \$	2019 \$
Revenue			
Revenue from services provided	2	670,624	701,232
Other revenue		15,339	23,676
Total Revenue		685,963	724,908
Expenditure			
Consultancy and Marketing Expenses	3	370,098	331,975
CEnet Management Fees		158,244	154,452
Accounting Fees		55,081	45,796
Legal Expenses		34,838	0
Audit Fee Expense		17,000	14,450
Educational Services Expenses		16,015	42,196
Subscriptions		11,160	10,836
Seminars and Conferences		8,006	4,339
Corporate Registrations		6,878	6,953
General Expenses		5,307	2,747
Total Expenditure		682,627	613,744
Surplus for the year		3,336	111,164
Other Comprehensive Income		0	0
Total Comprehensive Income for the year		3,336	111,164
Retained Surplus of the Company		3,336	111,164

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 2020

In addition to the operation of the company itself, the CNA telecommunications contract represents substantial direct financial transactions between Participants and Telstra. The aggregate spend in 2019–2020 across all Telstra services for all Participants was more than \$30 million.

	Note	2020 \$	2019 \$
Assets			
Current Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	4	1,290,317	1,203,928
Trade Receivables	5	683,813	671,958
Other current assets	6	7,176	9,353
Prepayments	7	1,929	1,728
Total Current Assets		1,983,235	1,886,967
Total Assets		1,983,235	1,886,967
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Other creditors	8	642,417	549,485
Total Current Liabilities		642,417	549,485
Total Liabilities		642,417	549,485
Net Assets		1,340,818	1,337,482
Equity			
Members' Funds			
Retained earnings		1,340,818	1,337,482
Total Members' Funds		1,340,818	1,337,482

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020

	Retained Earnings	Total
	\$	\$
Balance at 1 July 2018	1,226,318	1,226,318
Net Surplus for the year	111,164	111,164
Total other comprehensive income for the year	0	0
Balance at 30 June 2019	1,337,482	1,337,482
Balance at 1 July 2019	1,337,482	1,337,482
Net Surplus for the year	3,336	3,336
Total other comprehensive income for the year	0	0
Balance at 30 June 2020	1,340,818	1,340,818

Key People

CNA Directors

Peter Matthey (CNA Board Chairperson)
Pamela Betts
Francis Moore (*resigned December 2019*)
Neil McGoran
Debra Sayce

CNA Education Standing Committee

Greg Whitby (CEnet – Acting Chairperson)
Warren Armitage (BCE) (*resigned November 2019*)
Doug Ashleigh (BCE)
Sharyn Creed (BCE) (*appointed June 2020*)
Edward Simons (CEWA)
Jim Miles (CECV)
Simon Lindsay (CECV)
Ben Beaton (CEWA)
Phil Proctor (CESA)
Leesa Jeffcoat (CEnet)
Robyn Finch (CEnet)
John Mula (NCEC) (*appointed September 2019*)
Michael Haigh (Company Secretary)

CNA Negotiating Team

Tony Panetta (CEWA)
Warren Armitage (BCE) (*resigned November 2019*)
Jeff Peters (BCE) (*appointed February 2020*)
Greg Whitby (CEnet)
Michael Haigh (Company Secretary)
Erin Burke (CECV) (*resigned March 2020*)
Phil Proctor (CESA)

Office Bearers

Company Secretary
Michael Haigh (*June 2019 – June 2020*)

CEnet Service Delivery Team

Chris Burrows and Garry Anderson (Service Delivery Team)
Ian Gregory (Technical Officer)



A group of five students in school uniforms are sitting around a table in a classroom, focused on using their tablets. In the background, other students are seated at desks with computers, and a teacher is visible. The scene is dimly lit with a blue tint.

Contact

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