2016

LIVING FUTURE INSTITUTE AUSTRALIA

ANNUAL REPORT

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LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

At the start of this year, we held our strategy workshop as we always do, and reflected upon what we've achieved so far, what we'd like to do in 2016, and our vision for the next five years. We have had time to get our feet under us (ecosystem establishment years); we've had time to find our place in the Australian sustainability industry's 'rainforest' (emergent canopy tree). It was time to strike out and do something bold. We had four key objectives this year:

- Partnerships: Strategic alliances with symbiotic organisations to broaden our reach through collaboration.
- 2. Calendar of Events: Effective training, lectures, and other events, including the LFA program being launched for the first time in Australia.
- Promotion + Marketing: Developing a sponsorship / fundraising plan to secure funding for longerterm objectives and work on an effective Communications plan that clearly articulates our mission, brand and strategy.
- An Australian Living Building Challenge Design Competition: Another first of its kind in Australia, encouraging projects and design teams to take up 'the challenge' in a local context.

PARTNERSHIPS

We have further strengthened our connections in the industry this year, signing an MOU with the Green Building Council of Australia to explore the alignment – and the gaps - between Green Star and the Living Building Challenge, develop events and education offerings, joint research projects, and promote the opportunity to create regenerative buildings for all. We were also a supporting partner for Sustainable Experience Expo in Sydney, and I'll get to this year's most significant partnership—Frasers—a little later on.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

We prepared a comprehensive calendar of events to ensure we addressed our members' request to offer more and a wider variety of events. We have delivered lectures, training, webinars and networking events. We didn't get the uptake on the training we hoped for, so the launch of the LFA program will roll over into 2017/2018, as we watch what happens with the Brickworks Challenge.

PROMOTION + MARKETING

As a volunteer organisation, we have been limited by resources in the past. After just a few months of having Brandon Daley as a staff member, we knew we needed to secure long-term funding so that we could achieve some of our bigger, hairier goals. Focusing our effort on a single BHAG (Big, Hairy, Audacious Goal) focused our message and gave us a way to involve more individuals and organisations to join us.

INTERNATIONAL DESIGN COMPETITION

You know I'm talking about the Brickworks Challenge, our first collaboration with Frasers Property Australia, in which we launched an international call for entries for a Living Building in a retail environment – one that could be open to the general public, day in, day out. With the generosity of our progressive sponsors and a starstudded panel of judges, we were able to make it happen.

In June 2016, after more than 40 organisations and 100 individuals spent innumerable hours preparing these remarkable submissions, we held three awards nights: one in Seattle at Living Future 16 to choose a People's Choice Winner, an awards night in Melbourne and an exhibit of the submissions Sydney. We were hoping that ideas from this competition could dramatically raise the bar from a paradigm of doing 'less harm' to one in which we view our role as steward and co-creator of a true 'living future'. I have been inspired by what has emerged. Teams involved in the competition are saying this experience has been a 'game changer'. Frasers has announced they will formally pursue Living Building Challenge certification in some form. Manufacturers are approaching us to get involved.

The level of energy and enthusiasm this key project has generated gives us the momentum to keep building, and we intend to. We're already planning next year's BHAG, so watch this space. We were wowed by what you came up with for the Competition, and we can't wait to see what you do with this one.

In this, my last year as Chair of the Board, I want to thank the International Living Future Institute for their vision in developing the Living frameworks that are the backbone of our work; all the passionate and talented people who have served on our board for their contribution to building this organisation, all of our members for your support, and every single person who has attended one of our events, read our articles, or liked our facebook page. There have been many times when I wasn't sure if we were going to make it, but this year has been a 'game changer' for us, too. With your participation and support, we've not just survived, we've thrived. I am grateful to be part of this movement, and I look forward to working with you next year.

Mary Casey Chair of the Board





REGIONAL PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

Australia has seen the total number of registered project grow to eleven from nine.

The University of Wollongong's SBRC is nearing the end of operational assessment period, and is targeting full Living Building certification.

In major news, the world's first Living Building Challenge registered retail project came about in Melbourne. Frasers Property Australia is pursuing the whole LBC off the back of the Brickworks design competition, and has committed to Petal Certification. The project is in the latter stages of the design phase, and we're looking forward to the huge impact it will have in redefining sustainable retail.

FTE

THE BRICKWORKS LIVING BUILDING CHALLENGE DESIGN COMPETITION

In March this year, the Living Future Institute of Australia (LFIA) asked designers around the world to consider this aspiration - in the context of a retail centre not in the US or Europe, but in suburban Melbourne, Australia. The **Brickworks Living Building Challenge design competition** asked built environment professionals and students to compete for more than AUD\$30,000 in prize money by designing a retail centre for an old Brickworks site in the suburb of Burwood East, in Melbourne.

When the LFIA originally set out to ask 'what does the world's most sustainable retail centre look like?' no-one really knew the answer, and this was why the design competition was introduced. At its heart, we were asking designers to

"Imagine a building designed and constructed to function as elegantly and efficiently as a flower: a building informed by its bioregion's characteristics, that generates all of its own energy with renewable resources, captures and treats all of its water, is toxic free and beautiful."





consider the LBC in a sector that it had not been applied to before, in a country that has yet to see a certified Living Building, on a real site with real-world constraints, owned by a real developer, LFIA Principal Partner, Frasers Property Australia.

Passionate people spent huge amounts of time and energy to both unearth and give birth to new ideas in this new context: ideas that could be potentially applied to retail centres worldwide. In addition, entrants were asked to undertake some remarkable volunteering and advocacy for greater transparency through the DECLARE Label, and improved social justice through the JUST Label. Collectively, more than eighty organisations in Australia were contacted as part of the design competition, being asked to consider 'nutrition-labels' to provide a holistic picture of both the products they produce and the human story behind those products.

The judging panel for the entries was a star-studded list of some of the industry's biggest players: the head of property for a major telco, the CEO of one of Australia's largest property owners, the founder of an influential climate change movement, as well as a number of architects and sustainability experts. The panel crowned the *Professional Winner* - an outstanding submission called 'The Difference is Living', by thirty passionate professionals from eight organisations. Using a modular 'screwed not glued' construction typology that could be taken apart and re-used later in the retail centre's lifetime, integrating key principles of biomimicry, and the introduction of a 'billabong', the team created a social heart at the project's centre invoking strong spirit of place, acting as a link between the retail and residential communities.

When asked about their experience of the design competition, the team responded:

"The Living Building Challenge is the 'Everest of sustainability' challenges, to reach LBC's demanding targets we found that everyone in our team needed to walk in the shoes of others. As architects we had to understand what the builders require; our engineers needed to see things from the shopper's perspective and so on. Intense cross-discipline collaboration, open mindedness and engagement were key to developing breakthrough ideas that actually work in practice."

Alongside the competition for professionals and design students, the LFIA held a similar competition for students attending local primary

















schools. The winning student was from Antonio Park School, entering a design that showed practical ways to reduce energy demand through solar panels, natural light and external shading, capturing water and cleverly placing funnels to filter it down through vertical gardens, and illustrated a human scale, with a focus on pedestrians and cyclists - noting that the main entrance was not a car park! The prize for the winning school, and a legacy for the competition itself, was a 5kW solar photovoltaic system, to be installed by one of Australia's market-leaders and LFIA supporters, Solgen Energy Group.

The overall response to the design competition has been overwhelmingly positive, and speaks to a compelling vision for a living future that we wish to share. Much like the LBC itself, the entire exercise has been unique in that it has not been about settling for previous notions of best practice, but instead it adopts an uncompromising and unashamed future focus to ask questions we may not yet have the answer to, but which we cannot afford to ignore. Perhaps that is why we were a main feature in more than 20 articles worldwide, ranging from *The Guardian* to *The Australian Financial Review*.

And of course, throwing a good party is essential! Our events around the Design Competition were enjoyed by some 400 people. We look forward to doing it again.

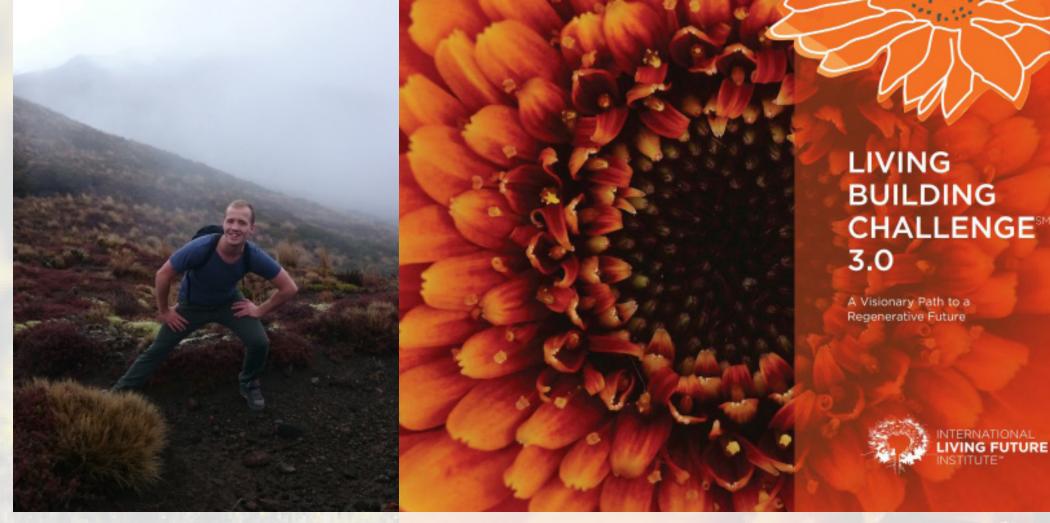
The act of casting a global net to elicit truly innovative and progressive designs to unlock new possibilities for sustainability in retail, a traditionally wasteful sector in need of new ideas, has shown us that from primary school students and manufacturers, to worldleading designers, inspiration can come from anywhere, and this competition has unlocked some truly different thinking. That's what the Living Building Challenge is about.

LEFT: COMPETITION ENTRIES

EMPLOYEE PROFILE: BRANDON DALEY

We first met Brandon at the Sustainable Building Research Centre at the University of Wollongong, where he was enjoying his degree in Civil Engineering with a Minor in International Studies. Brandon joined us in June 2015, and has undertaken approximately five years of work since that time!

At the LFIA, Brandon is involved in just about every aspect of our operations - developing training, engaging with members and collaboratives, communications, business planning, and events planning and co-ordination to name but a few. When asked about



why he loves working at the LFIA, Brandon says:

"The thing I love about this job is that I get to work with many clever people, who are not only clever, but really fun to be around. The people that the Living Building Challenge draws are so interesting and generous. To be able to work with (and since we're a member based organisation I suppose 'work for') is a real privilege, and I am very fortunate to meet them.

"Being part of a small organisation with a national presence, whilst being part of an international movement is fascinating. It's wonderful to be involved with meaningful outcomes. Being a part of the Brickworks Living Building Challenge design competition was a great experience that had some extremely positive implications. I will admit that a lot of the time it was difficult to see what was being worked towards, it became clear (and worth it!) when one of the competition entrants said that he had been waiting 15 years for a competition like this."

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

This year we delivered the full-day 'Understanding the Living Building Challenge 3.0' course in Sydney, complete with Australian case studies. We are adapting that content into a webinar format to make it more convenient, and accessible to more locations.

We have also completed the first of a series of webinars in collaboration with the Green Building Council of Australia, on the Beauty Petal. This series is aimed a highlighting the aspects of LBC which go beyond Green Star. The GBCA is working on developing innovation credits for these Imperatives, so this helps Green Star projects reach further, as well as expose a much wider audience to the Living Building Challenge framework and philosophy.

DECLARE

Declare continues to offer Living Building Challenge Project teams a clear, elegant and informative materials guide for product specification. For manufacturers, it offers an expanded point of entry into ground-breaking sustainable projects.

The LFIA is currently working with the ILFI on a Partnership Agreement that aims to share revenue and expand the Declare program by engaging more local product manufacturers and suppliers. Building on the Brickwork Design Competition and the proposal for Frasers to seek LBC certification on the actual project, there is a strong base for taking this exciting initiative forward.

So far there are 2 Australian Declare labels: the Polastic Insulation System and Evcco Halogen Free Flame **Retardant Electrical Conduit and** Fittings.

JUST

JUST is the next program to be highlighted and promoted by the LFIA. JUST is a social justice label that assists organisations to better understand and realise opportunities for their teams to contribute to the creation of a more equitable work.

At the moment, there are two Australian companies that have the JUST Label - Cundall and Viridis, with a number of other businesses in the process of seeking certification.

COMPETITION **ADVOCACY**

The Brickworks competition asked team to advocate to local manufacturers and businesses about the benefits of the Declare and JUST labels.

Teams sent letters to 53 manufacturers about the Declare label and adovcated to 35 businesses about the JUST label.



Your Product Your Company

Final Assembly: City, State, Country Life Expectancy: 000 Years End of Life Options: Recyclable (42%), Landfill

Ingredients:

Your First Ingredient (Locally Sourced Location, ST), Sustainably Sourced Ingredient (Location, ST), Non-toxic Item (Location, ST), Living Building Challenge Red List*, Another Componant, US EPA Chemical of Concern, Last Ingredient



VOC Content 0.00 mg/m³ VOC Emissions: CDPH Compliant Declaration Status 🛛 🗆 LBC Red List Free LBC Compliant Declared

INTERNATIONAL LIVING FUTURE INSTITUTE*

379

TOTAL DECLARE LABELS DISTRIBUTED

AUSTRALIAN DECLARE LABELS IN 2015

130%

INCREASE IN REGISTERED DECLARE LABELS



Positive Products Charitable Giving Animal Welfare Ccupational Safety

Safety

Hazardous Chemicals.

THE SOCIAL JUSTICE LABEL INTERNATIONAL LIVING FUTURE INSTITUTE"

150

REGISTERED ORGANIZATIONS

20 LABELS DISTRIBUTED

317%

INCREASE IN REGISTERED ORGANIZATIONS

COMMUNICATIONS

Our main communications effort this year were focused around the Design Competition. However, just as an update on our progress on the feedback you gave us last year, here's what we've delivered in 2016:

- We clarified member benefits and improved out mail-outs to provide better information at the right time
- We planned a comprehensive calendar of events for 2016, offering a variety of options in Melbourne and Sydney. We have also implemented further video link-ups and webinars.
- Following the Design Competition, we can see the potential for growing demand for the Declare and Living Product Challenge, and have developed an intro course for these. We'll focus on offering more in-depth training on these two programs in 2017.

In 2017, we will be offering a one-day unSymposium, with speakers from around the world. This will be an event for the building industry unlike any in Australia, so watch this space!

1121 TWITTER FOLLOWERS

LINKEDIN CONNECTIONS

217

PRESENTATIONS

Al and

- 'Everything is an Offer: Using Effective Engagement to Achieve Truly Beneficial Outcomes' at Living Future 2016 [May]
- 'Beauty in Green Building' Webinar [May]
- Panellists for 'Partnering for Sustainability Success' at Green Building Day, Sydney and Melbourne [May]
- Living Product Challenge and Declare, Sustainable Experience Expo 2016
 [July]
- 'Where Will We Live?' Futures Forum 2016 [July]
- Living Future 2016 unConference Download at UTS Sydney [August]
- 'Everything is an Offer: Using Effective Engagement to Achieve Truly Beneficial Outcomes' at UTS 2016 [September]

COLLABORATIVE UPDATES

Current stats for each of the Collaborative's facebook pages are shown below in the format for years 2014/2015/2016

187/376/**741** Likes in melbourne

What can be said about the Melbourne Collaborative, constantly putting out interesting content online makes it very obvious why this is the fasting growing Collaborative following in Australia. Dominique Hes and Jane Toner are always at the top of their game, holding array of events to make for well-rounded attendees. The Living Future Institute of Australia is very grateful for all of the support the Collaborative gave in making the Brickworks competition a success.

39/65/**82** Likes in Brisbane

Brisbane's Collaborative has started to warm up again this past year with Andy Ling and Loreta Brazukas putting in the work to make it happen. Several events were put on throughout the year, and never failed to bring passionate and interesting people to participate. The team took a poll early in the year to see where the interest was, and have a got a long list in the pipeline. The next year is looking like the time that the Collaborative takes off.

61/71/**81** Likes in Perth

Perth has had a slow growing year, and has a great opportunity for growth with the success of their home town hero in the Brickworks competition. [waiting to hear from facilitator]

688/1206/**1632** *-/45/**73**

LIKES IN ADELAIDE AS SUSTAINBLE BUILDINGS NETWORK *AS OFFICIAL LBC COLLABORATIVE

The Adelaide has seen continued growth in uptake and following in the past year. Thanks to Ken Long's excellent leadership in the Collaborative and the ASBN, the team have done an outstanding job at getting Adelaide's best and brightest to share their stories. The regular "Living Building Conversations" series and the "ASBN Spotlight" have proved to be Adelaide's leading events for fans a future that looks good. To add to the already generous offering, you can catch the events from anywhere via AdelaideSBN on vimeo.

228/279/**345** Likes in sydney

The Sydney Collaborative has had a surge in participation at events this year with Simone Concha at the helm and Lisa Hinde in support. Events have been tried at a range of times, and result has been a diverse turnout at the events. The meetings have engaged some of Sydney's finest professionals that are looking after world class projects, and it's been a hit. With events that finish up in museums, there's no doubt about the trajectory of this group.

FINANCIALS

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

The Living Future Institute of Australia experienced its highest turnover on record with a net operating income of \$13,304 and a balance of \$25,487 to start the next financial year. This can be largely attributed the Brickworks Living Building Challenge Design Competition, with other factors being training, events and membership.

The design competition received \$70,697 of predominantly through sponsorship, and was supplemented with ticket sales at its events and registration fees. Major expenses for the competition included \$30,000 of prize money and funding events. Lesser expenses were incurred in the judging process. Substantial savings were made through engaging volunteers and in-kind support from sponsors.

Non-competition events were the unConference Download, JUST label training, Understanding the Living Building Challenge course. All of these events were cash positive.

The support of generous organisation members and sponsors has been capitalised on to improve the function of the business. It has enabled the LFIA to further engage its paid staff member, which in turn has activated opportunities like the design competition.

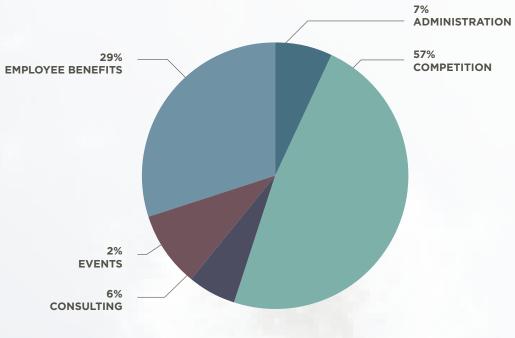
The organisation will utilise it strong financial situation to expand on its public engagement in alignment with its mission over the next year.

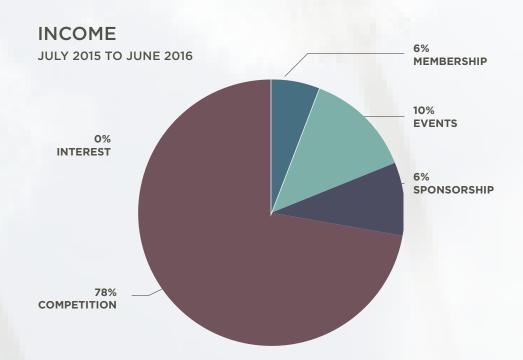
The statement of activities from June 2015 to July 2016 is presented below:

INCOME JULY 2015 TO JUNE 2016				EXPENDITURE JULY 2015 TO JUNE 2016		
Membership	6%	\$5,119	Administration	7%	\$5,150	
Events	10%	\$8,960	Competition	57%	\$43,557	
Sponsorship	6%	\$5,536	Consulting	6%	\$4,400	
Competition	78%	\$70,697	Events	2%	\$1,795	
Interest	0%	\$0	Employee Benefits	29%	\$22,106	
Total		\$90,312	Total		\$77,008	

EXPENDITURE

JULY 2015 TO JUNE 2016







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ACKNOWL-EDGEMENTS

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LIVING FUTURE INSTITUTE OF AUSTRALIA BOARD

Mary Casey, Chair, Director Director, McLachlan Lister/Hill International Stephen Choi, Vice-Chair, Director Director, Architecture for Change Brian Coughlin, Secretary, Director Senior Project Manager, SJA Construction Services Paolo Bevilacqua, Director General Manager Sustainability, Frasers Property Australia Caroline Pidcock, Director Director, PIDCOCK – Architecture + Sustainability Amanda Sturgeon, Director CEO, International Living Future Institute Jim Murchison, Independent Director Director, Murchisons Clive Chandler, Independent Director Director, Touchstone Partners

LIVING FUTURE INSTITUTE OF AUSTRALIA STAFF

Brandon Daley

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

Susan Morrison Evan Oppen

OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEERS

We owe huge appreciation to the following volunteers, without which our ground-breaking work would not be possible, or nearly as enjoyable:

Alberto Garza Barragan Amira Hashemi Andrew Ling Andrew Thai Ash Buchanan Chloe Rayfield Dominique Hes Elena Pereyra Harry Troedel James McIntyre James Vass Jane Toner Kahina Koucha Kate Ramchurn Ken Long Kerryn Wilmot Lisa McCutchion Loreta Brazukas Marine Calmettes Michael Bradburn Noy Hildebrand Olivia Leal-Walker Sasha Alexander Scott Willey Sid Thoo Sienna Xue Simon O'Brien Simone Concha Tim Minter

SUPPORTERS

We owe enormous appreciation to the following organisations, without which our leading-edge work would not be possible, or nearly as enjoyable:



Joost Bakker

Kate Doyle, Architects Accreditation Council of Australia Natalie Isaacs, 1 Million Women

MEMBERSHIP

The LFIA's member base has remained steady in quantity of members. Over 65% of memberships are new members, and is a reflection of the relevance of the programs offered by the Living Future Institute.

2015/2016 MEMBERS

Andrew Ling Andy Marlow Angie Darby Anne Kovachevich Arjun Adhikari Ash Buchanan Becky Sharpe Bob Hutchinson Brandon Daley Brian Couglin Caitlin McGee Caroline Pidcock Catherine Forbes Cathy Ogeto Chris Lockhart Smith Claire Geary Clare Parry Colin Fisher Craig Riddle Cynthia Mitchell Damian French Darryn Parkinson David Blakemore David Carroll David Power Dhvanit Shah Dominique Hes Dylan Brady Ed Poulton

Elena Pereyra Ella Roessler-Holgate Fady Ghabbour Fergal White Ginny Daniels Hannah Morton James Cahill James Ford Jane Toner Jessica Radny Jessica Vorreiter Juliana Abram Kate Ramchurn Katherine Madden Ken Bezant Ken Long Kerryn Wilmot Lance Jeffery Lauren Haas Lisa Hinde Lisa Miller Liz Locksley Lorelei Baum Mariela Zingoni de Baro Marine Calmettes Mary Ann van Bodegraven Mary Casey Matthew Byrne Matthew Carland

Matthew Healey Mike Rainbow Mitchell Scanlan-Bloor Nick Bishop Noretta Terry Olivia Leal-Walker Paolo Bevilacqua Paul Kremer Paul Osmond Pippa Buckberry Regan O'Brien Reiner Schimminger Ricki Hersburgh Roberto Padovani Sam Turner Sara Rickards Sasha Alexander Shane Esmore Simon O'Brien Sophie Hutchinson Stephen Choi Steven Bruinsma Stewart Monti Tim Sonogan Veronica Chiu Vi Le Will Clarke



July 2012 Jan 2013 July 2013 Jan 2014 July 2014 Jan 2015 July 2015 Jan 2016 July 2016





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