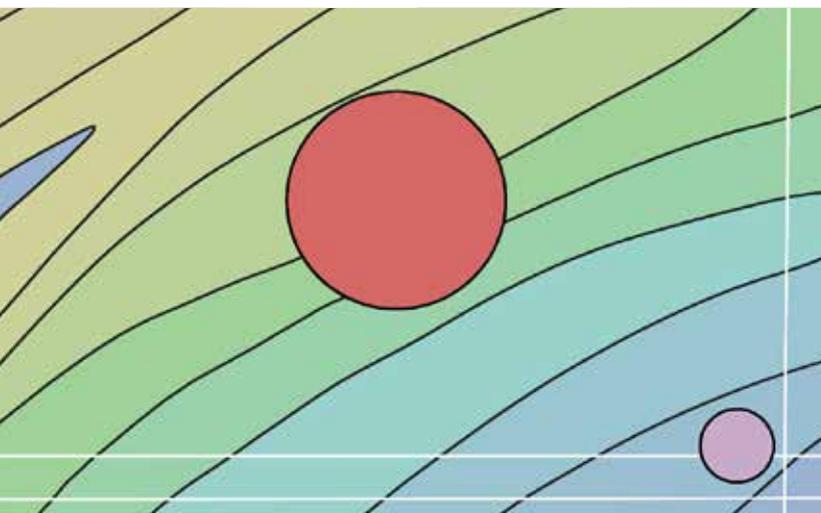
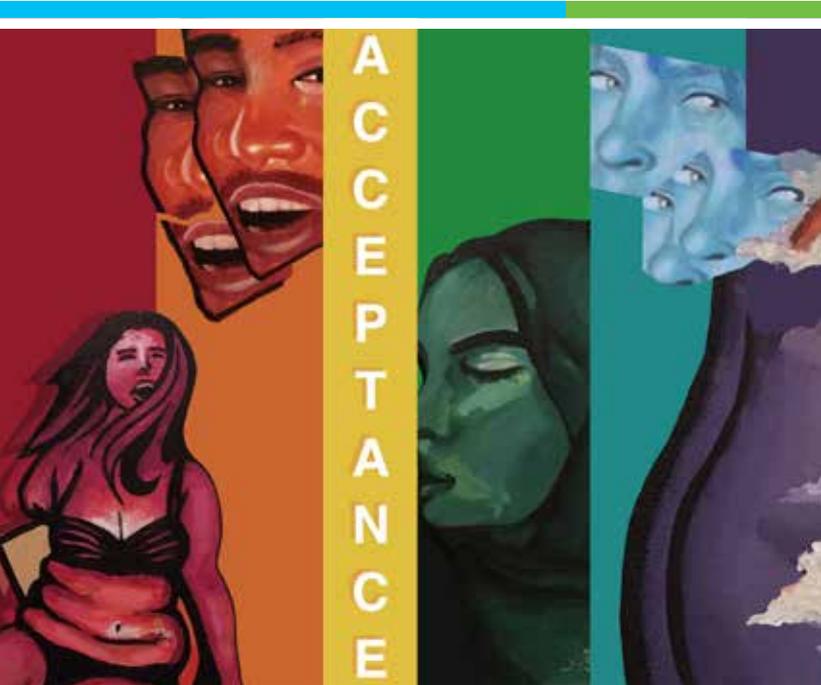




AutismCRC

2017-18

Annual Report



Australian Government
Department of Industry,
Innovation and Science

Business
Cooperative Research
Centres Programme

Front cover - In April 2018, Autism CRC held a Digital Art Celebration, which invited people on the autism spectrum to showcase their strengths and artistic talent by submitting a piece of digital artwork exploring the theme: "Celebrating Diversity". The three pieces of visual artwork that received prizes are featured on the front cover:

- Ian Hazzard's 'Autistic chicken crossing the street with headphones'
- Bellana Paley's 'Diversity'
- Bethan Power's 'Accepting Diversity, Celebrating Diversity'.

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About Autism CRC

Autism CRC is the world's first national, cooperative research effort focused on autism across the lifespan.

Our vision is to see autistic people empowered to discover and use their diverse strengths and interests. Our programs take a whole-of-life view from diagnosis and the early years through the school years and into adult life.

At the end of the 2017-18 reporting period, we had 55 participant organisations, as well as other partners, based around Australia and internationally, working in collaboration. Together, we seek to build capacity and support for neurodiverse environments in our communities, so every individual has the opportunity to reach their full potential.

Autism CRC is committed to inclusive research practices and co-production of outcomes with those on the spectrum, their families and supporters. This helps to ensure our research provides practical and tangible outputs that benefit the community.

To date we have invested in more than 60 projects to develop research outcomes and translate these to improve practice, policy and programs.

Vision

Autistic people empowered to discover and use their diverse strengths and interests.

Mission

Motivate, facilitate and translate collaborative autism research across the life-span underpinned by inclusive practices.

Objectives

Autism CRC provides the national capacity to develop and deliver evidence-based outcomes through our unique collaboration with the autism community, research organisations, education and health professionals, industry and government.



Strategic Imperatives

In order to realise our vision, Autism CRC is committed to:

- **Program delivery:** delivering our current programs to the expectation of our stakeholders.
- **Autistic empowerment:** developing the diverse strengths and interests of autistic people.
- **Capacity building:** investing in education, training, and development of neurodiverse communities.
- **Sustainability:** providing a focus for autism research globally, a diverse resource base of expertise and funding, and a strong brand and reputation.
- **Strategic partnering:** developing new strategic partnerships with key organisations and adding value to existing relationships.
- **Independence:** providing objective and transparent evidence-based research platform.
- **Outcome-focused research:** enabling nimble needs analysis, timely collaboration and efficient translation and dissemination.
- **Co-production:** being the world leader in development and implementation of inclusive research practices.



Our research practices are based on inclusion



Our Current Work Program

Making a positive difference to the lives of those on the spectrum

Autism CRC's program of work impacts the lives of those on the spectrum in two ways – by developing and fostering enablers that support an individual's effective participation in society and by making large-scale investments to develop more inclusive community settings, such as schools, universities and workplaces, with an understanding and appreciation of neurodiversity.



Program 1 – Early Years

Our Early Years program aims to harness existing knowledge of autism to ensure earlier identification and more accurate needs assessment and diagnosis, using behavioural analysis together with breakthroughs in biological research. This will identify an individual's strengths and challenges, as well as pathways to the most effective supports and interventions.



Program 2 – School Years

Our School Years program aims to provide appropriate educational environments and programs that work together to optimise students' social, behavioural and academic development and success, and equip teachers to enhance performance and support neurodiverse students at school and beyond.



Program 3 – Adulthood

Our Adulthood program aims to enhance opportunities to successfully transition to post-school life, participate in higher education, further training and employment, and improve the health and wellbeing of people on the autism spectrum. Our program delivers tools and national protocols giving clear guidance to autistic adults and their supporters, as well as the employers, and health and education professionals who work with them.



Our End-Users

As a core tenet of our philosophy, Autism CRC engages with end-users at all levels to ensure that our research priorities and findings are grounded in user needs, and have the greatest chance of translation and utilisation.

To ensure our research provides practical and tangible outputs that benefit autistic individuals and their families, Autism CRC seeks to build research capacity within neurodiverse communities through inclusive research practices.

The end-user environment is comprised of four major groups:

- Individuals on the autism spectrum and their families and carers - the ultimate beneficiaries of our research outcomes.
- Professionals who provide advice, assessment and intervention for individuals on the autism spectrum (paediatricians, general practitioners, psychiatrists, community nurses, early childhood educators, teachers, psychologists, occupational therapists and speech therapists). These professionals work across the public, not-for-profit and private sectors.
- Service providers that employ professionals to provide services to individuals on the autism spectrum and their families. These include peak bodies and the autism associations in each state; private providers; Commonwealth and state government agencies and departments of education, health and disability; children's hospitals; and health service districts and practices.
- Organisations providing employment and associated education and training.

Autism CRC research findings are made available to end-user organisations to enhance their impact, utility and translation into policy, programs and practice.

In addition to participation in our research projects, Autism CRC seeks to involve end-users in all aspects of our operations, such as governance, program advisory groups, and Autism CRC policy and program development.

Through the outcomes of our research and participation in the autism community, Autism CRC also aims to inform the policy debate in Australia relating to education, therapy service provision, health, employment and disability support services for individuals and carers.

Finally, both the autism community and the general Australian public stand to benefit directly and indirectly from the outcomes of the research conducted by Autism CRC, embracing inclusion and diversity.

Greater participation in education, employment and society in general will deliver significant social and economic outcomes, as well as improved health and wellbeing.



3 Research Programs

55



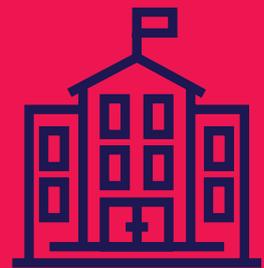
Essential & Other Participants

62



Projects

57



Scholars
(Active & Completed)



47 Research Academy Alumni

14



Future Leaders

300



Schools
involved in the education
research program

125



**Presentations
& Publications**

3,000



Biobank Donors



81m

**Investment
in research and its
translation**

1,450



**Participants
in longitudinal
studies**

100



**Young People,
Parents &
Professionals**
interacting with BOOST-A
transition planning program



20,000

Infants & Children
assessed for early
behavioural signs of autism
using the SACS-R tool



Highlights

1.1 Research and Education Program

New Autism CRC Investments

Six new projects were approved in the 2017-18 Investment Round, bringing the total number of CRC program projects to 55 commissioned to date. The Biobank project was extended to include a longitudinal follow-up pilot study. Autism CRC also undertook a total of 10 other research projects for the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) and Positive Partnerships.

Program 1, Early Years, has now invested in 14 projects, with three of these since completed. Two new projects were commissioned in the 2017-18 Investment Round: Development of an Assessment of Functioning Tool Based on International Classification of Functioning Core Sets, and Autism Diagnostic Inconsistencies in New Zealand.

Program 2, School Years, commissioned one strategic project – Middle Years Behaviour Support – and another new project in the 2017-18 Investment Round: Evaluating the Effects of Humanoid Robots on the Narrative Role-Taking Abilities of Children on the Spectrum. Autism CRC's Program 2 has now invested in 21 projects, with seven of these since completed.

Program 3, Adulthood, approved one new project in the 2017-18 Investment Round: 'Hear' to Help: Striving for Greater Participation and Wellbeing through Tailored Chat-Bot Technology. Autism CRC's Program 3 has now invested in 20 projects, with five of these since completed.

55 
Essential & Other
Participants

During the reporting period, of the participants engaged in our research programs:

- 33 were end-user organisations and 26 were Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) – with several organisations falling under both categories.
- Six PhD positions commenced in 2017-18, bringing the total number of PhD scholars to 34. This includes a Masters scholar who has upgraded to a PhD. In addition, there were three new Honours students and one Masters student who commenced.
- 50 new journal publications were accepted and 75 conference presentations and posters were presented.

1.2 Key Achievements

New Participants join Autism CRC

In September 2017, Autism CRC was proud to welcome Autism New Zealand as a new Essential Participant. This new collaboration allows us to expand our work internationally to continue making a difference to the autistic and autism communities. Our first project with Autism New Zealand has already begun, aimed at examining diagnostic practices for autism in New Zealand, including disparities between individuals being assessed and variations across regions of New Zealand.

In November 2017, Autism CRC welcomed Macquarie University as an “Other Participant”. This new research collaboration will be led for Macquarie by international pre-eminent autism researcher, Professor Liz Pellicano, who will help to advance Autism CRC’s inclusive research practices and community capacity-building activities.

Our work is only possible thanks to the support of our participant organisations and partners. The collaborative environment within a cooperative research centre gives us the scale needed to achieve real transformational impact for the autistic and autism communities.

Australian Autism Research Council

In April 2018, Autism CRC announced the establishment of the Australian Autism Research Council, a body representing end-user stakeholders, to review and recommend national priorities for autism research based on the agreed needs of the autistic and autism communities. The Council is co-chaired by Andrew Whitehouse and Wenn Lawson. Members include Samarra Toby, Tim Chan, Brian Oowler, Malcolm Mayfield, Adrian Ford, Katharine Annear, Liz Pellicano, Fiona Sharkie, Katie Koullas, Geraldine Robertson, Jon Martin and Sam Bennett.

Our aim is that the priorities established by the Australian Autism Research Council will guide the future focus of research activities and research funding by government, as well as research and development undertaken by non-government organisations and other industry members who provide programs and services for the autism community. The Council includes representatives of the autistic and broader autism communities, as well as service providers, health and education professionals, government program managers and policy makers.

The Council will deliver its initial report on their assessment of current autism research priorities in December 2018.



Above: Professor Liz Pellicano Macquarie University.

Research Co-Production Partnerships

Evidence demonstrates that engaging individuals on the spectrum and their families and carers as peers in research – from the definition of need to the conduct of research and its application – promotes quality, translatable research relevant to the needs of our communities. To highlight those organisations with a sustainable commitment to research co-production, in April 2017 we announced our Autism CRC Research Co-Production Partner Initiative.

Autism CRC Research Co-Production Partners across Australia, and beyond, will provide a network of organisations committed to co-production and appropriate engagement, and driving impact through grounded research and its application. Our first Research Co-Production Partners will be announced later in 2018.



Above: Research Co-Production.

Building Leadership Capacity for Adults on the Spectrum

Future Leaders is Australia's first holistic leadership capacity-building program for adults on the autism spectrum. The 2018 program further built on the initial concept developed and delivered in 2013, which was subsequently evaluated by the Autism CRC in 2016.

The 2018 program enrolled 14 autistic adults aged 25-40 from across Australia. Run by Autism CRC, the program has been co-designed and developed by autistic adults, for autistic adults. Future Leaders candidates develop their leadership skills through a series of training and development initiatives including online training modules, a residential workshop and mentoring from established autistic leaders. The program combines training with practical experience through volunteer placements with industry, government or not-for-profit organisations.

Assets for National and International Research Collaborations

In 2017-18, Autism CRC has continued to develop its range of assets for national and international autism research, providing data and baselines that might aid the development of future tools, practice and policy.

Australian Autism Biobank

Australia's first autism Biobank completed biological sample collection in June 2018. The Biobank includes the biological material and data, together with detailed behavioural and clinical information, from more than 1,000 individuals on the spectrum, as well as their families and other donors - with a total of almost 3,000 donors across Australia having contributed to this significant resource. Along with providing an asset for national and international research, Autism CRC will use Biobank data in seeking predictive markers to aid early, accurate diagnosis.

Autism CRC has also commissioned the Biobank Longitudinal Pilot Study to determine the feasibility of undertaking longitudinal research with a subset of participants from the Australian Autism Biobank. Creating a second time point with participants in the initial Biobank project will allow for changes in clinical features and the stability of biomarkers through development to be investigated.

Longitudinal studies across the lifespan

Based on positive results to date, three of our longitudinal studies of individuals on the autism spectrum (Students Study, School Leavers Study and Adults Study) have each been extended until 2021 to provide ongoing data and baselines for the development of tools, practice and policy.

The Australian Students Study aims to determine the relationship between child/family characteristics, their experiences of intervention, and school support and child developmental and behavioural trajectories. The research is developing a series of assessments and an assessment protocol designed to explore longitudinal trajectories of children on the autism spectrum.



Above: Our 2018 Future Leaders.

Below: The national guideline's cover art is a piece by Dr Emma Goodall, titled "The Disconnect in the Infinity of Neurodiversity".

The Australian School Leavers Study (15-25 years) aims to deliver comprehensive and unique profiles of autistic school leavers, and identify trajectories for those transitioning from school into adult life. The study will also inform work on the development of tools to aid transition, employment and improved health and wellbeing for school leavers.

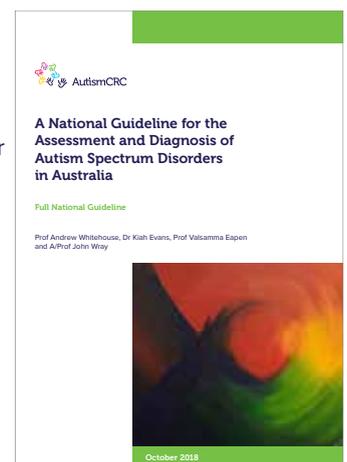
The Australian Adults Study (25 years+) identifies and describes comprehensive and unique profiles of Australian adults on the spectrum over the age of 25, aiming to identify predictors of mental health and quality of life, examine the stability of autism symptomology over time, and explore factors associated with healthy ageing for Australian adults on the spectrum.

In addition, with financial support of the NDIA, the autism subtyping project was extended such that it has now collected detailed clinical data on 450 pre-school children on entry and exit to early intervention programs provided through the six Autism Specific Early Learning and Care Centres (ASELCCs) across Australia.

National Guideline for Assessment and Diagnosis of Autism

On 7 September 2017, Australia's first draft national guideline for the assessment and diagnosis of autism was released for consultation. Developed by Autism CRC with the financial support of the NDIA, the guideline aims to create greater consistency in diagnostic practices across the country to ensure that all individuals and their families can receive the optimal clinical care.

To date, the processes for the clinical assessment and diagnosis of autism have varied considerably across Australia. The community



has been requesting a national and consistent approach to autism diagnosis for many years, and this guideline aims to respond to that need. The guideline has been developed through a comprehensive research process and in close consultation with the clinical, autistic and broader autism communities. Consultation on the draft guideline closed in late 2017. Feedback was incorporated into an updated version of the guideline, which was subsequently submitted to the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) for methodological and content review. The guideline was subsequently approved by the Council of the NHMRC and will be released in October 2018.

Positive Partnerships

Autism CRC is collaborating with Autism Spectrum Australia (Aspect), as the manager of the Commonwealth Department of Education and Training's Positive Partnerships program, to ensure equitable access to outputs from our School Years program for all school-aged students across Australia, regardless of location or background. In particular, this collaboration is providing access and improving the educational outcomes for students in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) and culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) communities, along with students in rural and remote regions.

There are presently five projects underway with the support of the Positive Partnerships program, and one project was also completed in 2017-18.

Autism@Work Forum

The Autism@Work Forum, presented by Autism CRC and DXC Technology, was held in September 2017. With more than 100 participants, the Autism@Work Forum was a great opportunity for attendees to hear the benefits, opportunities and lessons arising from the implementation of autism employment programs and the fast-growing recognition of the benefits that neurodiversity in the workplace brings by way of innovation, efficiency and improved work processes.

After the forum, an Autism@Work Employment Fair was held to discuss employment opportunities with autistic job seekers and their families. Over 70 autistic job seekers and their family and friends attended the employment fair with 11 organisations providing information on the day. A second Autism@Work Forum is to be held in October 2018.



Better Outcomes and Successful Transitions (BOOST-A)

The BOOST-A training program has been developed and delivered in workshops across Australia. Over 100 professionals, educators and young people have been trained in the use of BOOST-A vocational planning and goal setting tool.

In 2018, Autism CRC was awarded seed funding in the Telstra Foundation Tech4Good Challenge, and a five-month service design accelerator program to co-design an employability service with autistic young people, educators, parents, and professionals. During the Tech4Good research phase, we engaged over 50 autistic young people, 157 parents and professionals including educators, and 29 young people without a diagnosis. The resulting digital solution incorporates the BOOST-A, providing a vehicle to deliver BOOST-A to the Australian community and into the hands of young people.

Autism Month Webinar Series

To celebrate Autism Month in April 2018, Autism CRC once again held a free webinar series, providing an opportunity for anybody to hear of the progress and outputs from activities across our whole-of-life program, including: the national guideline for assessment and diagnosis of autism, targeting effective early intervention through autism subtyping, providing effective behaviour support for children in the early school years, transition models of practice for teachers, autism employment practice, and adult health and wellbeing.

The webinar series also included a presentation on participatory autism research, presented by Professor Liz Pellicano, Rochelle Johnson, Dr Wenn Lawson and Gabrielle Hall.

In total, the webinar series had almost 150 people tuning in live, with a further 465 people viewing the webinar recordings on YouTube to date.

Improving the Public Transport Experience for Autistic Adults

Use of public transport is one of the major enablers to participation in education and employment; yet it can present challenges to autistic adolescents and adults.

During the reporting period, Autism CRC took part in the NSW Department of Finance, Services and Innovation and NSW Transport Authority Smart Cities Innovation Challenge. The 10-week incubation program, led by expert industry mentors and investment saw Autism CRC fast-track the development of an evidence-based trip planning app that delivers real-time assistance to reduce anxiety and help manage any disruptions to a planned journey. The app is currently being trialled with users in Western Australia and New South Wales.

Left: Autism@Work Forum.

Digital Art Celebration

The Autism CRC Digital Art Celebration 2018 invited people on the autism spectrum to showcase their strengths and artistic talent by submitting a piece of digital artwork exploring the theme: “Celebrating Diversity”.

Any kind of digital artwork was eligible, including photography, digital design, video, audio and animation. Our four prize recipients (Ian Hazzard, Bellana Paley, Bethan Power and Jasmin Pradhan) were decided by a community vote and a panel of accomplished autistic artists and Creative Arts academics. The three pieces of visual artwork that received prizes are featured on the front cover of this report, while Jasmin’s audio piece can be found on Autism CRC’s YouTube Channel.



Above: Jasmin Pradhan and Bethan Power, our two ‘Under 18’ Autism CRC Digital Art Celebration prize recipients.

Digital Asset Development

Connect Hub

In June 2018, we launched our new and improved release of Autism CRC Connect Hub. The new release provides an easy, intuitive and user-friendly collaboration space, available to everybody in our Participant and Partner Network. Autism CRC Connect Hub Groups allow people to collaborate and engage across organisational and program boundaries to capitalise on the unique advantages our network offers. For our Project Leaders, the new release also provides improved reporting features, significantly reducing the time spent on entering data for reporting purposes.

Knowledge Centre

Our new Autism CRC Knowledge Centre, launched in April 2018, provides a single online gateway to autism resources, tools and publications available on our website. From research papers to resources for the autism community, service providers, educators and clinicians, the Knowledge Centre is full of useful, easy-to-find information and tools. The Knowledge Centre plays a valuable role in supporting the dissemination and timely availability of Autism CRC’s resources, publications and reports.

Financial Wellbeing of Autistic Individuals

Released in November, the 2017 MoneyMinded Impact Report from RMIT University, commissioned by ANZ, is one of the first in Australia to explore the issues related to financial wellbeing for people living with disability and their carers. Autism CRC and RMIT University conducted a companion study, providing additional focus on issues particular to autistic individuals.

Significant Autism Conferences

Asia Pacific Autism Conference

In September, we were also able to showcase our work as a Gold Sponsor of the Asia Pacific Autism Conference (APAC) 2017, with Autism CRC researchers delivering more than 20 presentations to an audience of more than 1,300 delegates. At APAC 2017, autistic people, family members, practitioners, researchers and policy makers, came together to explore how autistic people of all ages, supported by their families and communities, can be the people they want to be.

First International Society for Autism Research Annual Meeting

The first International Society for Autism Research (INSAR) Annual Meeting (the meeting formerly known as the IMFAR) was held in May 2018. With presenters from more than 50 countries across the globe, INSAR provides a forum for the scientific community to present and discuss ground-breaking autism research.

Autism CRC researchers delivered approximately 30 presentations and posters, covering topics as broad as employment, diagnostic processes and experiences, developmental surveillance and psychological wellbeing.

First State-Based Australasian Society for Autism Research Conference

Autism CRC was delighted to sponsor the first state-based Australasian Society for Autism Research (ASfAR) conference with a Victorian event. The event, held at La Trobe University in Melbourne, brought together 120 researchers, students, clinicians, educators and parents from across the state to share and discuss the latest in autism research. Topics covered ranged from early signs, behaviour, intervention and parenting to adulthood, relationships, genetics and employment.

Awards and Recognition

Awards for Achievement in Autism Research

The annual Autism CRC Awards for Achievement in Autism Research recognise and celebrate research and development initiatives that are exemplary of Autism CRC’s vision, mission and values. These awards recognise achievements in the translation of autism research into practice, products, policy and programs that benefit the autistic and autism communities.

This year, two awards were presented in our translation of autism research category. The first of our two awards went to Associate Professor Kate Sofronoff from the University of Queensland (UQ) for the Secret Agent Society (SAS) Whole



Above left: Autism CRC Awards for Achievement in Autism Spectrum Research.



Above right: Awards, Autism and Agriculture.

Classroom Trial. Increasing the reach of the targeted training program beyond cities and into the regions is essential to meeting the needs of the autism community. Content is now being delivered via numerous multimedia components while an integrated online blog allows a remote facilitator to answer questions in 'real time'. The SAS Whole Classroom Trial online has been successfully delivered on two occasions to date, receiving positive teacher evaluation.

The second award went to Dr Beth Saggars from the Queensland University of Technology for the Educational Needs Analysis project. This project produced a world-first nationwide needs analysis identifying the educational needs of school-aged students on the spectrum. The findings have guided research and the development of models of educational support.

Secret Agent Society Recognised at CRC Association Awards

Autism CRC's SAS program is changing the lives of thousands of children and families each year with its revolutionary, evidence-based approach to helping children address social and emotional challenges. In recognition of its impact, the program was recognised at the prestigious national CRC Association Awards for Excellence in Innovation on 15 May 2018.

The SAS program is distributed by the Social Skills Training Institute, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Autism CRC. The program helps kids aged 8-12 with social and emotional challenges to 'crack the code' of emotions and friendships, using evidence-based animated 'secret agent' computer games, 'helpful thought missile' action games, bully guard body armour, Challenger board game and other resources.

Recognition from International Society for Autism Research

At the INSAR Annual Meeting, Cheryl Dissanayake, Autism CRC Project Leader, was recognised for her significant contribution to autism science, receiving one of only ten inaugural INSAR Fellowships awarded to esteemed researchers internationally.

Dr Melissa Scott, Autism CRC Scholar, was also recognised, receiving the INSAR Distinguished Dissertation Award for her dissertation on the Integrated Employment Success Tool, a resource to assist employers in adapting the workplace to best assist autistic employees.

Autism CRC would also like to congratulate Professor Margot

Prior on being recognised with the INSAR Lifetime Achievement Award for her pioneering leadership, which has had positive and lasting impact in clinical understanding and practice, and in the lives of those on the autism spectrum and their families.

Professor Andrew Whitehouse receives Eureka Prize

The Australian Museum recognised Professor Andrew Whitehouse, Autism CRC Chief Research Officer, with the 2017 3M Eureka Prize for Emerging Leader in Science. In awarding the prize, the Australian Museum stated that through a combination of scientific research, policy development, science communication, and service delivery, Andrew has established himself as a national and international leader on autism.

Aspect Recognition Awards

Our collaboration with SunPork Farms was recognised at the Autism Spectrum Australia Recognition Awards 2018, receiving the Advancement Award for the Autism and Agriculture initiative.

Autism and Agriculture is a world-first initiative of SunPork Farms and Autism CRC that has employed adults on the autism spectrum in animal care. The initiative redesigned the traditional recruitment, selection and employment model, with input from a reference group of adults on the spectrum, providing more flexible means by which candidates might demonstrate their suitability for the position.

More importantly, beyond recruitment, SunPork has continued to assess program implementation, the needs of all staff and, hence, employment practices. This has resulted in continuing adjustments and improvements to this leading employment program, which sees 16 adults on the spectrum employed at SunPork.

Participant Day and Scholars' Day

In September 2017, Autism CRC hosted our annual Participant Day and Scholars' Day in Sydney.

More than 65 people attended Participant Day, which featured workshops on areas of research need and priorities across our three programs, and featured an excellent closing keynote address by Mr Daniel Giles OAM about his personal

journey and experiences.

On Scholars' Day, PhD, Honours and Masters scholars heard from a variety of speakers and participated in Lab to Life sessions. An annual tradition, these sessions provide an interactive forum for emerging researchers engaged in autism research to share and discuss their projects. This year, scholars had the opportunity to participate in practical demonstrations of a brain scanner, eye tracking and a genetics practical.

New Appointments

Appointment of our New Autism CRC Chair

In November 2017, Autism CRC was pleased to announce the election of Professor Robert van Barneveld as Chair of the Autism CRC Board. Robert took on the role with Judy Brewer AO having stepped down at Autism CRC's Annual General Meeting.

Judy was Chair of the Board since Autism CRC commenced operations in 2013, with Robert as Deputy Chair over the same period. Judy remains on the Board as an Independent Director, and is leading a number of Autism CRC's new initiatives aimed at empowering autistic people to discover and build on their diverse strengths and interests.

Robert's experience of research management, particularly in the CRC context, together with his understanding of the autism services sector, have been instrumental in growing our network, attracting funding and translating our research into innovative programs.

Appointment of our New Chief Research Officer

Professor Andrew Whitehouse was appointed Autism CRC's Chief Research Officer in July 2017. Previously, Andrew led Autism CRC's Early Years Program, focusing on reducing the age by which children obtain an accurate autism diagnosis.

A respected autism advocate and researcher dedicated to improving the lives of children on the autism spectrum, Andrew has published over 120 peer-reviewed journal articles, as well as two books and two internationally-used clinical assessments. He has been a Fellow at the University of Oxford, and is currently the Angela Wright Bennett Professor of Autism Research at the Telethon Kids Institute and Professor of Autism Research at The University of Western Australia (UWA).

Appointment of our New Program 1 Director

Professor Valsamma Eapen was appointed Director of Program 1: Early Years in September 2017. This role was a natural progression for Valsamma, who has greatly contributed to the program as a researcher since 2013. She has played a critical role in research initiatives aimed at understanding genetic underpinnings of autism and building a national evidence base for outcomes of early intervention programs for children on the autism spectrum.

An internationally-recognised child psychiatrist and researcher, Valsamma's expertise combines extensive experience in childhood mental health and developmental disorders from a clinical and basic science research perspective.

Report from the Chair and CEO

It would be a struggle to find an area where Autism CRC has not exceeded expectations since its inception – as together with our participants, we continue to deliver our program milestones while positively influencing the way autism research is conducted and its impact in the community. Transformational research, inclusive practices, a national diagnostic guideline, development of future leaders, employment of autistic adults and commercial ventures have significantly enhanced the autism landscape in Australia and our collaboration has provided thought leadership in the field.

The existence of the Autism CRC and its achievements have also resulted in the identification of many opportunities beyond our initial scope and remit. Hence, the Board is very focussed on our strategic path beyond 2021.

Testament to the success of the Autism CRC to date and with an eye to the future, we continue to welcome new participants to our collaboration. This year we have welcomed Autism NZ as an Essential Participant and we look forward to the outcomes of our programs extending across the Tasman. We also welcomed Macquarie University as an Other Participant, coinciding with the return of Professor Liz Pellicano to Australia. There is no doubt that Australia and the Autism CRC has the most talented and dynamic collection of researchers working towards common goals anywhere in the world.

A consequence of so many outcomes and notable achievements in a single year is difficulty in highlighting the standouts, but some include:

- Program 1 is delivering outcomes in the early identification and diagnosis of autism, then linking to clinical care pathways. The year saw the collection of biological samples and phenotypic data for the Australian Autism Biobank completed, thanks to the efforts of a dedicated team across Australia that built this unique and valuable asset. Our particular thanks go to the almost 3,000 donors that contributed so much to this work. We look forward to the Biobank better informing our understanding of autism to the benefit of those on the spectrum and their families.
- Program 2 is moving to translate and disseminate the resources developed for students on the spectrum, educators and school communities in urban, regional and remote locations. An online educator community of practice is being established both for the dissemination of resources and as a platform for professional development and peer collaboration. Approximately 300 schools across Australia have participated in our education program to date.

- Program 3 has also shifted into translation mode, securing external funding to greatly enhance the utility and accessibility of program outputs through new apps and tools aimed at improving participation, health and wellbeing in adult life – from aids to career planning and enablers, such as public transport, to supports for employers and healthcare professionals to establish more inclusive environments and practices. Over 2,000 adults have participated in our research on adulthood and transitions from adolescence.

While it only attracts a small mention in this Annual Report, the development of the first national guideline for the assessment and diagnosis of autism, with its recommendations approved by the National Health and Medical Research Council, is nothing short of exceptional. Under the leadership of Professor Andrew Whitehouse, all involved in the development of this guideline have earned our immense respect and deserve the highest acclaim. For the first time, we might now see consistency in diagnostic practices throughout Australia, which can only assist in delivering better outcomes for those on the spectrum. Well over 1,000 individuals and organisations contributed to the guideline’s development, representing autistic individuals, families, medical practitioners, allied health professionals, educators, service providers and policy makers.

Our current CRC program is delivering on its broad objectives, but there remain many areas of need beyond the scope of that program. Successfully addressed, these would deliver greater participation, access, equity and autonomy for those on the autism spectrum and their families, and deliver dividends to many sectors of society, including health, social services, education, employment and justice. There is no doubt that the CRC model – having brought together leading researchers and the end-user community of autistic individuals, families, service professionals and policy-makers – is best suited to addressing these needs. It is essential that the power of our unique collaboration be resourced and applied to this work – both in the near term and beyond 2021 – and we are actively engaged with key stakeholders toward that end.

It is also essential that our future work continues to be informed by, coproduced with and governed by our end-user community. To this end, two initiatives were launched during the year.

- The Australian Autism Research Council brings together representatives of the broad end-user community to review and advise on areas of need for evidence-based practice and policy.
- The Autism CRC Academy was expanded beyond the successful research coproduction program, to include an experiential leadership program, both to empower autistic individuals to take leadership and advocacy roles, and to support organisations to foster inclusive environments.

As you read through the report, you will learn more of such investments, outputs and outcomes. These can only be achieved by the contributions of our participants and other partners to our collaboration. On behalf of the Autism CRC board and team, we thank all those who have contributed towards the realisation of our vision to see autistic people empowered to discover and use their diverse strengths and interests.



Rob van Barneveld, Chair



*Andrew Davis,
Chief Executive Officer*

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rob van Barneveld'.

Rob van Barneveld
Chair

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Davis'.

Andrew Davis
Chief Executive Officer

Structure and Governance

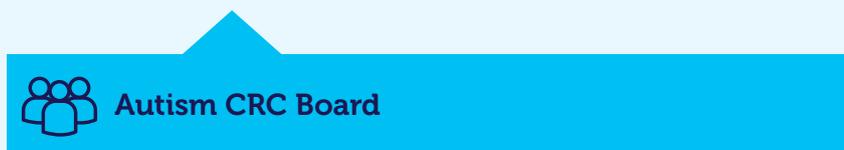
2.1 Structure

Autism CRC Ltd was established in March 2013 as a company limited by guarantee. The governance and management structure promote effective cooperation between research participants and end-users, ensuring translation-focused research and development.

Autism CRC ensures this by:

- Involving members of the autistic community throughout the research process.
- Including significant industry and end-user representation on our Board and various committees, along with representatives of research participants.
- Involving end-users directly in Autism CRC research and development as participants, enhancing project design and the applicability and uptake of outcomes.
- Engaging our three Program Directors heavily with end-users and in the management of Autism CRC activities.

Autism CRC Organisational chart



2.2 Essential Participants



A full list of Participants in the Autism CRC is given in [Appendix 1](#).

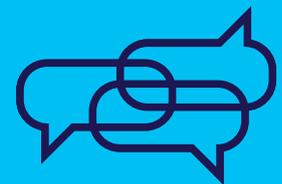
*All Essential Participants are Members of the Company, Autism CRC Ltd, except for the Queensland Department of Education and Training.



2.3 Autism CRC Board

The Autism CRC Board is accountable to the Members of Autism CRC Ltd (the Company), Participants of the Cooperative Research Centre for Autism and the Australian Government for the operations and affairs of Autism CRC. The Board is responsible for decisions relating to Autism CRC strategy, our investment of funds, our research program, the translation of our research outcomes to application, and our overall management.

The present Board consists of an Independent Chairperson, six Independent Directors, and three Nominee Directors. The Board members bring skills and experience across a range of disciplines of direct relevance to the goals and operations of Autism CRC Ltd, including:



- 1** Independent Chairperson
- 6** Independent Directors
- 3** Nominee Directors

One of the Directors has an autism diagnosis and numerous Board members are parents of children on the autism spectrum.

The Board met 7 times during the reporting period.

Autism CRC Board, CEO and CFO in above photo. More information on each of our Board members can be found on the following pages.



Professor Rob van Barneveld
Chair

BAgrSc (Hon), PhD, RAnNutr, FAICD

Robert became Chair of Autism CRC on 2 November 2017. Robert is an experienced Director of small and large businesses, not-for-profits, peak bodies and ASX Top 300 companies, which comprise partnerships, proprietary limited companies, incorporated associations, companies limited by guarantee and publicly listed entities. He has extensive experience in corporate governance, research commercialisation and management, and government liaison at state and federal levels.

He is a past President of Autism Queensland and is familiar with the needs of families and carers of people on the spectrum. His daughter was initially diagnosed with autism but later re-diagnosed with Rett Syndrome.

Robert is a Director of the Pork CRC Ltd has led three successful CRC bids, including the Autism CRC bid. He has also been involved in the establishment and transition of CRCs and has worked as a researcher within the Pork, Aquaculture and Aquafin CRCs.

Robert is an Adjunct Professor within the School of Environmental and Rural Science at the University of New England and has received numerous presentation, excellence, and research awards.

When not working with the Autism CRC, Robert is Group CEO and Managing Director of the SunPork Group of Companies, one of Australia's largest pork producers with a value chain extending from pig genetics, to farms to retail. SunPork initiated the Autism and Agriculture program and now employs 16 autistic adults in specialist animal care roles.



Ms Carole Green
Deputy Chair

BAppSc (Comp), GradDipCorpGov, GradDipEd, MInfTech, MBA, CertTeach, GAICD

Carole has been an independent director of Autism CRC since its commencement in July 2013 and a Director of Social Skills Training since January 2017. Previously, Carole held positions within a number of Cooperative Research Centres (CRCs) including Strategic Manager, Wound Management Innovation CRC, as well as Chief Operating Officer, Construction Innovation CRC. She has also been Company Secretary within CRC contexts.

She has experience in establishment, strategic direction, implementation of processes and systems within CRCs, and exploitation of research outputs. Carole also has more than 15 years' experience working with tertiary education, government, and industry across science, health, education, business and IT.

She has a wealth of experience in complex environments with multiple stakeholders, establishing and operating business structures, quality assurance and risk management.



Ms Judy Brewer AO
Independent Director

BBus (Public Admin), GDipTax, GAICD

Judy is an Independent Director and was formerly Chair of the Autism CRC from its inception in 2013 to 02 November 2017. She is a nationally recognised speaker and writer on issues relating to neurodiverse families. With two adult sons, one of whom is autistic, Judy has been actively involved in many autism and carer organisations and is Chair of Amaze, co-founder of the Autism Future Leaders program and co-founder of Autism Aspergers Advocacy Australia (A4). In 2013, Judy was a recipient of the Asia Pacific Autism Award and, in 2016, was named Officer of the Order of Australia for her service to people with a disability, particularly to those on the autism spectrum, refugees living in rural areas, women and education. In 2017 she became Pro-Chancellor of Charles Sturt University.

Judy has held various appointments on Federal and State Government Committees, including as Chair of the National Family Carers Voice, panel member for the 2004 Review of the Disability Carer Allowance, the 2005 Ministerial Advisory Group on the reforms to Disability Trusts, the Victorian Government Autism State Plan Working Party 2007/08 and the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) Advisory Committee for the Positive Partnerships program.



Adrian Ford

Nominee Director

BSocStud, FAICD

Adrian is the Chief Executive Officer and Company Secretary of Autism Spectrum Australia (Aspect), Australia's largest national autism-specific service provider which focuses on people on the autism spectrum, their families and communities. Aspect works with people of all ages on the spectrum as well as providing training and consultancies both nationally and internationally. This gives first-hand experience of the needs, issues, concerns and research priorities of people on the spectrum and their families/carers.

Adrian has extensive experience with not-for-profit boards, governance structures, strategic planning, risk management, finances, HR and policy frameworks. He has worked with governments at all levels and autism organisations, and been instrumental in developing partnerships with organisations with a common interest and commitment. Adrian also has experience with the roll out of the NDIS across Eastern Australia.

Adrian is the Chairperson of the Australian Advisory Board on ASD and represents Aspect on the Organising Group for the Australian Autism Alliance. He chaired the Organising Committee for APAC in 2009 and again in 2017.



Dr Shirley Lanning

Independent Director

BSc (Biological Sciences) (Hons 1), PhD
(Microbiology), FAICD

Shirley has over 20 years' senior management experience in commercial and not-for-profit organisations in the UK and Australia, with a focus on corporate affairs, marketing and communications, business development and general management in the area of science and technology.

She has served as a non-executive Board Director of a number of not-for-profit organisations, including NanoVentures Australia, Nanotechnology Victoria, the Pig Research and Development Corporation and AusBiotech, and as a Member of Government Advisory Councils, including the Federal Government's Advisory Council on Intellectual Property and the Victorian Cancer Agency Consultative Council.

Shirley was the inaugural Executive Director of the UK BioIndustry Association and has been involved with the CRC Program for many years, serving as Federal Government Visitor to the CRC for Viticulture and the CRC for Cellular Growth Factors. She is a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.



Mr Malcolm Mayfield

Independent Director

BEng (Civil), GAICD

Malcolm is the founder and Managing Director of Autism STAR Pty Ltd. His career includes working as a researcher in the UniSA Civil Engineering Laboratories and as a contract administrator in the construction industry. In those capacities, he has worked on sports stadiums, high-rise buildings, power stations, and subdivisions, and was highly regarded in his field.

Malcolm's view of the world changed when he self-diagnosed his Asperger's Syndrome at the age of 37 and had that diagnosis confirmed a few years later. Patterns in his life that had previously been confusing began to make sense and, as part of that process of greater awareness, he realised that in order to cope and succeed as an adult and a professional, he had developed independent success strategies that could be used by others on the autism spectrum. The concept and manifestation of Autism STAR grew out of that process of self-discovery.

Malcolm's goal is to shine a light on the autism spectrum to show the world that autism is a strength to be cherished and nurtured into success for all. He is a life coach and NLP Practitioner and is co-author of 'The Hidden Curriculum of Getting and Keeping a Job: Navigating the Social Landscape of Employment'.



Mr Scott Reading

Nominee Director

MCom, MBus (Logistics Management), MAICD

Scott is a Founding Director of the AEIOU Foundation for Children with Autism.

AEIOU is an essential participant of the Autism CRC and is a not-for-profit organisation which was established to deliver high-quality early intervention therapy and care. Its family centred program meets the Guidelines for Good Practise (Roberts & Prior 2012) and supports children with autism to develop essential life skills, independence, confidence and inclusion.

As a parent of a child with autism, Scott understands first-hand the daily challenges that this condition can bring, his son William has been diagnosed with epilepsy, intellectual impairment and low functioning autism.

Scott is the Managing Director and Founder of SwingVoters.org, Australia's most comprehensive directory of politician's candidates and issues. He has over 25 years' experience in senior management and leadership roles in industry sectors including retail, media, direct selling and small business.

During Scott's terms as a Director of the Autism CRC he has served on the Audit, Risk and Finance Committee, the Research and Development Committee and for a short period as the Managing Director of the CRC during the company's search for a new CEO.



Mr Paul Vincent

Independent Director

BBus (Acc), FCA, GAICD

Paul is a Chartered Accountant and has been a Director of Vincents Chartered Accountants since 1989. He has extensive experience in commercial litigation, providing evidence for criminal matters (fraud, family law property settlements), professional negligence actions, corporate governance and directors' duty breaches. Paul also mediates and arbitrates financial disputes. His accounting experience covers audit, insolvency, management, taxation and general accounting.

Paul is a regular presenter at conferences across Australia on a range of forensic accounting topics including, commercial dispute resolution, quantifying damages in commercial disputes, fraud detection and prevention and proceeds of crime related topics.



Mr Joe McLean

Nominee Director

B Bus (Hons), Dip Teach, GAICD

Joe McLean is the Director, Research Partnerships, at UQ, and joined the Autism CRC Board on 24 April 2018. He supports the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research Partnerships) in developing strategic research partnerships with industry, government and the not-for-profit sector. The role also involves oversight of contracting research services. Joe has 20 years of experience working at the interface of research and markets across a broad range of industries and disciplines. Prior to taking on the position of Director, Research Partnerships, at UQ, Joe was Head of Strategy and Growth for Triple P International Pty Ltd helping develop new markets and advising on business strategy. He spent more than 10 years at UniQuest Pty Limited becoming manager of the social sciences and humanities group as well as leading the Consulting and Research and International Development divisions.



Mr Paul Field

Independent Director

BA (Hons), MA, FAICD

Paul brings valuable experience in the translation of biomedical research, including the commercialisation of biomarkers for neurological conditions. He currently provides business development services to a number of companies including BioCurate, and he has in the past worked at Austrade, facilitating foreign direct investment into Australian life sciences. Paul was an inaugural director of the CRC from 2013-15, initially drawn to the CRC through his relationships with parents with autistic children. He was pleased to be reappointed to the Board on 18 April 2018.



Mr Ian Harris

Nominee Director

BSc (Agriculture), GDipAdmin, MEd, GAICD

Ian has specific expertise in IP commercialisation, research and development management, risk analysis and corporate governance, as well as broad experience with Australian Research Council (ARC) Centres of Excellence and CRCs, including membership of advisory boards.

He is currently Director Research Partnerships within the Office of the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research) at UQ. In this role he has developed strategic research partnerships with industry and government, and has responsibility for UQ's corporate engagement with CRCs.

His previous appointments include Chief Operating Officer in ARC Centres and Chief Executive Officer in a startup company within UniQuest. He has held a number of Directorships and senior executive roles in various universities and the aged care sector, and spent three years managing a university's aid program in the Philippines.

Ian resigned as a Director on 14 February 2018.



Professor Garry Allison

Nominee Director

BEd (Hons), BAppSc (Physio)(Hons), MEd, PhD

Garry has experience in motor control and learning during recovery and rehabilitation of individuals with neurological injury and elite athletes.

He has research and practical experience with inter-professional health care and educational delivery through his teaching degree and subsequently health systems research and funded research.

He is currently Dean, Research and Graduate Studies at Curtin University Faculty of Health Sciences, and Professor of Neuroscience and Trauma Physiotherapy. These positions enabled him to develop extensive experience in research management, RHD student issues, research consultancy management, and partnerships with external stakeholders, and contractual obligations.

Garry resigned as a Director on 28 August 2017.



Professor Carol Nicoll

Nominee Director

PhD

Carol is Executive Dean, Faculty of Education at Queensland University of Technology. Carol began her career as a secondary school teacher in Queensland, and held a number of senior positions in the Commonwealth Department of Education, including responsibility for school funding. She was the CEO of the Australian Learning and Teaching Council and the inaugural Chief Commissioner and CEO of the Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency. She has degrees in Law, Arts and Education from the University of Queensland and a doctorate from the University of British Columbia.

Carol was a Nominee Director on the Autism CRC Board from 2 November 2017 to 10 April 2018.



2.4 Autism CRC Board Committees

Research and Development Committee

The Research and Development Committee is comprised of Essential Participant nominees and members appointed by the Board. The Committee provides a forum for consultation among the Essential Participants, a point of interaction between the Essential Participants and the Board, and guidance and recommendations to the Board in relation to research and development undertaken within the Autism CRC.

During the reporting period, the Research and Development Committee met twice and consisted of Professor Robert van Barneveld (Chair), Dr Shirley Lanning, Scott Reading, Paul Field (from 7 June 2018) and Essential Participant nominee representatives.

Andrew Davis (CEO), Professor Andrew Whitehouse (Chief Research Officer), Cheryl Mangan (Manager, Research Translation), Andrew Borneman (CFO), Professor Valsa Eapen (Program 1 Director), Professor Suzanne Carrington (Program 2 Director), Professor Torbjorn Falkmer (Program 3 Director), and Robyn Synnott (Committee Secretary) also attended on invitation.

The Remuneration, Nominations and Selection Committee

The Remuneration, Nominations and Selection Committee assists the Board in fulfilling its corporate governance responsibilities including:

- Providing recommendations for Director nominees to the Members
- Ensuring a rotation is established whereby at least one third of Directors retire and are eligible for re-election annually
- Establishing a process for the review of Board performance and the development of the Board
- Undertaking succession planning for the Board
- Reviewing the performance and remuneration of the CEO and make recommendations in this regard to the Chair of the Board
- Reviewing the performance and remuneration framework for the Executive Team with the CEO.

During the reporting period, the Remuneration, Nominations and Selection Committee met once and consisted of Judy Brewer (Chair), Professor Robert van Barneveld, Ian Harris (until 14 February 2018), Scott Reading (from 2 November 2017) and Adrian Ford (from 2 November 2017), with the CEO in attendance.

Audit, Risk and Finance Committee

The Audit, Risk and Finance Committee assists the Board in its oversight of the integrity of financial reporting, internal control structures, audit functions and also compliance and risk management systems relating to the finance and audit functions. This Committee ensures appropriate policies and procedures are in place to underpin best practice governance and to identify and manage corporate risk for the Company.

During the reporting period, the Audit, Risk and Finance Committee met five times and consisted of Paul Vincent (Chair), Carole Green, Malcolm Mayfield, Ian Harris (until 14 February 2018), and Joe McLean (from 7 June 2018) with the CEO and CFO in attendance.

2.5 Autism CRC Management Team

| Name | Role | Organisation |
|------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| Andrew Davis | Chief Executive Officer | Autism CRC |
| Andrew Borneman | Chief Financial Officer and Company Secretary | Autism CRC |
| Wojciech Nadachowski | Chief Operating Officer | Autism CRC |
| Jacqui Molensen | Stakeholder Relations Executive | Autism CRC |
| Cheryl Mangan | Manager, Research Translation | Autism CRC |
| Professor Andrew Whitehouse | Chief Research Officer | University of Western Australia |
| Professor Valsamma Eapen | Program 1 Director | University of New South Wales |
| Professor Suzanne Carrington | Program 2 Director | Queensland University of Technology |
| Professor Torbjörn Falkmer | Program 3 Director | Curtin University |

Report on Activities

3.1 Research and Development

Autism CRC is undertaking three major research programs:



Early Years

A better start through better diagnosis



School Years

Enhancing learning and teaching



Adulthood

Finding a place in society

Autism CRC is on target to meet our research outputs. To date, no major technical or scientific impediments have prevented progress towards these objectives.

Autism CRC continues to assess research progress and developments in science, education and industry, ensuring that our research investment takes account of such developments, incorporating changes to project design accordingly. We engage with the autistic and autism communities to ensure our resources focus on research that will have the greatest impact for the community.

Strategic, Innovation and Utilisation research project proposals are reviewed by the Research and Development Committee after independent scientific review. Proposals are also reviewed by autistic adults regarding their transformational capacity. Recommendations are then made to the Board for approval.

Project progress, including assessment of project milestone performance,

schedule, expenditure and risks, is monitored via a number of mechanisms:

- Six-monthly project milestone and project cash reporting and quarterly in-kind reporting
- Research and Development Committee oversight of project investments and progress
- Research and Translation Executive review of progress and investment priorities and opportunities
- Regular research program reporting to the Autism CRC Board on research project execution status, progress and exceptions
- Regular meetings between the Chief Research Officer; Manager, Research Translation; and Program Directors.



Professor Andrew Whitehouse
Chief Research Officer

BSc (Speech Pathology), PhD (Psychology)

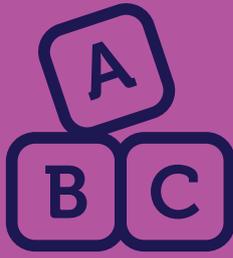
Autism CRC invests in four types of research projects:

Commissioned Projects are those commissioned by the Board of Autism CRC Ltd to meet specific Commonwealth milestones, where the investment is large and feedback from the Project team occurs at Board level, rather than through the Research and Development Committee.

Strategic Projects relate to specific Autism CRC Milestones and must involve at least two, preferably more, CRC Participants, including end-users

Innovation Projects provide seed funding for innovation consistent with Autism CRC's overall objectives, with a maximum investment of \$50,000 and a term of one year. These projects seek creative and novel ideas that will assist in meeting CRC research objectives.

Utilisation Projects provide funding for translation and utilisation of existing Autism CRC research outputs for impact as either products and services that may be embedded into practice, or further disseminated to inform policy and practice.



Early Years



Photo courtesy Andrew Denford.

Program 1

A Better Start through Better Diagnosis

Program 1 focuses on improving the validity, precision, timeliness and reliability associated with the diagnosis of autism and targeted pathways to early intervention.

Program Goals

To use existing knowledge of the early behaviours associated with autism to:

- Facilitate the accurate diagnosis of 50 per cent of autistic children prior to their second birthday, and over 70 per cent by their third birthday by developing tools and improving training.

To incorporate breakthroughs in biological research with existing behavioural and clinical observations to:

- Identify subtypes of autism.
- Improve understanding of the most efficient interventions that match these subtype profiles.

2017-18 Snapshot

- Australia's first national guideline for the assessment and diagnosis of autism has been developed, and to be launched in October 2018.
- The Social, Attention and Communication Surveillance - Revised (SACS-R) tool deployed with 20,000 infants and children now having been monitored.
- SACS and its training program now utilised by 200 community-based primary care professionals in Victoria, Queensland, New South Wales, Tasmania and Western Australia.
- Biological sample collection for the Australian Autism Biobank now complete, with data collected from 2,856 participants.
- The biological subtyping project has phenotypic data from 450 children which is being curated for analysis.
- 48 students have enrolled in the Graduate Certificate for Autism Diagnosis since 2015.
- Seven PhD students.
- Three completed post-doctoral research fellows.



Professor Valsamma Eapen
Program Director

MBBS (India), DPM (India), DFT (UK), PhD (UK),
FRCPsych (UK), FRANZCP (Aust)

Program 1 Projects

To date, including the 2013-2018 Investment Rounds approved by the Board.

| Project | Short Title | Year | Lead Participant | Project Funds | In-Kind Value |
|------------------------------------|---|------|-------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Strategic: | | | | | |
| 1.001RC | Program 1 Base Resources # | 2013 | UWA / LTU / UNSW / MMRI | \$2,057,500 | \$4,095,500 |
| 1.002RC | Creation of Autism Biobank | 2013 | UWA | \$1,139,527 | \$2,295,257 |
| 1.004RC | Graduate Certificate | 2013 | UWA | \$120,000 | \$556,458 |
| 1.005RC | Developmental Surveillance SACS-R | 2013 | LTU | \$419,106 | \$2,044,721 |
| 1.021RS* | Diagnostic Practices and Reliability in Australia | 2014 | UWA | \$47,889 | \$490,600 |
| 1.022RS | Family Support Program | 2014 | LTU | \$54,141 | \$172,935 |
| 1.023RS | Autism Subtyping | 2014 | UNSW | \$1,172,789 | \$7,078,293 |
| 1.042RC | System Genomics | 2015 | UQ | \$1,743,246 | \$3,009,145 |
| 1.043RS | Therapy for Infants Showing Early Signs of Autism | 2015 | LTU | \$125,000 | \$2,522,554 |
| 1.059RS | Biobank Pilot Project | 2018 | UNSW | \$57,856 | \$37,500 |
| Total Program 1 Strategic | | | | \$6,937,054 | \$22,302,963 |
| Innovation: | | | | | |
| 1.019RI* | ASD Post Mortem Brain | 2014 | UNSW | \$50,000 | \$383,000 |
| 1.020RI* | BrainsTorm Study | 2014 | MMRI | \$40,150 | \$174,000 |
| 1.033RI | Brain Connectivity | 2015 | UQ | \$49,990 | \$129,641 |
| Total Program 1 Innovation | | | | \$140,140 | \$686,641 |
| Utilisation: | | | | | |
| 1.058RU | Diagnostic Inconsistencies in New Zealand | 2018 | Autism NZ | \$58,000 | \$366,000 |
| Total Program 1 Utilisation | | | | \$58,000 | \$366,000 |
| Total Program 1 Projects | | | | \$7,135,194 | \$23,305,604 |

*Project Completed

Base resources refers to postdoctoral fellows, research assistants in each of four sites who are working together on projects 1.002RC, 1.023RC, 1.005RC.

Performance Against Activities

Output 1.1

A behavioural surveillance tool to enable correct diagnosis of at least 50 per cent of children with ASD before two years and at least 70 per cent by three years.

The Social, Attention and Communication Surveillance-Revised (SACS-R) tool is used by community-based, primary care professionals to identify children in need of further assessment for autism during their early years. To date, more than 20,000 babies and children have been assessed. The SACS-R tool was deployed in a study through the Tasmanian Department of Health and Human Services, with 6,000 children now having been monitored. SACS and its training program is now utilised by 200 community-based primary care professionals in Victoria, Queensland, New South Wales, Tasmania and Western Australia. Evaluation conducted after the training workshop and after six and nine months post-training found positive feedback in that most nurses reported that the SACS was easy to implement into their current practice, had a positive impact on their current practice, and that it did not take much additional time to include as part of their regular checks except in instances where a child was showing problems in their development.

Output 1.2

Integrated diagnostic protocol (IDPA) and ASD software analysis tool to enable better diagnosis of ASD and prediction of developing ASD.

Australia's first national guideline for the assessment and diagnosis of autism will be launched in September 2018. Development of the guideline consisted of the following steps: 1) An environmental scan of the diagnostic guidelines currently in use across the world; 2) Extensive involvement through a Steering Committee of the national peak bodies of professions and representatives from consumer organisations and individuals on the spectrum; 3) Extensive consultation of the wider autism community using a Delphi Study, Viewpoint survey, website feedback and workshop consultation held across the state and territories; 4) NHMRC approval of the guideline.

The Australian Autism Biobank was launched in March 2016. As part of the project, both phenotypic data and biological samples have been collected at four sites across Australia in New South Wales, Queensland, Victoria and Western Australia.

Biological sample collection for the project is now complete. Data has been collected from a total of 2,856 participants (1,046 probands, 872 mother, 561 fathers, 241 siblings and 136 controls.) The next phase of the project is to input the phenotypic data into the Biobank database, with launch of the data resource scheduled for December 2018. To determine whether a longitudinal follow-up of the Australian Autism Biobank is feasible, a 6-month pilot study is being proposed to investigate the participant return rates. Data on the feasibility of a longitudinal follow up would be useful for both the large-scale grant applications required for the continuation of the project outside Autism CRC funding and to attract industry investment. The six-month pilot would operate at one site only.

It is expected that a target of 65 children on the spectrum will complete follow up appointments over the six-month period.

We anticipate that the Australian genetic data will contribute to international efforts and help refine development of ASD genetic diagnostic tools.

Output 1.3

Identification of biological subtypes of ASD.

Using the data from the six Autism Specific Early Learning and Care Centres (ASELCCs), Autism CRC researchers will use behavioural, neurocognitive and genetic profiles to derive more homogeneous subtypes of autism. Researchers will then investigate how children within these subtypes respond to various early interventions to determine the most effective intervention-subtype pairings. By studying cohort participants as they transition into school programs, it is possible to develop prognostic indicators of outcomes as they relate to each of the genotype, neurocognitive (endophenotype) and clinical (phenotype) profiles. The identification and validation of accurate subtypes of autism will expedite decision-making about early intervention strategies. Phenotypic data collected from 450 children receiving early intervention through the ASELCCs is currently being pooled and curated for analysis. Neurocognitive data has been collected from 30 children with the integration of phenotypic data with the neurocognitive data currently progressing.

Output 1.4

Implementation of a Graduate Certificate for Autism Diagnosticians. Education of 12 PhDs, five postdoctoral fellows and generation of 72 scholarly publications.

The Graduate Certificate in Autism Diagnosis (GCAD) was developed at the University of Western Australia (UWA). Students complete two coursework units followed by a third unit that provides training in the Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule (ADOS), and then a fourth practical placement unit.

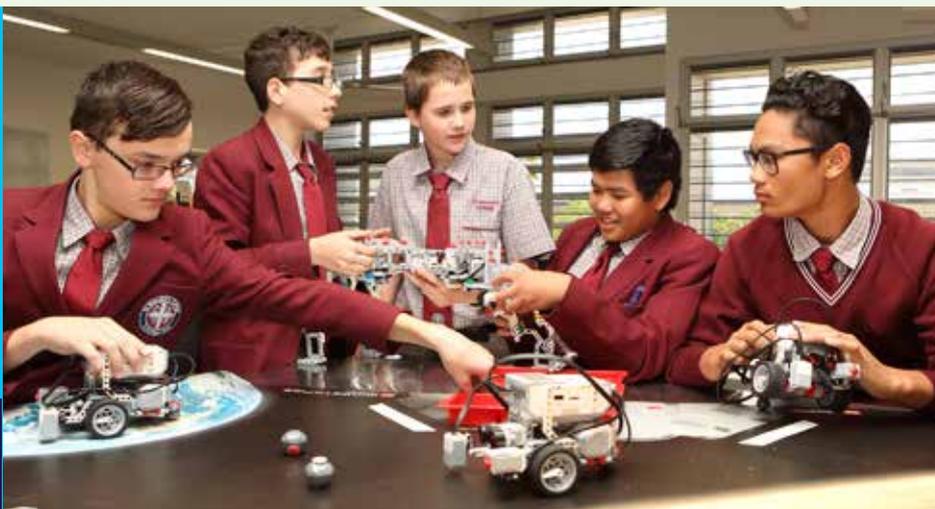
The development of the GCAD has been very successful following annual evaluations of the course. Learning and insights from annual evaluations were incorporated in the development of the course in subsequent years.

Since 2015, 48 students have enrolled in the GCAD, (14 new students this academic year) with 20 completions, and another seven expected to graduate in 2018-19. Further work that has occurred through this project include: (1) creation of a teaching module to cover diagnosis of toddlers; (2) creation of a module to cover diagnosis of adults; and (3) production of videos of multidisciplinary assessments to supplement the observational component of the placement unit. Efforts are ongoing to achieve the final goal of improving access to the GCAD for students from outside Western Australia by negotiating arrangements for them to complete placements in their home state. A deed of variation is requested for the use of the remaining funds to allow the co-ordinator to travel to other sites in the latter part of 2018 to discuss placement options.

Program 1 currently has seven PhD students and three postdoctoral fellows have completed (as of April 2018).



School Years



Program 2

Enhancing Learning and Teaching

Research Program 2 will enable educators, therapists, carers, families, and the general community to effectively respond to the diverse learning needs of students on the autism spectrum.

Program Goals

Identifying appropriate educational environments, programs and support strategies will:

- Optimise students' social, behavioural and academic development.
- Equip teachers to enhance performance and manage complex behaviours.

Program 2 researchers are developing and testing evidence-based teaching strategies, techniques, tools and programs in mainstream classrooms to optimise the learning and educational environments for students on the autism spectrum.

2017-18 Snapshot

- 36 primary schools, 10 secondary schools and a total of 350 school students participating in the Classrooms of Excellence Program.
- Transition Models of Practice (MoP) is being trialed and validated.
- Trial of the Resourceful Adolescent Program for Autism (RAP-A) is completed, with resource product under development.

- 24 teachers and 11 teacher aids involved in the 2017 SAS-WOC trial have completed training.
- The Assistive Technology for Writing intervention app is being updated and refined.
- Planning and preparation is underway for the Middle Years Behaviour Support Project.
- The School Connectedness Program has been trialed in five schools with broader rollout being planned.
- Early Years Behaviour Support Program (EYBSP) data collection is complete.
- Work has begun on the online professional learning source, the Diverse Learners Hub.
- Time 4 assessments for Wave 2 of the Longitudinal Study of Australian Students with Autism is underway.
- Nine (seven active, two withdrawn) PhD scholars, 14 Masters students and one Honours student have commenced in Program 2.



Professor Suzanne Carrington
Program Director

DipTeach, BEd, MEd, PhD

Program 2 Projects

To date, including the 2013-2018 Investment Rounds approved by the Board.

| Project | Short Title | Year | Lead Participant Institution | Project Funds Funds | In-Kind Value Value |
|------------------------------------|---|------|------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Strategic: | | | | | |
| 2.006RC | Program 2 Base Resources # | 2013 | QUT | \$902,500 | \$1,694,000 |
| 2.007RC | Trajectory Study | 2013 | GU | \$1,049,040 | \$5,182,411 |
| 2.008RC | Secret Agent Society Classroom | 2013 | UQ | \$149,924 | \$1,378,143 |
| 2.009RC* | Educational Needs Analysis | 2013 | QUT | \$40,000 | \$295,000 |
| 2.010RC | Overcoming Difficulties in Written Expression | 2013 | AQ | \$176,684 | \$1,485,868 |
| 2.011RC | Helping Students Stay on Task and Move Between Tasks | 2013 | AQ | \$164,684 | \$1,570,866 |
| 2.027RS | Early Years Behaviour Support | 2014 | QUT | \$522,758 | \$2,372,454 |
| 2.028RS | Improving Classroom Acoustics | 2014 | AQ | \$273,000 | \$1,251,636 |
| 2.029RS | School Connectedness | 2014 | QUT | \$504,384 | \$2,077,500 |
| 2.037RS | Primary School Transition MoP | 2015 | Aspect | \$593,498 | \$1,851,985 |
| 2.057RS | Middle Years Behaviour Support Program | 2018 | QUT | \$484,100 | \$1,216,150 |
| Total Program 2 Strategic | | | | \$4,860,572 | \$20,376,013 |
| Innovation: | | | | | |
| 2.024RI* | Emergent Literacy | 2014 | GU | \$49,746 | \$108,282 |
| 2.025RI* | ASD, Anxiety and School Functioning | 2014 | UWA | \$49,920 | \$293,685 |
| 2.026RI* | Robotics Social Clubs in Mainstream Schools | 2014 | BCE | \$48,880 | \$350,000 |
| 2.034RI* | Shared Book Reading Intervention | 2015 | GU | \$49,900 | \$194,160 |
| 2.035RI* | Literacy Predictors | 2015 | GU | \$50,000 | \$117,300 |
| 2.036RI | How was your Day? | 2015 | UMelb | \$49,986 | \$151,804 |
| 2.060RI | Effects of Humanoid Robots on Narrative Role-Taking Abilities of Children | 2018 | QUT/QDET | \$50,000 | \$231,900 |
| Total Program 2 Innovation | | | | \$348,432 | \$1,447,131 |
| Utilisation | | | | | |
| 2.045RU | Living Portal | 2016 | QUT | \$60,000 | \$451,500 |
| 2.052RU | Storytime | 2017 | GU | \$77,250 | \$286,300 |
| 2.053RU | Assistive Writing Program | 2017 | AQ | \$52,420 | \$98,000 |
| Total Program 2 Utilisation | | | | \$189,670 | \$835,800 |
| Total Program 2 Projects | | | | \$5,398,674 | \$22,658,944 |

*Project Completed

Base resources refers to the Research Associate who is working across all Program 2 projects.

Performance Against Activities

Output 2.1

Evidence-based programs to optimise the learning environment ensuring successful social, behavioural and academic outcomes for students on the autism spectrum. U2.1 Utilisation of SAS-WOC and training resources by educational and health professional end- users.

Consistent with the findings of the Educational Needs Analysis survey, research within Program 2 focuses on the development and evaluation of:

- Strategies to enhance students' capacity to process instructions, express knowledge (written expression), and engage in and transition between learning tasks.
- Methods of transition between and within classrooms, and into and across the school.
- Programs to facilitate students' transition between educational settings (primary to high school).
- Whole of class and whole of school social-emotional programs.

There are 36 primary schools, 10 secondary schools and a total of 350 students (grades four, five and six) currently involved in the Classrooms of Excellence Program (CoEP), with current focus on data analysis and knowledge translation. Six secondary schools in QLD, two in NSW and two in Victoria were involved in the Transition MoP project, as well as 30 secondary school educators. The trial and validation of the MoP is now complete, with data analysis and resource development underway.

Classroom and educator focused resources have been distributed to at least 500 teachers with teacher resources available on the Autism CRC website. An online portal for the SAS-WOC project is in development.

The RAP-A is an adolescent social emotional skills and resilience program for high school students on the spectrum. This program has been trialed across five schools with six different cohorts of students, with data analysis and planning for broader implementation underway. Over the next nine months, the research team will work to finalise a suite of resources and information that will support schools who want to establish a model of school connectedness and belonging. This includes using Positive Partnerships funding to develop a series of videos with parents and teachers about how the Resourceful Adolescent Program was conducted as part of a whole-school approach.

The Assistive Technology for Writing intervention PowTree app is being further updated and refined though data collected in the Utilisation Project Power-Writer Assistive Writing Program.

SAS-WOC completed training of 24 teachers and 11 teacher aides in 14 classrooms involved in the 2017 SAS-WOC trial. Of these schools, one is located in New South Wales with the rest in Victoria. The participating schools are primarily rural or regional schools. Data analysis is underway and initial findings have been presented in workshops to teachers.

Support under the Positive Partnerships Collaborative Agreement is seeing outputs from the Transition Models of Practice; Transition Between Tasks and Staying on Task; and SAS-WOC projects being extended for delivery to schools in ATSI, CALD, rural and remote communities.

Output 2.2

Evidence-based tools and protocols for supporting students on the autism spectrum with high impact social, emotional and behavioural needs.

Research and development under this output is being conducted via the following projects: EYBSP, School Connectedness Project, Autism Anxiety and School Functioning, SAS-WOC, Classroom Acoustics, Transitioning Between Tasks, Emergent Literacy, Literacy Predictors and Shared Book Reading Interventions and Transition Models of Practice.

Planning and preparation is underway for the Middle Years Behaviour Support Project (MYBSP) which will include a multidisciplinary team of therapists, teachers and teleconsulting specialists and focus on rural and remote communities. Several schools have been identified as potential research sites and ethics approval is being sought for the project.

The School Connectedness program has now been trialed with 32 students across five schools with six different cohorts of students, including three regional schools. Analysis of parent data has been completed and is ongoing for the first six cohorts of students. The remaining focus of the project will be on completing implementation in these settings, analysing the data and planning for broader rollout of the program within these schools.

The EYBSP focuses on the development of innovative assessment tools, support protocols and technologies to enable social-emotional wellbeing, academic progress, and behavioural regulation – through the development of Tele-Classroom Consultation (TCC) approaches – for regional teachers and students on the spectrum. Data collection has now be completed and analysis will commence over the coming months with a view to completion in early 2019.



Output 2.3

Three training packages to increase skilled, confident teachers and support personnel capable of educating a spectrum of autistic students. An online portal associated with the Autism Connect Hub will be a repository for training materials and resources developed from Program 2 research for a wide range of end-users.

Training resources have been disseminated through the Autism CRC website, 400 USB sticks sent to schools and partners (including 300 to partner schools and 100 to Positive Partnerships schools and partners) and online web links sent to a further 80 schools. Dissemination has also occurred through the delivery of over 100 presentations and workshops relating to our resources and knowledge outputs.

As part of the CRC's commitment to transferring research outcomes as quickly and as effectively as possible to educators, work has been undertaken to design an online professional learning resource. The aim is to create a 'Diverse Learners Hub', which will be a dynamic eLearning portal and community of practice for educators engaged with diverse learners. The Diverse Learners Hub will become a national portal for educators throughout Australia seeking to inform their teaching practice and to participate in a national community of practice for educators.

Output 2.4

Validation of ASD subtypes (Output 1.3) and their predictive value for long-term outcomes for children with ASD through a longitudinal study.

Through the Longitudinal Study of Australian Students with Autism (LASA), the experiences and outcomes of two cohorts, each of 125 students (four to five years and nine to 10 years), are being followed up annually for six years. Data collection is

from parents, teachers and school principals with demographic, behavioural and developmental assessment data from parents and teachers collected annually via an online questionnaire. 2018 assessments (time 4) are underway and so far there have been 88 parent completions, with 12 in progress, and 67 teacher completions with 19 in progress.

The recruitment of principals is complete. 158 schools have agreed to be involved and 120 teachers have agreed to complete the teacher questionnaire to date. Teacher follow-up for registration will continue into the next school term. Online teacher questionnaire links have been sent to some teachers with the majority of the online questionnaire distributions been undertaken at the start of Term 3. Teacher questionnaire follow-up for completion will be ongoing.

Output 2.5

This output will train 18 PhD students, employ six postdoctoral fellows and generate 60 scholarly publications.

To date, nine (seven active, two withdrawn) PhD and 14 Masters students, and one Honours student have commenced in Program 2.

Program 2 has published 22 journal articles and book chapters, with a further seven under review. During 2017-2018 reporting period, there were 25 conference presentations and posters.



Adulthood



Program 3

Finding a Place in Society

Research Program 3 focuses on the transition from school to further education, employment and adult life, with the ultimate goal of assisting people on the autism spectrum to find a valued place in society.

Program Goals

- To directly facilitate paths towards fulfilling lives for people on the spectrum after school.
- To inform government policy regarding employment, education, and health.
- Gather information on profiles of Australian adolescents and adults on the autism spectrum through two longitudinal studies.
- Support employment opportunities for adults on the autism spectrum.
- The Public Transport Project has been developed into a beta version of an app, currently being trialed.
- The Autism Comprehensive Health Assessment Protocol (CHAP) and ACT On Your Life anxiety program are ongoing.
- The Health Pathways Autism Initiative is underway, and will allow health professionals to access up-to-date information to support autistic patients.
- BOOST-A has been delivered to over 100 young people on the spectrum, parents and professionals.
- The Integrated Employment Success Tool (IEST) is being used by the Autism Academy for Software Quality Assurance (AASQA).
- The Autism CRC Connect Hub and Knowledge Centre have been established.
- 15 (14 active, 1 withdrawn) PhD students, 1 masters student and 11 honours students.
- 4 postdoctoral research fellows engaged.
- During the reporting period, 72 journal articles were published in the Adulthood program.

2017-18 Snapshot

- Time point (wave) 2 data collections are underway for the Australian Longitudinal Study of Adults with Autism (ALSAA) and Longitudinal Study of School Leavers (SASLA).
- Pilot trials, combining the Peer Mentoring program and a social emotional training game, are complete.
- The Driving Project has seen the development of an autism-specific driving instructor manual, currently being trialed across two sites.



Professor Torbjorn Falkmer
Program Director

BSc (Occupational Therapy), MSc(Teaching),
PhD (Medicine)

Program 3 Projects

To date, including the 2013-2018 Investment Rounds approved by the Board.

| Project | Short Title | Year | Lead Participant Institution | Project Funds | In-Kind Value |
|------------------------------------|---|------|------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Strategic: | | | | | |
| 3.012RC | Program 3 Base Resources # | 2013 | Curtin / LTU / UQ / UNSW | \$3,520,000 | \$4,453,012 |
| 3.013RC | Longitudinal Study of Adults with ASD (AALSA) | 2013 | UNSW | \$370,324 | \$1,835,676 |
| 3.014RC | EVAP and IEST | 2013 | Curtin | \$254,765 | \$3,807,035 |
| 3.015RC | Health and Wellbeing for Adults | 2013 | UQ | \$292,096 | \$1,801,051 |
| 3.016RC | Unique ASD Profile School Leavers | 2013 | LTU | \$325,836 | \$2,358,764 |
| 3.017RC* | Optimisation of Recruitment | 2013 | Aspect | \$97,023 | \$332,305 |
| 3.032RS | Enhancing Social Relationships of Young Adults | 2014 | Curtin | \$416,000 | \$2,145,604 |
| 3.040RS | Driving Project | 2015 | Curtin | \$568,891 | \$3,637,879 |
| 3.041RS | Public Transportation Mobility | 2015 | Curtin | \$329,546 | \$1,436,599 |
| Total Program 3 Strategic | | | | \$6,174,481 | \$21,807,925 |
| Innovation: | | | | | |
| 3.030RI* | Studio G: Multimedia Program for Young Adults | 2014 | AQ | \$50,000 | \$153,800 |
| 3.031RI* | Career Pathway Recommender System | 2014 | Curtin | \$48,000 | \$130,012 |
| 3.038RI* | Big Data, Important Questions, Health & Wellbeing | 2015 | UNSW | \$50,000 | \$181,281 |
| 3.039RI | Supporting Staff and Students with HFA in STEM Programs | 2015 | QUT | \$50,000 | \$210,238 |
| 3.046RI | Health Pathways Autism Initiative | 2016 | UQ | \$50,000 | \$215,640 |
| 3.047RI | Goal-Setting Tool for Adolescents and Adults | 2016 | AQ | \$49,885 | \$315,332 |
| 3.054RI | Autism@Work | 2017 | UQ | \$100,000 | \$279,533 |
| 3.062RI | 'Hear' to Help | 2018 | Curtin | \$63,000 | \$307,120 |
| Total Program 3 Innovation | | | | \$460,885 | \$1,792,956 |
| Utilisation: | | | | | |
| 3.048RU | BOOST-A from Research to Practice | 2016 | Curtin | \$51,500 | \$131,160 |
| 3.049RU | Utilising Autism CRC Health Hub Tools and Resources | 2016 | UQ | \$50,000 | \$96,780 |
| 3.061RU | Development of an Assessment of Functioning Tool Based on ICF Core Sets | 2018 | Curtin | \$50,000 | \$358,000 |
| Total Program 3 Utilisation | | | | \$151,500 | \$585,940 |
| Total Program 3 Projects | | | | \$6,786,866 | \$24,186,821 |

*Project completed

Base resources refers to postdoctoral fellows in each of four sites who are working together on projects 3.013, 3.014, 3.015, 3.016RC.
+ Education and Vocational Assessment Protocol (EVAP) and Integrated Employment Success Tool.

Performance Against Activities

Output 3.1

Comprehensive and unique profile of Australian autistic adults, through two longitudinal studies, to provide them with the capacity to find a meaningful place in society. U3.1 Utilisation of resources from Autism Connect Hub (now titled Knowledge Centre).

The Australian Longitudinal Study of Adults with Autism (ALSAA) and the Longitudinal Study of School Leavers (SASLA) aim to better understand post school outcomes, quality of life, mental and physical health, employment, social inclusion, ageing and overall wellbeing of adolescents and adults on the autism spectrum. The results of these studies have been reported in a number of journal articles, currently in development. One short report and visual snapshots have been developed for both studies.

These results will also be used to inform services and guide policy development. Currently, a snapshot and a report is available to all participants in the trial plus relevant stakeholders. These reports and their snapshots will be complemented with scientific manuscripts submitted/to be submitted. These will be the first stage of being able to inform practice and policy. As an example they provide clear evidence of physical and other types of bullying of students on the autism spectrum and significantly larger problems with anxiety and depression among autistic adults. The reports and snapshots have just been made available on Autism CRC Knowledge Centre so actual number of downloads is expected to reach 200 within the near future.

The teams are currently working on time point (wave) 2 data collections. A governance plan is now in place for the data. Further, publication plans are in place to utilise these data for the benefit of the autistic and autism communities.

Output 3.2

Conducting empirically-based interventions for autistic adults to assist them to confidently engage in social relationships, tertiary education, employment, and community activities. U3.2 Utilisation of tools and resources by resources by end-users.

Enhancing social relationships of autistic adults is supported through a unique package of projects. This includes a social-emotional training intervention using a modern gaming approach as an interface, involving eye tracking and electroencephalogram (EEG). The guiding principles for a game have been developed based on autistic gamers' input.

Further, a Peer Mentoring program for autistic students commenced in 2014 and supports inclusion, social relationships and successful participation at university. The program, and program evaluation, are now available on the Autism CRC Knowledge Centre.

Drawing on these two projects, a controlled trial adding peer mentoring to a social emotional training game is currently being undertaken. The pilot trials are completed, with positive outcomes.

The Public Transport Project and the Driving Project aim to help autistic adolescents and adults to navigate the community using a variety of transport. The Driving Project included preparatory studies carried out using several methods, such as Super GPS technique to study lane position and eye tracking technology. The autism-specific driving instructor manual is currently being validated in a randomised controlled trial across two sites.

The Public Transport Project has seen the rapid and successful development of a beta version of an app being trialed, with user data being collected in Western Australia and New South Wales. The app is evidence-based and provides intuitive trip-planning that delivers real-time assistance to reduce anxiety and help manage any disruptions to a planned journey. The PhD Scholar on the project, Mortaza Rezae, has recently been a finalist in FameLab Australia, and winner of the Falling Walls Lab Australia.

Output 3.3

Tools, strategies and techniques developed to improve health and wellbeing for autistic adults. U3.3 Use of longitudinal data (from Output 3.1)

There are a number of projects that contribute to this output, for example the Autism CHAP and the ACT On Your Life anxiety program. Both projects are ongoing.

Further to this, we are undertaking a Health Pathways Autism Initiative to enable the first known evidence-based clinical care pathways to be developed and implemented for people on the spectrum across their lifespan. These pathways will allow health professionals to access up-to-date and evidence-based information including content on the HealthHub to assist their clinical decision-making. This will ensure their patients receive high quality and consistent care, ultimately improving their health and wellbeing outcomes. This project commenced in May 2017 and is due to be completed by the end of 2018. Health service providers have been engaged to evaluate the tools, and support the recruitment of GPs.

An additional project will ensure that the delivery of tools, strategies and techniques developed to improve health and wellbeing are accessible to adults on the spectrum with intellectual disability and their caregivers. Participant recruitment of autistic adults with intellectual disability is currently underway.



Output 3.4

Developing tools to assist autistic adolescents / adults and their advisors in making informed choices regarding higher education and employment and ultimately creating more opportunities for people with autism to gain successful long-term employment.

BOOST-A is an online transition planning program to support autistic adolescents to prepare for leaving school. As part of a utilisation project, a training package for professionals and parents to use BOOST-A with their young people on the spectrum has been developed. This training program has now been delivered to over 100 young people on the spectrum, parents and professionals including educators. Multiple workshops have been carried out across Australia to further stimulate utilisation. They have been organised by autistic research assistants and some of the workshops have also included autistic people leading them.

IEST is designed to help employers determine and implement effective workplace accommodation adaptations best suited to the needs of autistic employees. To enable effective utilisation and dissemination of the tool, the IEST will soon be updated to a more engaging format to promote greater utilisation and engagement from employers. IEST is currently being utilised within the framework of the AASQA, an initiative supported across Programs 2 and 3 within the Autism CRC. The utilisation is based on early outreach to young students through coding clubs and robotic programs, to the students' teachers through training programs (inclusive also of autistic students with learning difficulties) and outreach to industry through development and scaling the product.

Output 3.5

Development of the web portal 'Connect Hub'.

Two separate entities have been established. The Autism CRC Connect Hub is an authenticated collaboration space for autism research and industry/end user participants. It consists of open thematic groups and closed project groups for collaboration; progress reporting by project leaders; a swathe of resources and wiki styled help articles; and a facility for project teams to upload key dissemination activity.

In early 2018, Autism CRC launched the Knowledge Centre, part of the Autism CRC corporate site which enables the public to find evidence based resources which have been uploaded by project teams. Key features include a robust search function with easy-to-use filters to refine the search.

Output 3.6

This output will train 12 PhD students, employ six postdoctoral fellows and generate 60 scholarly and additional lay publications.

Currently, Program 3 has 15 (14 active, one withdrawn) PhD students, one Masters student and 11 Honours students. Four postdoctoral research fellows were engaged throughout the period.

At June 2018, Autism CRC has published 72 journal articles in the Adulthood Program. An additional 23 journal articles are currently under review. The program generated eight reports available on the Autism CRC Knowledge Centre plus one embargoed report.

3.2 Research Collaboration

Autism CRC has ensured that collaboration between research participants, and between research participants and end-user participants, is a fundamental element of our work. The Autism CRC Board requires that each project funded involves at least one end-user/industry partner participant, the only exception being base resources (personnel only) projects.

As a direct result of Autism CRC initiatives, such as our Research Academy program, an increasing number of autistic adults are also participating in projects as peer researchers, helping to ensure our research provides practical and tangible outputs that benefit the community.

The following table provides a breakdown of collaborations between Research Participants and End User/Industry Participants on all Autism CRC projects between 2013-2018 (including completed projects). This includes collaborations between Project Parties, Memorandum of Understanding Parties and Third Parties.

Investment Rounds 2013-2018

| Project Numbers | Project Name | Research Participants | End-User/ Industry Participant | Total |
|-----------------|--|-----------------------|--------------------------------|-------|
| 1.001RC | Program 1 Base Resources | 4 | 1 | 5 |
| 1.002RC | Creation of Autism Biobank | 5 | 9 | 14 |
| 1.003RC | Genetic Screening of Autism (Phase 1) | 3 | 3 | 6 |
| 1.004RC | Graduate Certificate | 3 | 6 | 9 |
| 1.005RC | Developmental Surveillance SACS-R | 4 | 3 | 7 |
| 1.019RI | Post Mortem Brain | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| 1.020RI | BrainsTorm Study | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| 1.021RS | Diagnostic Practices and Reliability in Australia | 2 | 6 | 8 |
| 1.022RS | Family Support Program | 3 | 5 | 8 |
| 1.023RS | Autism Subtyping | 6 | 10 | 16 |
| 1.033RI | Brain Connectivity | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| 1.042RC | System Genomics | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| 1.043RS | Therapy for Infants Showing Early Signs of Autism | 4 | 1 | 5 |
| 1.058RU | Diagnostic Inconsistencies in New Zealand | 5 | 2 | 7 |
| 1.059RS | Biobank Pilot Project | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| 2.006RC | Program 2 Base Resources | 1 | N/A | 1 |
| 2.007RC | Trajectory Study | 5 | 6 | 11 |
| 2.008RC | Secret Agent Society Classroom | 2 | 14 | 16 |
| 2.008RC_PP | Secret Agent Society - Whole of Classroom – Positive Partnerships | 2 | 7 | 9 |
| 2.009RC | Educational Needs Analysis | 4 | 11 | 15 |
| 2.010RC | Overcoming Difficulties in Written Expression | 2 | 5 | 7 |
| 2.011RC | Helping Students Stay on Task and Move Between Tasks | 3 | 5 | 8 |
| 2.011RC_PP | Helping Students Stay on Task and Move Between Tasks – Positive Partnerships | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| 2.024RI | Emergent Literacy | 1 | 3 | 4 |
| 2.025RI | Anxiety and School Functioning | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| 2.026RI | Robotics Social Clubs in Mainstream Schools | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 2.027RS | Early Years Behaviour Support | 3 | 8 | 11 |
| 2.027RS_PP | Early Years Behaviour Support – Positive Partnerships | 1 | 3 | 4 |
| 2.028RS | Improving Classroom Acoustics | 1 | 5 | 6 |
| 2.029RS | School Connectedness | 2 | 12 | 14 |
| 2.029RS_PP | School Connectedness – Positive Partnerships | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 2.034RI | Shared Book Reading Intervention | 1 | 1 | 2 |

| Project Numbers | Project Name | Research Participants | End-User/ Industry Participant | Total |
|-----------------|---|-----------------------|--------------------------------|-------|
| 2.035RI | Literacy Predictors | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 2.036RI | How was your Day? | 4 | 1 | 5 |
| 2.037RS | Primary School Transition MoP | 2 | 13 | 15 |
| 2.037RS_PP | Primary School Transition MoP – Positive Partnerships | 2 | 13 | 15 |
| 2.045RU | Living Portal | 2 | 6 | 8 |
| 2.051RS_PP | ATSI Community Liaison | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| 2.052RU | Storytime | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 2.053RU | Assistive Writing Program | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 2.057RS | Middle Years Behaviour Support | 1 | 3 | 4 |
| 2.060RI | Evaluating the Effects of Humanoid Robots on Narrative Role-Taking Abilities of Children | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| 3.012RC | Program 3 Base Resources | 4 | N/A | 1 |
| 3.013RC | Longitudinal Study of Adults (AALSA) | 4 | 9 | 13 |
| 3.014RC | EVAP and IEST | 6 | 8 | 14 |
| 3.015RC | Health and Wellbeing for Adults | 4 | 8 | 12 |
| 3.016RC | Unique Profile of School Leavers | 5 | 10 | 15 |
| 3.017RC | Optimisation of Recruitment | 3 | 2 | 5 |
| 3.030RI | Studio G: Multimedia Program for Young Adults | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 3.031RI | Career Pathway Recommender System | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 3.032RS | Enhancing Social Relationships of Young Adults | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| 3.038RI | Big Data, Important Questions, Health & Wellbeing | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| 3.039RI | Supporting Staff and Students in STEM Programs | 3 | 3 | 6 |
| 3.040RS | Driving Project | 1 | 10 | 11 |
| 3.041RS | Public Transportation Mobility | 2 | 4 | 6 |
| 3.046RI | Health Pathways Initiative | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| 3.047RI | Goal-Setting Tool for Adolescents and Adults | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 3.048RU | BOOST-A From Research to Practice | 1 | 5 | 6 |
| 3.049RU | Utilising Autism CRC Health Hub Tools and Resources | 2 | 3 | 5 |
| 3.054RI | Autism@Work | 4 | 2 | 6 |
| 3.061RU | Development of an Assessment of Functioning Tool Based on ICF Core Sets | 3 | 7 | 10 |
| 3.062RI | 'Hear' to Help: Striving for Greater Participation and Wellbeing Through Tailored Chat-Bot Technology | 2 | 2 | 4 |



57

Scholars
(Active or Completed)

3.3 Education and training

During the reporting period, one PhD scholar completed their studies bringing our total number of completed PhDs to three. Ten more commenced studies bringing our total number of scholars to 60 (38 active, 19 completed, three withdrawn) including 14 Masters students and 12 Honours students.

Of our 57 active or completed scholars:

- Seven are in the Early Years Program
- 24 in the School Years Program
- 26 in the Adulthood Program

Melissa Scott (Curtin University) completed her PhD in 2018 and received a Vice Chancellor's Commendation for her thesis. Ru Ying Cai (La Trobe University) submitted her PhD thesis in June 2018.

Autism CRC scholars are supervised by researchers and postdoctoral fellows at research organisations. They receive input from end-user service providers, such as Autism Queensland and Aspect, and from advisory groups involving end-users on the autism spectrum and their families. Advisory groups have been established in New South Wales, Queensland, Victoria and Western Australia. Aspect has also employed two autistic adults as part of their Research Team who work as research assistants on the Transition Models of Practice project.

Autism CRC continues to provide a range of activities and educational experiences for PhD scholars and postdoctoral fellows enabling them to contribute to Australia's autistic and autism communities through research and education. During the reporting period, Lauren O'Hara, Autism CRC Communications and Marketing Advisor, presented a masterclass on creating engaging presentations. Scholars were also encouraged to organise meet ups in their home states.

Autism CRC's fourth Scholars' Day was held in September 2017 in conjunction with APAC and was hosted by University of New South Wales at the Neuroscience Research Australia Institute (NeuRA). The program focused on the topic "Life beyond a

PhD" and featured a panel of PhD graduates with various careers in academia and non-profit organisations. The program also included a professional development and self-reflection Researcher Development Framework workshop for scholars to identify skills, strengths and gaps to enable career planning.

As part of our Lab to Life program, the event also included masterclasses from Dr Felicity Rose, Autism CRC Biobank Project Officer and Dr Irina Voineagu, University of New South Wales. This was followed by a practical afternoon of activities exploring genetics, eye tracking and brain scanning.

Dr Melissa Scott was awarded the INSAR Conference Distinguished Dissertation Award, and presented a five-minute overview of her dissertation as part of the INSAR awards ceremony in addition to two oral presentations at the conference. Dr Scott was also the recipient of our Early Career Researcher Conference Scholarship which helped support her in representing Autism CRC at INSAR. In 2018, eligibility for our Early Career Researcher Conference Scholarships was extended to include autistic adults who are alumni of our Research Academy and presenting Autism CRC research.

The work of a number of Autism CRC Honours, Masters and PhD scholars was also presented at the INSAR conference which was held in Rotterdam in May 2018. Autism CRC Scholars' work was also featured at a range of other conferences including the Asia Pacific Autism Conference in September 2017 and the Australasian Society for Autism Research State Conference in November 2017.

Autism CRC Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Dr Anna Urbanowicz, was awarded a Fulbright Postdoctoral Scholarship to work on improving the hospital experience for adult patients on the autism spectrum.

Autism CRC PhD scholar, Mortaza Rezae, Curtin University, represented Australia at the Falling Walls lab, a three-minute presentation competition held in Berlin in November 2017, after winning the national final hosted by the Australian Academy of Science. He was also selected as one of 11 national finalists in the 2018 FameLab competition for early career science communicators. complete the Graduate Certificate in Autism Diagnosis (GCAD) in 2017 through the University of Western Australia.

To date, 20 professionals have completed the GCAD through the University of Western Australia. A further five students are expected to complete the course in the second half of 2018.

Autism CRC Higher Degree Research Students

| Start Date | Name | Degree | University | Project Code | Research Project | Term |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|--------|------------|--------------|--|-------------------------|
| Program 1: The Early Years | | | | | | |
| Feb-14 | Stacey Rabba | PhD | LTU | 1.005RS | Developmental Surveillance for ASD (SACS-R) | 4 years |
| Mar-15 | Lidan Zheng | PhD | UNSW | 1.023RS | ASD subtype project | 3 years |
| May-15 | Amanda Mazzoni | PhD | UNSW | 1.023RS | ASD subtype project | 3 years |
| Feb-16 | Maryam Boutrus | PhD | UWA | 1.043RS | Therapy for infants showing early signs of autism | 2 years |
| Jun-16 | Lacey Chetcuti | PhD | LTU | 1.043RS | Therapy for infants showing early signs of autism | 2 years |
| Feb-17 | Ali Morse | PhD | UTAS | 1.005RS | Developmental Surveillance for ASD (SACS-R) | 3 years |
| Apr-18 | Ashley Thomson | PhD | UNSW | 1.023RS | ASD subtype project | 3 years |
| Program 2: School Years | | | | | | |
| Jan-17 | Kathryn Farr | MA | UQ | 2.008RC | Secret Agent Society | 1 year |
| Mar-17 | Rachelle Wicks | Hons | GU | 2.007RC | Trajectory Study | (complete) |
| Mar-15 | Danica Warner | MA | QUT | 2.009/2.029 | School Connectedness | 1 year (complete) |
| Jul-15 | Rebecca Poulsen | MA | GU | 2.007RC | Trajectory Study | 18 months (complete) |
| Feb-16 | Susanne Taylor | MA | GU | 2.007RC | Trajectory Study | 18 months (complete) |
| Mar-16 | Loretta Crawley | MA | GU | 2.007RC | Trajectory Study | 2 years (complete) |
| Oct-16 | Sally Ryan | MA | GU | 2.007RC | Trajectory Study | 18 months (complete) |
| Jan-17 | Kathryn Ambrose | MA | GU | 2.007RC | Trajectory Study | 2 years |
| Jan-17 | Leanne Barker | MA | GU | 2.007RC | Trajectory Study | 2 years |
| Mar-17 | Donna-Marie Thompson | MA | GU | 2.008RC | Secret Agent Society Whole of Class | 2 years |
| Mar-17 | Kate McLisky | MA | QUT | 2.029RS | School Connectedness | 2 years |
| Mar-17 | Monica Sweeney | MA | UQ | 2.008RC | Secret Agent Society Whole of Class | (complete) |
| Aug-17 | Melissa Hooper | MA | QUT | 2.029RC | School Connectedness | 6 months (complete) |
| Aug-17 | Natasha Bobir | MA | QUT | 2.029RC | School Connectedness | 2 years |
| Jan-18 | Madeleine Stainsby | MA | GU | 2.007RC | Trajectory Study | (complete) |
| Jul-14 | Elizabeth MacDonald | PhD | GU | 2.011RC | Helping students stay on-task and move between tasks | 2 years |
| Sep-14 | Anne Ozdowska | PhD | QUT | 2.010RC | Overcoming difficulties in written expression | 2 years |
| Jan-15 | Kirsten Ody* | PhD | GU | 2.007RC | Trajectory Study | 1 year |
| Feb-15 | Jac den Houting | PhD | GU | 2.007RC | Trajectory Study | 3 years (conferred) |
| Jan-16 | Ruby Clarke* | PhD | UQ | 2.008RC | Secret Agent Society | 3 years |
| Feb-16 | Annalise Eyre Taylor | PhD | GU | 2.035RS | Models of Practice | Withdrawn May 2016 |
| Feb-16 | Christopher Edwards | PhD | QUT | 2.027RS | Early Years Behaviour Support Project (EYBSP) | 3 years |
| Mar-16 | Cara Wilson | PhD | QUT | 2.027RS | Early Years Behaviour Support Project (EYBSP) | Withdrawn June 2017 |
| Jun-16 | Sarah Hazell | PhD | GU | 2.007RC | Trajectory Study | 3 years |

| Start Date | Name | Degree | University | Project Code | Research Project | Term |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|--------|------------|--------------|---|-------------------------|
| Jul-16 | Yolanda van der Kruk | PhD | UQ | 2.028RS | Classroom acoustics | 3 years |
| Apr-17 | Rachael Clack | PhD | GU | 2.007RC | Trajectory Study | 3 years |
| Program 3: Adulthood | | | | | | |
| Mar-16 | Jessica Dreaver | Hons | CU | 3.014RS | Finding a place in the workplace and in the community | 2 years (complete) |
| Mar-16 | Taylor Stacey | Hons | UNSW | 3.013RC | Australian Longitudinal Study of Adults with Autism | 1 year (complete) |
| Mar-17 | Rachel Quinter | Hons | CU | 3.032RS | Enhancing the social relationships of young adults | 1 year (complete) |
| Mar-17 | Matthew DeBroize | Hons | UQ | 3.015RC | Health and wellbeing for adults | 1 year (complete) |
| Mar-17 | Premkumar Brahmhatt | Hons | UQ | 3.015RC | Health and wellbeing for adults | 1 year (complete) |
| Jun-17 | Madeleine Harsanyi | Hons | ACU | 3.013RC | Australian Longitudinal Study of Adults with Autism | 18 months |
| Mar-17 | Priscilla Vindin | PhD | CU | 3.040RS | Community mobility in Autism Spectrum Disorder | Upgraded from MA to PhD |
| Jun-13 | Craig Thompson | PhD | CU | 3.032RS | Enhancing the social relationships of young adults | 3 years |
| Dec-13 | Megan Hatfield | PhD | CU | 3.014RC | Finding a place in the workplace and in the community | 3-5 years (conferred) |
| May-14 | Melissa Scott | PhD | CU | 3.014RC | Finding a place in the workplace and in the community | 3 years (conferred) |
| Jul-14 | Cindy Nicollet | PhD | UQ | 3.015RC | Health and wellbeing for adults | 3-5 years |
| Jul-14 | Ru Ying Cai | PhD | LTU | 3.016RC | Unique ASD profile school leavers | 3 years (submitted) |
| Feb-15 | Julia Tang | PhD | CU | 3.032RS | Enhancing the social relationships of young adults | 3 years |
| Feb-15 | Melissa Black | PhD | CU | 3.032RS | Enhancing the social relationships of young adults | 3 years |
| Mar-15 | Jane Hwang | PhD | UNSW | 3.013RC | Australian Longitudinal Study of Adults with Autism | 3 years |
| May-16 | Asmeneh (Rosa) Ferdosian* | PhD | CU | 3.040RS | Community mobility in Autism Spectrum Disorder | Withdrawn Oct 2016 |
| Jun-16 | Mortaza Rezae | PhD | CU | 3.041RS | Enhancing capacity to use public transport | 3 years |
| Feb-17 | Dawn Ee | Hons | UNSW | 3.013RC | Australian Longitudinal Study of Adults with Autism | 1 year (complete) |
| Jun-17 | Michelle Kersten | PhD | CU | 3.040RS | Community mobility in Autism Spectrum Disorder | 3 years |
| Jun-17 | Mariesse Sonido | Hons | UNSW | 3.013RC | Australian Longitudinal Study of Adults with Autism | 18 months |
| Jan-18 | Rhonda Chapman | PhD | CU | 3.014RS | Finding a place in the workplace and in the community | 3 years |
| Feb-18 | Lisa Kang | Hons | UQ | 3.015RC | Health and wellbeing for adults | 1 year |
| Mar-18 | Sanya Jovevska | Hons | LTU | 3.016RC | Unique ASD profile school leavers | 1 year |
| Mar-18 | Ensu Sahin | Hons | LTU | 3.016RC | Unique ASD profile school leavers | 1 year |
| Apr-18 | Pia Bradshaw | PhD | UQ | 3.015RC | Health and wellbeing for adults | 3 years |
| Apr-18 | Melanie Muniandy | PhD | LTU | 3.016RC | Unique ASD profile school leavers | 3 years |
| May-18 | Yunhe Huang | PhD | UNSW | 3.013RC | Australian Longitudinal Study of Adults with Autism | 3 years |

*Withdrawn

3.4 Engagement

Small and Medium-sized Enterprise Engagement

Small and Medium-sized Enterprise (SME) engagement is fundamental to all of Autism CRC's work. Many of our end-user participants are SMEs, some of whom are represented on the Board and/or the Research and Development Committee.

Autism CRC engages with SMEs throughout Australia and internationally. Autism CRC's Board continues to focus on increasing engagement with SMEs and other industry partners. As a result, Autism CRC welcomed Autism New Zealand as a new SME Essential Participant during the reporting period.

Most SMEs engaged with Autism CRC are service providers or businesses supplying equipment or technology to individuals and families, schools, or service providers.

The SMEs within Autism CRC include:

- Autistic advocacy and service organisations, such as Autistic Self Advocacy Network of Australia and New Zealand (ASAN), Asperger Services Australia and The I CAN Network
- Autism service providers and peak bodies such as AEIOU, Autism Queensland, Amaze, Autism Aspect, Aspergers Services Australia, Autism Awareness, Autism West and Autism Tasmania
- Companies such as Renae Beaumont Enterprises, Social Skills Training Pty Ltd, and Assistiveware
- Autism Specific Early Learning and Care Centres (ASELCCs) across Australia
- Professional groups (Rural Health Alliance; Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine)
- Private autism clinics, which are small enterprises (Minds and Hearts; The Asperger's Syndrome Clinic)

As a guiding principle, Autism CRC and our researchers continue to prioritise the engagement of end-user SMEs. By engaging end-users early on, we can ensure our research is not only grounded in end-user needs but ensure that there are pathways for dissemination and utilisation of research findings.

It is incumbent on Autism CRC researchers who are project leaders to ensure that end-users and SMEs are engaged with their research projects prior to projects being submitted for funding. Assisting SMEs to build their innovation capacity, staff from SMEs are often project leaders and recipients of direct funding from Autism CRC.

During the year, a number of projects were approved that significantly engage SMEs in our network. This included a project investigating diagnostic inconsistencies in autism throughout New Zealand, led by Autism New Zealand and Telethon Kids Institute (University of Western Australia). It also included a project evaluating the effects of humanoid robots on the narrative role-taking abilities of children on the autism spectrum, led by Autism Hub (Department of Education and Training Queensland) and a team from the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO).

In order to further extend our reach and remain relevant to the needs of the autism community, Autism CRC continues to engage with other end-user SMEs, including non-participant peak bodies and service providers.

Other Industry Engagement

Autism CRC continues to seek and build partnerships with industry, and engages with business in a variety of ways.

Strategic partnerships are providing in-kind support to deliver project outcomes. For example, the education knowledge and translation project has engaged with state-based and national stakeholders including, teachers, clinical staff, principals, guidance officers, therapists and policy makers as well as students on the spectrum and parents. The 18-month consultation period included national participatory design workshops, devised to identify priorities and professional learning needs of educators. The final research report for Utilisation Project Education, Knowledge and Translation, details this co-design and consultation process and outcomes.

A number of large entities and enterprises are engaged as participants in current project activities, such as Aspect, Autism Association of Western Australia, F.Hoffman-La Roche Ltd. Autism CRC is also engaged with state, catholic and independent schools in a number of states.

During the reporting period, SunPork Farms and Autism CRC collaborated to evaluate and further develop industry awareness of the Autism and Agriculture Program. This is a neurodiversity employment program, engaging the strengths of autistic individuals in animal care roles. The program was supported by Pork CRC and the South Australian Government.

As a result of the Autism and Agriculture project, SunPork Farms currently employs 16 individuals at two of its South Australian sites and one of its Queensland sites.

As with SME engagement, Autism CRC seeks the involvement of industry in the design of projects and the evaluation, often through trials of project outcomes. For instance, Autism CRC has worked in over 300 schools, across all systems, Australia wide. This aids the development of practical and translatable research outcomes, and utilisation of outputs.

Autism CRC and Aspect, an Essential Participant, have continued to expand our collaboration in the School Years Program with new projects underway as part of the Commonwealth Positive Partnerships program. Aspect is responsible for the delivery of the Commonwealth program on behalf of the Federal Department of Education and Training.

Through this collaboration, the Positive Partnerships team has worked closely with Autism CRC, to extend reach of Autism CRC educational research outputs beyond that of the current program, with a focus on more disadvantaged communities including ATSI, regional and remote, and CALD communities. This collaboration has also resulted in the establishment of an ATSI Community Liaison position, who supports engagement with ATSI communities in a number of education research projects. The Positive Partnerships program also facilitates national dissemination and implementation of best practice in supporting students on the autism spectrum.

Through the Salesforce Foundation, Salesforce.org, Autism CRC is a recipient of donated licenses associated with its Customer



Relationship Management (CRM) and management information systems. Salesforce is the backbone of Autism CRC's current digital transformation, managing key business operations and the development of the Autism CRC Connect Hub, as well as communication with key stakeholders. Salesforce staff volunteer their time to assist with the system development.

Together with DXC Technology, Autism CRC presented the Autism@Work Forum in September 2017, sponsored by ANZ, SAP, Symantec, Peoplebank, Life Without Barriers, UQ Business School, LTU and Uptimize. With more than 100 participants, the Autism@Work Forum provided an opportunity for businesses to hear the benefits, opportunities and lessons arising from the implementation of neurodiverse employment programs. After the forum, an Autism@Work Employment Fair was held to discuss employment opportunities with autistic job seekers and their families. Over 70 autistic job seekers and their family and friends attended the employment fair with 11 organisations providing information.

Engagement with the Autistic and Autism Communities

In early 2018, the Future Leaders Program was launched. This is Australia's first holistic leadership capacity building program and was co-designed for autistic adults, by autistic adults. The 14 Program participants have developed their leadership skills through a series of training and development initiatives including online training modules and a three-day leadership workshop held in Brisbane in June 2018. Participants will continue to develop skills with mentoring from established autistic leaders and practical experience through volunteer placements.

Individuals on the autism spectrum and their families are the ultimate beneficiaries of our research and their voices, perspectives and involvement are critical to each stage of our work.

Autism CRC researchers are committed to engaging with people on the spectrum and their families throughout the research process from the development of research ideas and priorities, through stages of planning, implementation, reflection, dissemination, and provision of feedback.

There are many ways Autism CRC is currently engaging with the autistic community in our research and operations. Each of our project advisory groups must include a person on the spectrum. In addition, all project applications must be reviewed by scientific and autistic reviewers to ensure that what is

being researched and how it is being researched is relevant to and appropriate for people on the spectrum, and maximises engagement with the autistic community.

Incorporating the perspective of the lived experience of autism throughout the research process improves research practices and outcomes, and the opportunity to meaningfully benefit autistic individuals. Our researchers continue to work with graduates of the Autism CRC Research Academy – a group of 28 autistic adults who have been upskilled in research co-production through the Academy Program.

To support inclusive events, a resource to support engagement with, and inclusion of, the autistic community in workshops, conferences and conventions was released. These guidelines and checklists were co-produced with autistic members of the Research Academy.

Engagement with Government

Meaningful engagement with government at state and federal levels is critical to ensure outcomes produced through Autism CRC are translated into policy. Our research outcomes cover a range of portfolios including employment and training, health, education, disability and social services. Our strategy must therefore take a holistic approach to government relations.

During the reporting period, Autism CRC has continued its work with the NDIA on several projects.

On 7 September 2017, Australia's first draft national guideline for autism diagnosis was released for consultation. Developed by Autism CRC with the financial support of the NDIA, the guideline aims to create greater consistency in diagnostic practices across the country to ensure that all individuals and their families can receive the optimal clinical care. To date, the processes for the clinical assessment and diagnosis of autism have varied considerably across Australia

The guideline has been developed through a comprehensive research process and in close consultation with the clinical, autistic and broader autism communities. Consultation on the draft guideline closed in late 2017. Feedback was incorporated into an updated version of the guideline, which was subsequently submitted to the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) for methodological and content review. The guideline was subsequently approved by the NHMRC and will be released in October 2018.

A second project in the collaboration between Autism CRC and the NDIA involves the ASELCCs in each Australian state, and seeks to identify which intervention approaches are the most appropriate and effective for a given child.

Autism CRC has also continued its collaboration with the Tasmanian Department of Health and Human Services in Program 1 research that is seeking to identify children showing signs of autism at the earliest possible age.

During the reporting period, Autism CRC took part in the NSW Department of Finance, Services and Innovation and NSW Transport Authority Smart Cities Innovation Challenge. The 10-week incubation program, led by expert industry mentors and investment saw Autism CRC fast-track the development of an evidence-based trip planning app that delivers real-time assistance to reduce anxiety and help manage any disruptions to a planned journey. The app is currently in trial, with users in Western Australia and New South Wales.

Awards and Honours 2017-18

| Date | Personnel | Award | From | For | Other |
|--------|--|---|---|--|-----------|
| Jul-17 | Prof Sylvia Rodger | Fellow of the Occupational Therapy Australia Research Academy | Occupational Therapy Australia | Scholarship in the occupational therapy profession | |
| Jul-17 | Cara Wilson (PhD Candidate) | Nominated for Best Paper Award | ASSETS 2017 | Paper submission 'Digital Strategies for Supporting Strengths- and Interests-based Learning with Children with Autism' | |
| Jul-17 | Autism CRC, ANZ Bank, The Still Dynamic & Salesforce | 2017 TechDiversity Merit Award in the Business category | Mia Consulting | apps4autism Hackathon | |
| Aug-17 | Prof Andrew Whitehouse | 3M Eureka Prize for Emerging Leader in Science | Australian Museum | Using leadership skills to create impact | |
| Sep-17 | Dr Beth Saggars | Achievement in Autism Spectrum Research | Autism CRC | Education Needs Analysis project | |
| Sep-17 | A/Prof Kate Sofronoff | Achievement in Autism Spectrum Research | Autism CRC | Secret Agent Society Whole of Class project | |
| Sep-17 | Mortaza Rezae (PhD Candidate) | Winner- Falling Walls Lab Australia | Australian Academy of Science, in association with the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany in Australia and the Australian National University | Public Transport project | |
| Nov-17 | Dr Mirko Uljarevic | Discovery Early Career Researcher Awards | Australian Research Council | Predicting developmental outcomes research | \$333,600 |
| Nov-17 | Dr Anna Urbanowicz | Fulbright Postdoctoral Scholarship | RMIT University | Improving the hospital experience for autistic adult patients | |
| Feb-18 | Dr Marita Falkmer | Early Career Researcher of the Year | Faculty Research Awards- Curtin University | | |
| Apr-18 | Mortaza Rezae (PhD Candidate) | WA semi-final winner | FameLab Australia | Public Transport project | |
| Apr-18 | SunPork Farms and Autism CRC | 2018 Recognition Award | Autism Spectrum Australia (Aspect) | Autism and Agriculture program | |
| May-18 | Autism CRC | Excellence in Innovation | CRC Association | Secret Agent Society program | |
| May-18 | Dr Melissa Scott | Vice Chancellors Commendation | Curtin University | The Integrated Employment Success Tool | |
| May-18 | Prof Cheryl Dissanayake | INSAR Fellowship | International Society for Autism Research Conference (INSAR) | Sustained contribution to autism science | |
| May-18 | Dr Melissa Scott | Distinguished Dissertation Award | International Society for Autism Research Conference (INSAR) | The Integrated Employment Success Tool | |
| May-18 | Dr Melissa Scott | INSAR conference scholarship | Autism CRC | Increasing Autism CRC's national and international profile strategic initiatives | \$5,000 |
| May-18 | Dr Samuel Arnold | INSAR Student Travel Award | International Society for Autism Research Conference (INSAR) | Two poster presentations related to the Australian Longitudinal Study of Adults with Autism | \$500 |



3.5 Financial Performance

Autism CRC Ltd is a company limited by guarantee.

In July 2014, Autism CRC Ltd formed Social Skills Training Pty Ltd (SST), a wholly-owned subsidiary to further develop and commercialise an emotion regulation and resilience building program. SST results are incorporated into the Consolidated Group. For further information on the consolidation treatment please refer to the Financial Statements included at Appendix 2.

The Consolidated Group reported operating surplus for the period ending 30 June 2018 was \$2,961,754 (2017: \$213,638). In 2018 the cash and in-kind costs associated with Australian Autism Biobank have been recognised on the Statement of Financial Position as an intangible asset. This change in accounting treatment has a \$2,758,800 impact on the operating surplus in 2018.

The Consolidated Group total expenditure for the period, excluding the capitalisation of the Australian Autism Biobank, was \$23,521,265 (2017: \$26,530,434), of which \$22,786,938 (2017: \$25,941,371) related to Autism CRC Ltd activities. Total research expenditure was \$20,678,925 (2017: \$24,097,518), made up of \$3,300,566 cash (2017: \$3,575,055) and \$17,378,359 in-kind (2017: \$19,753,430). The complete set of financial statements are located at Appendix 2.

Participant Cash Contributions

For the period ending 30 June 2018, Autism CRC received \$3,872,000 in cash from the Commonwealth and \$860,001 from Participants.

In-kind Contributions

As of 30 June 2018, Autism CRC has committed over \$19 million across 55 projects. These projects are expected to generate in-kind (staff and non-staff) contributions in excess of \$70 million, exceeding the total Commonwealth Agreement in-kind contribution target.

Staff in-kind contribution to date from Essential Participants total 129.09 FTE, with non-staff in-kind contributions totalling \$24.9 million.



3.6 Communication

The Australian autism community is a large and diverse one. Autism CRC has developed a stakeholder relations and communication strategy to ensure effective communication both within Autism CRC and with our external stakeholders.

Our strategic communication objectives are to:

- Help foster a culture across Autism CRC consistent with our vision, mission, and values.
- Engage with the autism community and industry more broadly to inform our research program objectives and conduct.
- Support the dissemination and utilisation of our research outcomes.
- Support internal stakeholders in recognising their roles as ambassadors and their importance in the long-term success of Autism CRC.

The range of organisations and individuals collaborating within Autism CRC, including autistic people and others in the autism community, research organisations, service providers, and government, is a world first. A multi-faceted approach is taken to internal communication ensuring stakeholders are informed of developments and findings and are provided with the means to collaborate across programs and projects, ensuring all are working towards a common goal.

Public awareness of Autism CRC continues to grow through traditional media, social media and a strong presence at national and international conferences. It is imperative to ensure research findings are communicated not only to the autism community, but are also used to inform government policy development, and industry intervention and service development.

Digital communication and collaboration assets

In June 2018, we launched our revised release of Autism CRC Connect Hub, which provides an easy and intuitive collaboration space, available to everybody in our Participant and Partner network. Autism CRC Connect Hub Groups allow people to collaborate and engage across organisational and program boundaries to capitalise on the unique advantages our network offers.

Our new Autism CRC Knowledge Centre, launched in April 2018, provides a single online gateway to autism resources, tools and publications available on our website. The Knowledge Centre plays a valuable role in supporting the dissemination and timely availability of Autism CRC resources and published documents.

Activities in the Reporting Period

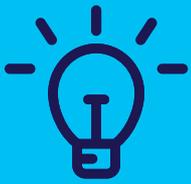
The new Autism CRC website launched in September 2017. For the 2017-2018 reporting period, our website (autismcrc.com.au) averaged 3,830 visitors a month. The website attracted 211,892 page views, an increase of 14.33% on the previous year. Our website users have been more engaged with the site this year, viewing 3.07 pages per visit (an increase of 36.27%) and spending 2 minutes 43 seconds on the site per visit (an increase of 61.63%).

The Autism CRC e-Newsletter, providing updates across the research programs and news and events, is currently sent to 1,400 stakeholders. Media coverage was secured across national and metropolitan print, radio and TV reaching an audience of over five million. A range of health, education and other industry publications have also reported on CRC research outcomes.

During Autism Month in April, our free webinar series had almost 150 people tuning in live, with a further 465 people viewing the webinar recordings on YouTube to date.

Events were held across the year to provide updates on the progress of the CRC and to collaborate with researchers from across different programs including Scholars' Day and Participant Day, both held in September 2017.

Regular internal updates were sent to all participants, project leaders, researchers and staff. Regular support was given to researchers and scholars in the promotion and recruitment of projects ensuring brand consistency.



3.7 Intellectual Property

Autism CRC recognises the value of intellectual property (IP) and its importance in enabling the utilisation and commercialisation of research outcomes, and strives to develop a culture where this is recognised and respected.

A number of mechanisms are employed for the identification, protection and management of IP.

- The Research and Translation Executive, chaired by the Chair of the Research and Development Committee, has oversight of the IP development, protection and commercialisation activities of Autism CRC.
- Identification and recording of Background IP on the Autism CRC IP register, updated regularly as to the status of IP assets.
- Identification and recording of new CRC Centre IP (CIP) created through CRC programs on the Autism CRC IP register, updated regularly as to the status of IP assets.
- Publication approval processes for written and oral publications and posters and PhD theses overseen by the Chief Research Officer (on behalf of Autism CRC the legal owner of CIP).
- Publications Register in which all manuscripts submitted for publication and eventually published are registered along with PDF copies of the publication.
- Project Agreements and Project Plans include items on Background IP required for the conduct of the project and CIP likely to be developed/created by the project.
- IP identification, status and translation considerations specifically required in Project Progress and Final Reports.
- Upskilling CRC staff, researchers and scholars through relevant education and training on intellectual property matters relevant to the Autism CRC.

These practices ensure that the Autism CRC complies with the National Principles of Intellectual Property Management for Publicly Funded Research.

The following key items of intellectual property currently held by Autism CRC (or its subsidiary, Social Skills Training Pty Ltd) can be found in Appendix 6.

These practices ensure that Autism CRC complies with the National Principles of Intellectual Property Management for Publicly Funded Research.

3.8 Utilisation and Commercialisation

During the reporting period, a number of Autism CRC outputs have generated significant utilisation and impact.

Autism CRC investment in translating the Social and Communication Surveillance (SACS-R).

The SACS-R, led by Dr Josephine Barbaro from La Trobe University, has trained primary health care professionals to identify early behavioural signs of autism, with over 20,000 infants and children monitored across Australia to date (Output and Utilisation Milestones 1.1).

The Australian Autism Biobank has collected data from a total of 2,856 participants, and Autism CRC is now undertaking a longitudinal pilot study, following up with children on the spectrum over a six month period (Output and Utilisation Milestones 1.2).

Through the expanded collaboration with Aspect as the manager of the Positive Partnerships program, many of the project outputs from the Education Program are being further developed,

disseminated and utilised for ATSI and CALD (Output and Utilisation Milestones 2.1).

In the 2018 Investment Rounds, Autism CRC approved two Utilisation Projects, which will see the translation of evidence-based research outputs into products and practice.

2017-18 Utilisation Projects:

- Development of an assessment of functioning tool based on the ICF Core Sets for Autism (Output and Utilisation Milestones 1.2)

Co-leaders – Prof Sonya Girdler, Dr Kiah Evans, Dr Ben Milbourn and Prof Sven Bölte

- ASD Diagnostic Inconsistencies in New Zealand (Output and Utilisation Milestones 1.2)

Co Leaders – Kirsti Whalen, Dane Dougan, Professor Andrew Whitehouse, Dr Kiah Evans

2017-18 Utilisation Projects:

- Storytime: Providing early literacy sessions in libraries to pre-schoolers on the autism spectrum and their parents, developed in partnership with Brisbane City Council Libraries.
- Power Writer – Assistive Writing: Harnessing the Writing Potential of Children with ASD
- Autism@Work: Challenges and best practices of sustaining and scaling autism employment, co-funded and developed in partnership with DXC Technology and The University of Queensland Business School.

Better Outcomes and Successful Transitions (BOOST-A)

BOOST-A training program has been developed and delivered in workshops across Australia. Over 100 professionals, educators and young people have been trained in the use of BOOST-A vocational planning and goal setting tool.

Autism CRC was awarded seed funding in the Telstra Foundation Tech4Good Challenge, and a five-month service design accelerator program to co-design an employability service with autistic young people, educators, parents, and professionals. During the Tech4Good research phase, we engaged over 50 autistic young people, 157 parents and professionals including Educators, and 29 young people without a diagnosis. The resulting digital solution incorporates the BOOST-A, providing a vehicle to deliver BOOST-A to the Australian community and into the hands of young people. (Output and Utilisation Milestones 3.2).

Diverse Learners Hub

As part of the CRC's commitment to transferring research outcomes as quickly and as effectively as possible to educators, work has been undertaken to design an online professional learning resource. The aim is to create a 'Diverse Learners Hub', which will be a dynamic eLearning portal and community of practice for educators engaged with diverse learners. The Diverse Learners Hub has been co-designed with stakeholders; teachers, specialists, principals, policy-makers and students on the spectrum, to facilitate the efficient and effective transfer of Autism CRC evidence-based programs and teaching practices into schools. The 18-month consultation period included national participatory design workshops, devised to identify the priorities and professional learning needs of educators.

As we move into the development phase of the Diverse Learners Hub, we hope that it will become a national portal for educators throughout Australia seeking to inform their teaching practice and to participate in a national community of practice for educators. (Output Milestones 2.3).

Autism@Work

The Autism@Work Forum, presented by Autism CRC and DXC Technology, was held in September 2017 at the ICC Sydney. With over 100 participants, the Autism@Work Forum was a great opportunity for attendees to meet with other like-minded



organisations in Australia and around the world who are investing in workforce diversity and operating programs for autistic individuals.

The Autism@Work Forum was also an opportunity to hear the benefits, opportunities and lessons arising from the implementation of neurodiverse employment programs and the fast-growing recognition of the benefits that neurodiversity in the workplace brings by way of innovation, efficiency and improved work processes. The forum program included keynote presentations from Professor Susanne Bruyere, Director of the Yang-Tan Institute on Employment and Disability at Cornell University, and Ms Jeanette Purkis, autism employment advocate, writer and speaker, as well as presentations from a number of employers and industry speakers

After the Forum, an afternoon Autism@Work Employment Fair was held to discuss employment opportunities with autistic job seekers and their families. Over 70 autistic job seekers and their family and friends attended the employment fair with 11 organisations providing information on the day.

Autism CRC is committed to providing practical outputs from its programs so those on the autism spectrum can employ their strengths and interests, and employers can better engage this significantly untapped talent pool within our diverse society.

Secret Agent Society

Social Skills Training Pty Ltd (SST) is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Autism CRC, which is further developing and commercialising an emotion regulation and resilience building program, Secret Agent Society (SAS).

SST holds the exclusive commercialisation rights to the SAS program and future program developments. It is responsible for the production and distribution of SAS materials, in addition to providing and facilitating practitioner training courses both in Australia and internationally.

During the reporting period:

- SST has supported Weill Cornell Medicine, New York-Presbyterian Hospital with an SAS Small Group Program trial to see if the program has potential for children who aren't on the autism spectrum, but who still struggle socially. The trial was delivered across 4 clinics, which involved the training of 45 new SAS facilitators with 75 families taking part in the program. The study, which is expected to be completed toward the end of 2018,

is seeking to determine if the SAS program produces improvements in emotion regulation skills, especially anxiety, ADHD symptomatology, and social skills.

- Australian Curriculum Subject Mapping was developed by SST for the SAS Whole-of-Class (SAS WOC) program. Currently the research team are in the final stages of reviewing and collating qualitative and quantitative data from the Autism CRC-funded project trial. SST developed a SAS-WOC utility version to be trialled within Queensland and Northern Territory schools as a pre-launch strategy to inform program commercialisation. (Output and Utilisation Milestones 2.1)
- Three journal publications and one book chapter about SAS programs and outcomes were published (see Appendices for details).
- A publication of a large school-based SAS Small Group Program trial conducted by Aspect and the University of Sydney was released. Improvements shown on the child, parent and teacher measures continued for at least 12 months post program. To our knowledge, no other social skills program for children on the autism spectrum has shown improvements continuing for this long afterwards.

SST had turnover of \$809,000 including \$226,300 of export sales.

SAS Facilitator Training Courses, SAS Version 2 update sessions and SAS Computer Game Pack Webinars were held across Australia and four courses were run internationally in Canada and USA. A total of 315 professionals attended training events during the reporting period.

- 220 people attended Facilitator Training.
- 54 people attended version 2 update sessions
- 41 people attended Computer Game Pack Webinars
- Over 2,000 families have benefited from the SAS Program during the past 12 months.

The Social Skills Training Pty Ltd Board has been appointed by Autism CRC Ltd as the sole shareholder. Its members are:

- Ms Carole Green (Chair)
- Mr Paul Vincent;
- Mr Adrian Ford;
- Mr Joe McLean; and
- Mr Andrew Davis.

The SST Board met seven times during the reporting period.

Appendix 1: List of Autism CRC Participants

| Participant name | Type | Organisation type | ABN |
|--|-----------|---|----------------|
| AEIOU Foundation | Essential | Industry / Private Sector / End-user | 19 135 897 255 |
| Autism Queensland Ltd | Essential | Industry / Private Sector / End-user | 79 253 351 418 |
| Autism Spectrum Australia (Aspect) | Essential | Industry / Private Sector / End-user | 12 000 637 267 |
| Autism New Zealand | Essential | Industry / Private Sector / End-user/ International | |
| Curtin University | Essential | University | 99 143 842 569 |
| Griffith University | Essential | University | 78 106 094 461 |
| F. Hoffmann-La Roche Ltd | Essential | Industry / Private Sector / End-user/ International | |
| La Trobe University | Essential | University | 64 804 735 113 |
| Mater Medical Research Institute Ltd | Essential | Industry / Private Sector / End-user | 28 109 834 719 |
| Queensland Department of Education and Training | Essential | State Government / End-user | 76 337 613 647 |
| Queensland University of Technology | Essential | University | 83 791 724 622 |
| University of New South Wales | Essential | University | 57 195 873 179 |
| University of Queensland | Essential | University | 63 942 912 684 |
| University of Western Australia | Essential | University | 37 882 817 280 |
| Affymetrix Inc | Other | Industry / Private Sector / End-user / International | |
| Amaze | Other | Industry/Private Sector/ End-user | 15 600 724 949 |
| Asperger Services Australia | Other | Industry / Private Sector / End-user | 14 389 908 238 |
| AssistiveWare | Other | Industry / Private Sector/ International | |
| Australian Advisory Board for Autism Spectrum Disorders | Other | Other / End-user | 53 085 018 408 |
| Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine | Other | Other / End-user | 12 078 081 848 |
| Autism Association of South Australia Inc | Other | Industry / Private Sector/ End-user | 41 905 977 886 |
| Autism Association of Western Australia Inc | Other | Industry / Private Sector/ End-user | 54 354 917 843 |
| Autism Awareness | Other | Industry / Private Sector/ End-user | 42 130 217 962 |
| Autism Specific Early Learning and Care Centre - Anglicare SA | Other | Industry / End-user | 69 187 578 153 |
| Autism Specific Early Learning and Care Centre - KU Children's Services | Other | Industry / End-user | 89 000 006 137 |
| Autism Specific Early Learning and Care Centre - La Trobe University Community Children's Centre | Other | Industry / End-user | 64 804 735 113 |
| Autism Specific Early Learning and Care Centre - Nathan QLD (AEIOU) | Other | Industry / End-user | 19 135 897 255 |
| Autism Specific Early Learning and Care Centre - North West Tasmania (Burnie City Council) | Other | Industry / End-user | 29 846 979 690 |
| Autism Specific Early Learning and Care Centre - WA (AAWA) | Other | Industry / End-user | 54 354 917 843 |
| Autistic Self Advocacy Network of Australia and New Zealand (ASAN AUNZ) | Other | End-user | 12 266 839 266 |
| Autism Tasmania | Other | End-user | 90 215 494 454 |
| Autism West | Other | End-user | 38 262 080 944 |
| Brisbane Catholic Education | Other | Private sector / End-user | 49 991 006 857 |
| Catholic Education Commission of Victoria | Other | Private Sector / End-user | 92 119 459 853 |
| Catholic Education Office of WA | Other | Private Sector / End-user | 97 244 688 522 |
| Children's Health Services | Other | State Government / End-user | 66 329 169 412 |
| Disability Services Commission, WA | Other | State Government / End-user | 36 922 715 369 |

| Participant name | Type | Organisation type | ABN |
|---|-------|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| Hear and Learn | Other | Industry / Private Sector | 26 125 822 479 |
| I CAN Network | Other | End-user | 63 608 173 100 |
| iiNet Ltd (Acquired by TPG Internet Pty Ltd in August 2015) | Other | Industry / Private Sector | 48 068 628 937 |
| Joseph Piven | Other | Individual / International | |
| Macquarie University | Other | University | 90 952 801 237 |
| Minds and Hearts | Other | Industry / Private Sector/ End-user | 51 128 736 103 |
| National Rural Health Alliance | Other | Other / End-user | 68 480 848 412 |
| Pathwest Laboratory Medicine WA | Other | State Government | 13 993 250 709 |
| Renaes Beaumont Enterprises Pty Ltd | Other | Industry | 50 129 179 675 |
| South Australian Group Enterprises (SAGE) | Other | Private Sector/ End-user | 40 005 498 775 |
| SunPork (retired 29 October 2017) | Other | Industry/private sector | 11 059 168 786 |
| Tasmanian Department of Health and Human Services | Other | State Government | |
| The Aspergers Syndrome Clinic | Other | Industry / Private Sector / End-user | 39 090 503 601 |
| The Association of Independent Schools Queensland | Other | Industry / Private Sector/ End-user | 88 662 995 577 |
| The Royal Children's Hospital | Other | State Government / End-user | 35 655 720 546 |
| The Sydney Children's Hospital Network | Other | State Government / End-user | 53 188 579 090 |
| University of Sydney | Other | University | 15 211 513 464 |
| Wenn Lawson | Other | Individual | |
| Western Australian Autism Diagnosticians Forum Inc | Other | Other / End-user | 51 286 721 089 |

Appendix 2: Annual Financial Report

Autism CRC Ltd
ABN 55 162 632 180

Annual Financial Report
For the financial year ended 30 June 2018

Autism CRC Ltd

ABN 55 162 632 180

Annual Financial Report
For the financial year ended 30 June 2018

Autism CRC Ltd
ABN 55 162 632 180

Annual Financial Report
For the financial year ended 30 June 2018

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Autism CRC Ltd
ABN 55 162 632 180

Annual Financial Report
For the financial year ended 30 June 2018

Company Directory Directors

Robert van Barneveld, Chair
Carole Green, Deputy Chair
Judy Brewer
Shirley Lanning
Paul Vincent
Adrian Ford
Scott Reading
Malcolm Mayfield
Paul Field (from 18 April, 2018)
Joe McLean (from 24 April, 2018)
Garry Allison (until 28 August, 2017)
Ian Harris (until 14 February, 2018)
Carol Nicoll (2 November, 2017 until 10 April, 2018)

Company Secretary

Andrew Borneman

Registered Office

Autism CRC Ltd
Level 3 Foxtail Building, Long Pocket Campus
The University of Queensland,
80 Meiers Road
Indooroopilly Queensland Australia 4068

Auditors

BDO Audit Pty Ltd
Level 10, 12 Creek Street
Brisbane, Queensland

Solicitors

FAL Lawyers
Level 16, 356 Collins Street Melbourne
Victoria

Directors' Report

The Directors of Autism CRC Ltd ("the Company" or "CRC") present their report with the financial statements of the Company for the twelve months ended (or "financial period ended") 30 June 2018.

Autism CRC Ltd is established and operates under its Constitution and is subject to the Commonwealth Agreement and Essential Participants Agreement.

Autism CRC Ltd is a company limited by guarantee, incorporated and domiciled in Australia.

Autism CRC Ltd formed Social Skills Training Pty Ltd (SST) on 10 July 2014. SST is a wholly- owned subsidiary which will further develop and commercialise a social and behavioural skills training program. SST results are incorporated into the Consolidated Group for the financial statements. For further information on consolidation refer to the *Principles of consolidation* in Note 2 summary of accounting policies.

Directors

The Company's Board of Directors includes an independent Chairperson, seven Independent Directors, and three Nominee Directors. The Directors for the period 1 July 2017 through to the end of the reporting period are:

| | |
|---|---|
| Robert van Barneveld <i>Independent Chair</i> <i>Chair Research & Development Committee</i> <i>Chair Remuneration, Nominations & Selection Committee</i> | BAgrSc (Hon), PhD, RANutr, FAICD |
| Carole Green <i>Independent Deputy Director</i> <i>Chair Social Skills Training Pty Ltd</i> | BAppSc (Comp), GradDipCorpGov, GradDipEd, MInfTech, MBA, CertTeach, GAICD |
| Judy Brewer <i>Independent Director</i> | BBus (Public Admin), GDipTax, GAICD |
| Shirley Lanning <i>Independent Director</i> | BSc (Biological Sciences) (Hons 1), PhD (Microbiology), FAICD |
| Paul Vincent <i>Independent Director</i> <i>Chair Audit, Risk & Finance Committee</i> | BBus (Acc), FCA, GAICD |
| Garry Allison <i>Nominee Director</i> <i>Until 28 August, 2017</i> | BEd(Hons), BAppSc (Physio)(Hons), MEd, PhD |

Autism CRC Ltd
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Annual Financial Report
 For the financial year ended 30 June 2018

| | |
|---|--|
| Adrian Ford <i>Nominee Director</i> | BSocStud, FAICD |
| Ian Harris <i>Nominee Director</i> Until 14 February, 2018 | BSc (Agriculture), GDipAdmin, MEd, GAICD |
| Scott Reading <i>Nominee Director</i> | MCom, MBus (Logistics Management), MAICD |
| Malcolm Mayfield <i>Independent Director</i> | BEng (Civil), GAICD |
| Carol Nicoll <i>Nominee Director</i> 2 November, 2017 until 10 April 2018 | BA, B Law, GradDipEd, MEd, PhD |
| Paul Field <i>Independent Director</i> From 18 April, 2018 | BA (Hons), MA. FAICD |
| Joe McLean <i>Nominee Director</i> From 24 April, 2018 | B Bus (Hons), Dip Teach, GAICD |

Directors have been in office since the beginning of the financial period to the date of this report unless otherwise stated.

Company Secretary

The Company Secretary as at 30 June 2018 was Mr Andrew Borneman, who also acts as Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of the Company.

Board Committees

The Board has established a number of Committees to assist in the execution of its duties and to allow detailed consideration of various issues. Current Committees of the Board are: Audit, Risk and Finance Committee; Remuneration, Nominations and Selection Committee and Research and Development Committee. Each of the Committees has its own formal charter setting out the authority delegated to it by the Board. All matters determined by these Committees are submitted to the full Board for approval.

Audit, Risk and Finance Committee

The Audit, Risk and Finance Committee assists the Board in its oversight of the integrity of financial reporting, internal control structures, audit functions and also compliance and risk management systems relating to the finance and audit functions. This Committee ensures appropriate policies and procedures are in place to underpin best practice governance and to identify and manage corporate risk for the Company.

During the reporting period, the Audit, Risk and Finance Committee met five times and consisted of Paul Vincent (Chair), Carole Green, Malcolm Mayfield, Ian Harris (until 1 February 2018), and Joe McLean (from 7 June 2018) with the CEO and CFO in attendance.

The Remuneration, Nominations and Selection Committee

The Remuneration, Nominations and Selection Committee assists the Board in fulfilling its corporate governance responsibilities in regard to:

- providing recommendations for Director nominees to the Members;
- ensuring a rotation is established whereby at least one third of Directors retire and are eligible for re-election annually;
- establishing a process for the review of Board performance and the development of the Board;
- undertaking succession planning for the Board;
- reviewing the performance and remuneration of the CEO and make recommendations in this regard to the Chair of the Board; and
- reviewing the performance and remuneration framework for the Executive Team with the CEO.

During the reporting period, the Remuneration, Nominations and Selection Committee met three times and consisted of Judy Brewer (Chair), Professor Robert van Barneveld, Garry Allison and Ian Harris, with the CEO in attendance.

Research and Development Committee

The Research and Development Committee is comprised of Essential Participant nominees and members appointed by the Board. The Committee provides a forum for consultation among the Essential Participants, a point of interaction between the Essential Participants and the Board, and guidance and recommendations to the Board in relation to research and development undertaken within the CRC.

During the reporting period, the Research and Development Committee met twice and consisted of Professor Robert van Barneveld (Chair), Dr Shirley Lanning, Mr Scott Reading and Essential Participant nominee representatives.

Andrew Davis (CEO), Professor Andrew Whitehouse (Chief Research Officer), Cheryl Mangan (Manager, Research Translation), Andrew Borneman (CFO), Professor Valsa Eapen (Program 1 Director), Professor Suzanne Carrington (Program 2 Director), Professor Torbjorn Falkmer (Program 3 Director), and Robyn Synnott (Committee Secretary) also attended on invitation.

Social Skills Training Pty Ltd Board

The Company acquired the Secret Agent Society (SAS) Program Business from Triple P International Pty Ltd. Autism CRC Ltd made a \$200,000 equity investment and formed Social Skills Training Pty Ltd (SST) on 10 July 2014. SST is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Autism CRC, which will further develop and commercialise a social and behavioural skills training program, Secret Agent Society (SAS). SST holds the exclusive commercialisation rights to the SAS program and future program developments. It is responsible for the production and distribution of SAS materials, in addition to providing and facilitating practitioner training courses within Australia and internationally.

The Social Skills Training Pty Ltd Board has been appointed by Autism CRC Ltd as the sole shareholder. Its members are Professor Robert van Barneveld (Director and Chair until December 2018), Ms Judy Brewer (until November 2018), Ms Carole Green (Chair from December 2018), Mr Paul Vincent, Mr Andrew Davis, Mr Adrian Ford (from November 2018) and Mr Joe McLean (from June 2018). Mr Andrew Borneman serves as Company Secretary.

Autism CRC Ltd
 ABN 55 162 632 180

Annual Financial Report
 For the financial year ended 30 June 2018

Directors’ and Committee Meetings

The number of Directors’ meetings and various Committee Meetings held during the financial period and the numbers of meetings attended by each Director are:

| | Directors' Meetings | | Audit, Risk and Finance Committee | | Remuneration and Selection Committee | | Research and Development Committee | |
|----------------------|---------------------|---|-----------------------------------|-----|--------------------------------------|-----|------------------------------------|-----|
| | A | B | A | B | A | B | A | B |
| Robert van Barneveld | 7 | 7 | n/a | n/a | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 |
| Carole Green | 7 | 7 | 5 | 5 | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| Judy Brewer | 7 | 7 | n/a | n/a | 3 | 3 | n/a | n/a |
| Shirley Lanning | 6 | 7 | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | 2 | 2 |
| Paul Vincent | 6 | 7 | 5 | 5 | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| Garry Allison | 1 | 1 | n/a | n/a | 2 | 2 | n/a | n/a |
| Adrian Ford | 7 | 7 | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| Ian Harris | 5 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 3 | n/a | n/a |
| Scott Reading | 6 | 7 | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | 2 | 2 |
| Malcolm Mayfield | 7 | 7 | 5 | 5 | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| Carol Nicoll | 2 | 2 | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| Paul Field | 2 | 2 | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| Joe McLean | 1 | 1 | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |

A = Attended
 B = Number of eligible to attend

Short and Long Term Objectives

Our vision is to see autistic people empowered to discover and use their diverse strengths and interests. Our mission is to motivate, facilitate and translate collaborative autism research across the life span, underpinned by inclusive practices. Our programs take a whole-of-life view from diagnosis and the early years, through the school years and into adult life. We are committed to inclusive research practices and coproduction of outcomes with those on the spectrum and their families to ensure our research provides practical and tangible outputs that benefit the community.

Principal Activities

The Company’s principal activity during the reporting period is facilitating research, supporting diagnosis, education and adult life in the field of autism. Further details of activities can be found in the published Annual Report.

Results of Operations

The operating surplus of the Consolidated Group for the financial period ended 30 June 2018 was \$2,961,754 (2017: \$213,638). In 2018 the cash and in-kind costs associated with Australian Autism Biobank have been recognised on the Statement of Financial Position as an intangible asset. This change in accounting treatment has a \$2,758,800 impact on the operating surplus in 2018.

Autism CRC Ltd
ABN 55 162 632 180

Annual Financial Report
For the financial year ended 30 June 2018

Review of Operations

To 30 June 2018, the Consolidated Group had operating income of \$26,433,148 (2017: \$26,624,833). The Company uses a range of mechanisms to measure its performance.

Dividends

The Company is limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The members of Autism CRC Ltd are precluded by the Company's Constitution from declaring a dividend. No dividends were paid or declared by Autism CRC Ltd for the year ended 30 June 2018.

State of Affairs and Events Subsequent to Balance Date

In the opinion of the Directors, there were no other significant changes apart from those stated above that occurred during the reporting period. There has not arisen in the interval between the end of the financial period and the date of this report any matter or circumstances which has or may significantly affect the operations of the Company, the results of those operations or the state of affairs of the Company in subsequent periods.

Indemnification of Officers and Auditors

The Company entered into agreements to indemnify all Directors and Officers of the Company against all liabilities to persons (other than the Company or a related body corporate), which arise out of the performance of their normal duties as director or executive officer unless the liability relates to conduct involving a lack of good faith. The Company has agreed to indemnify the Directors and Executive Officers against all costs and expenses incurred in defending the action that falls within the scope of the indemnity and any resulting payments.

The Company provided for directors' and officers' liability insurance. The Company provides indemnification against all costs and expenses involved in defending legal actions and any resulting payments arising from a liability to persons (other than the Company or a related body corporate) incurred in their position as director or executive officer unless the conduct involves a wilful breach of duty or an improper use of inside information or position to gain advantage. No indemnity was provided for the auditors.

Environmental Regulations

The Company's operations are not regulated by any significant environmental regulation under a law of the Commonwealth or of a State or Territory.

Likely Developments and Expected Results

As the Company continues its activities, the financial result for next year will be consistent with 2018. Expenditure will increase as project payments are made towards projects authorised by the Autism CRC Ltd Board.

Proceedings on behalf of the Company

No proceedings have been entered into on behalf of the Company.

Members' Guarantee

The Company is limited by guarantee. If the company is wound up, the Constitution states that each member is required to contribute a maximum of \$100 towards meeting any outstanding obligations of the Company. The total amount members are liable to contribute is \$1,300.



Robert van Barneveld

Chair

Dated on the 3 October 2018 in Brisbane.

Autism CRC Ltd
ABN 55 162 632 180

Annual Financial Report
For the financial year ended 30 June 2018

**Statements of Comprehensive Income For
the financial year ended 30 June 2018**

| | Note | Consolidated Group | | Parent Company | |
|--|------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| | | 30 June 2018 | 30 June 2017 | 30 June 2018 | 30 June 2017 |
| | | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| Revenue from continuing operations | | | | | |
| Revenues | 3 | 26,433,148 | 26,624,833 | 25,689,875 | 26,018,159 |
| Other income | | | | | |
| Financing Income | 4 | 49,871 | 105,819 | 49,814 | 189,749 |
| Expenses | | | | | |
| Research costs | 5 | (20,678,925) | (24,097,518) | (20,678,925) | (24,097,518) |
| Employee benefits expense | 6 | (1,696,113) | (1,475,982) | (1,459,960) | (1,305,111) |
| Board fees and related expense | | (266,626) | (287,358) | (266,626) | (287,358) |
| Depreciation and amortisation expense | | (56,616) | (29,665) | (18,996) | (14,177) |
| Other Expenses | 7 | (822,985) | (639,911) | (362,431) | (237,207) |
| Total expenses | | (23,521,265) | (26,530,434) | (22,786,938) | (25,941,371) |
| Surplus/(Deficit) before tax | | | | | |
| | | 2,961,754 | 200,218 | 2,952,751 | 266,537 |
| Income tax expense | 8 | - | 13,420 | - | - |
| Profit after tax | | 2,961,754 | 213,638 | 2,952,751 | 266,537 |
| Other comprehensive income | | | | | |
| Total comprehensive income for the period | | 2,961,754 | 213,638 | 2,952,751 | 266,537 |

The Statement of Comprehensive Income should be read in conjunction with the attached notes

Autism CRC Ltd
ABN 55 162 632 180

Annual Financial Report
For the financial year ended 30 June 2018

Statements of Financial Position For the financial year ended 30 June 2018

| | Note | Consolidated Group | | Parent Company | |
|---|------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| | | 30 June 2018 \$ | 30 June 2017 \$ | 30 June 2018 \$ | 30 June 2017 \$ |
| Current assets | | | | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 9a | 4,176,635 | 3,406,654 | 4,158,788 | 3,360,812 |
| Trade and other receivables | 10 | 956,863 | 190,573 | 987,151 | 312,877 |
| Prepayments | 11 | 52,925 | 60,604 | 52,925 | 60,604 |
| Investments | | - | 750,000 | - | 750,000 |
| Inventory | | 75,804 | 103,425 | - | - |
| Total current assets | | 5,262,227 | 4,511,256 | 5,198,864 | 4,484,293 |
| Non-current assets | | | | | |
| Property, plant and equipment | 12 | 29,294 | 37,780 | 16,440 | 24,996 |
| Trade and other receivables - non-current | 10 | - | - | 76,381 | 76,381 |
| Investment in wholly owned subsidiary | | - | - | 200,000 | 200,000 |
| Formation Costs | 13 | 1,463 | 2,923 | - | - |
| Intangible Assets | 14 | 3,109,387 | 336,656 | 2,758,800 | - |
| Total non-current assets | | 3,140,144 | 377,359 | 3,051,621 | 301,377 |
| Total assets | | 8,402,371 | 4,888,615 | 8,250,485 | 4,785,670 |
| Current liabilities | | | | | |
| Trade and other payables | 15 | 366,487 | 282,617 | 257,398 | 211,449 |
| Provisions | 16 | 88,279 | 55,633 | 82,084 | 51,452 |
| Deferred revenues | 17 | 4,518,585 | 4,083,102 | 4,518,585 | 4,083,102 |
| Total current liabilities | | 4,973,351 | 4,421,352 | 4,858,067 | 4,346,003 |
| Non-current liabilities | | | | | |
| Deferred revenues | 17 | - | - | - | - |
| Total non-current liabilities | | - | - | - | - |
| Total liabilities | | 4,973,351 | 4,421,352 | 4,858,067 | 4,346,003 |
| Net assets | | 3,429,020 | 467,263 | 3,392,418 | 439,667 |
| Equity | | | | | |
| Retained earnings | | 3,429,020 | 467,263 | 3,392,418 | 439,667 |
| Total equity | | 3,429,020 | 467,263 | 3,392,418 | 439,667 |

The Statement of Financial Position should be read in conjunction with the attached notes

Autism CRC Ltd
ABN 55 162 632 180

Annual Financial Report
For the financial year ended 30 June 2018

Statements of Cash Flows For the financial year ended 30 June 2018

| | Note | Consolidated Group | | Parent Company | |
|---|------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| | | 30 June 2018 \$ | 30 June 2017 \$ | 30 June 2018 \$ | 30 June 2017 \$ |
| Cash flows from operating activities | | | | | |
| Receipt from Commonwealth Government | | 3,872,001 | 4,315,000 | 3,872,001 | 4,315,000 |
| Receipts from Participants | | 860,001 | 767,000 | 860,001 | 767,000 |
| Receipts from other sources | | 2,503,598 | 2,244,048 | 1,793,363 | 1,535,241 |
| Payments to suppliers and employees | | (6,662,044) | (7,451,542) | (5,946,296) | (6,786,926) |
| Interest received | | 84,924 | 28,441 | 84,867 | 28,372 |
| Net cash provided by operating activities | 9b | <u>658,479</u> | <u>(97,053)</u> | <u>663,936</u> | <u>(141,313)</u> |
| Cash flows from investing activities | | | | | |
| Payments for property, plant and equipment | | (12,487) | (25,234) | (10,441) | (13,555) |
| Payments for Investments, Inventory and Intellectual Property | | 123,988 | (889,049) | 144,480 | (750,000) |
| Formation Costs | | - | - | - | - |
| Net cash used by investing activities | | <u>111,502</u> | <u>(914,283)</u> | <u>134,040</u> | <u>(763,555)</u> |
| Cash flows from financing activities | | | | | |
| Cash proceeds from members' contributions | | - | - | - | - |
| Net cash provided for financing activities | | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> |
| Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents | | 769,981 | (1,011,336) | 797,976 | (904,868) |
| Opening Cash and cash equivalents | | 3,406,654 | 4,417,990 | 3,360,812 | 4,265,680 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at 30 June | 9a | <u>4,176,635</u> | <u>3,406,654</u> | <u>4,158,788</u> | <u>3,360,812</u> |

The Cash Flow Statement should be read in conjunction with the attached notes

Autism CRC Ltd
ABN 55 162 632 180

Annual Financial Report
For the financial year ended 30 June 2018

Statement of Changes in Equity For the financial year ended 30 June 2018

| | Consolidated Group Total \$ | Parent Company Total \$ |
|---|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Balance at 1 July 2015 | 115,206 | 100,896 |
| Surplus after income tax expense for the year | 138,419 | 72,234 |
| Other comprehensive income for the year, net of tax | - | - |
| Total comprehensive income for the year | 138,419 | 72,234 |
| Balance at 30 June 2016 | 253,625 | 173,130 |
| Balance at 1 July 2016 | 253,625 | 173,130 |
| Surplus after income tax expense for the year | 213,640 | 266,537 |
| Other comprehensive income for the year, net of tax | - | - |
| Total comprehensive income for the year | 213,640 | 266,537 |
| Balance at 30 June 2017 | 467,265 | 439,667 |
| Balance at 1 July 2017 | 467,265 | 439,667 |
| Surplus after income tax expense for the year | 2,961,754 | 2,952,751 |
| Other comprehensive income for the year, net of tax | - | - |
| Total comprehensive income for the year | 2,961,754 | 2,952,751 |
| Balance at 30 June 2018 | 3,429,019 | 3,392,418 |

The Cash Flow Statement should be read in conjunction with the attached notes

Autism CRC Ltd
ABN 55 162 632 180

Annual Financial Report
For the financial year ended 30 June 2018

Notes to the financial statements For the financial year ended 30 June 2018

Note 1. Introduction

Autism CRC Ltd is a company limited by guarantee incorporated and domiciled in Australia.

Authorisation of financial report

The financial report was approved by resolution of the Board of Directors on **26 September 2018**.

Note 2. Summary of accounting policies

In the Directors' opinion, the Company is not a reporting entity as users of the financial report are unlikely to exist who are unable to command the preparation of reports tailored to satisfy their information needs. Therefore, this financial report is a 'special purpose financial report' and has been prepared to meet requirements of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012.

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the recognition and measurement requirements specified by the Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board and the disclosure requirements of AASB 101 "Presentation of Financial Statements", AASB 107 "Cash Flow Statements", AASB 108 "Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors" and AASB 1048 "Interpretation and Application of Standards". These financial statements do not conform to International Financial Reporting Standards as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board.

Basis of Preparation

The financial report has been prepared on an accrual basis, and is based on the historical cost method unless otherwise stated. Accounting policies are selected and applied in a manner which ensures that the resulting financial information satisfies the concepts of relevance and reliability, thereby ensuring that the substance of the underlying transactions or other events is reported. The financial report is presented in Australian dollars and rounded to the nearest dollar.

Financial Period

The current financial period is the 12 months from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018. The comparative figures are for the 12 month period from 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017.

Principles of consolidation

The consolidated financial statements incorporate the assets and liabilities of the subsidiary of Autism CRC Ltd ('company' or 'parent entity') as at 30 June 2018 and the results of its subsidiary for the year then ended. Autism CRC Limited and its subsidiary together are referred to in these financial statements as the 'consolidated entity'.

Subsidiaries are all those entities over which the consolidated entity has control. The consolidated entity controls an entity when the consolidated entity is exposed to, or has rights to, variable returns from its involvement with the entity and has the ability to affect those returns through its power to direct the activities of the entity. Subsidiaries are fully consolidated from the date on which control is transferred to the consolidated entity. They are de-consolidated from the date that control ceases.

Intercompany transactions, balances and unrealised gains on transactions between entities in the consolidated entity are eliminated. Unrealised losses are also eliminated unless the transaction provides evidence of the impairment of the asset transferred. Accounting policies of subsidiaries have been changed where necessary to ensure consistency with the policies adopted by the consolidated entity.

The acquisition of subsidiaries is accounted for using the acquisition method of accounting. A change in ownership interest, without the loss of control, is accounted for as an equity transaction, where the difference between the consideration transferred and the book value of the share of the non-controlling interest acquired is recognised directly in equity attributable to the parent.

Notes to the financial statements For the financial year ended 30 June 2018

Note 2. Summary of accounting policies (continued)

Non-controlling interest in the results and equity of subsidiaries are shown separately in the statement of comprehensive income, statement of financial position and statement of changes in equity of the consolidated entity. Losses incurred by the consolidated entity are attributed to the non-controlling interest in full, even if that results in a deficit balance.

Where the consolidated entity loses control over a subsidiary, it derecognises the assets including goodwill, liabilities and non-controlling interest in the subsidiary together with any cumulative translation differences recognised in equity. The consolidated entity recognises the fair value of the consideration received and the fair value of any investment retained together with any gain or loss in profit or loss.

Interests in subsidiaries are accounted for at cost, less any impairment, in the parent entity. Dividends received from subsidiaries are recognised as other income by the parent entity and its receipt may be an indicator of an impairment of the investment.

The following significant accounting policies have been adopted in the preparation and presentation of the financial report.

(a) Foreign currency translation

The financial statements are presented in Australian dollars, which is Autism CRC Ltd's functional and presentation currency.

(b) Current and non-current classification

Assets and liabilities are presented in the statement of financial position based on current and non-current classification.

An asset is classified as current when: it is either expected to be realised or intended to be sold or consumed in normal operating cycle; it is held primarily for the purpose of trading; it is expected to be realised within 12 months after the reporting period; or the asset is cash or cash equivalent unless restricted from being exchanged or used to settle a liability for at least 12 months after the reporting period. All other assets are classified as non-current.

A liability is classified as current when: it is either expected to be settled in normal operating cycle; it is held primarily for the purpose of trading; it is due to be settled within 12 months after the reporting period; or there is no unconditional right to defer the settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after the reporting period. All other liabilities are classified as non-current.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are always classified as non-current.

(c) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and at bank with original maturity of three months or less.

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Notes to the financial statements For the financial year ended 30 June 2018

Note 2. Summary of accounting policies (continued)

(d) Employee Benefits

Provision is made for benefits accruing to employees in respect of wages and salaries, annual leave and long service leave when it is probable that settlement will be required and they are capable of being measured reliably.

Provisions made in respect of employee benefits expected to be settled within 12 months, are measured at their nominal values using the remuneration rate expected to apply at the time of settlement.

Provisions made in respect of employee benefits which are not expected to be settled within 12 months are measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made by the Company in respect of services provided by employees up to reporting date.

(e) Receivables

Receivables are carried at nominal amounts due less any provision for doubtful debts and are non-interest bearing. A provision for doubtful debts is recognised when collection of the full amount is no longer probable.

(f) Property, plant and equipment

Plant and equipment is stated at historical cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment. Historical cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to the acquisition of the items.

Depreciation is calculated on either a straight-line or diminishing value basis to write off the net cost of each item of property, plant and equipment (excluding land) over their expected useful lives as follows:

| | |
|------------------------|-----------|
| Plant and equipment | 3-8 years |
| Leasehold improvements | 15 years |

The residual values, useful lives and depreciation methods are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at each reporting date.

An item of property, plant and equipment is derecognised upon disposal or when there is no future economic benefit to the Company. Gains and losses between the carrying amount and the disposal proceeds are taken to profit or loss.

(g) Goods and services tax

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST) except:

- (i) where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the taxation authority, it is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of an asset or as part of an item of expense; or
- (ii) for receivables and payables which are recognised inclusive of GST.

The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is included as part of receivables or payables.

Cash flows are included in the cash flow statement inclusive of GST.

Notes to the financial statements For the financial year ended 30 June 2018

Note 2. Summary of accounting policies (continued)

(h) Income Tax

The Company has been endorsed by the Australian Tax Office as income tax exempt under Subsection 50-5 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997 as a not-for-profit entity.

A 100% owned subsidiary of Autism CRC Ltd, Social Skills Training Pty Ltd, has been established and is regarded as a taxable, for-profit entity.

The income tax expense or benefit for the period is the tax payable on that period's taxable income based on the applicable income tax rate for each jurisdiction, adjusted by the changes in deferred tax assets and liabilities attributable to temporary differences, unused tax losses and the adjustment recognised for prior periods, where applicable.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are recognised for temporary differences at the tax rates expected to be applied when the assets are recovered or liabilities are settled, based on those tax rates that are enacted or substantively enacted, except for:

- When the deferred income tax asset or liability arises from the initial recognition of goodwill or an asset or liability in a transaction that is not a business combination and that, at the time of the transaction, affects neither the accounting nor taxable profits; or
- When the taxable temporary difference is associated with interests in subsidiaries, associates or joint ventures, and the timing of the reversal can be controlled and it is probable that the temporary difference will not reverse in the foreseeable future.

Deferred tax assets are recognised for deductible temporary differences and unused tax losses only if it is probable that future taxable amounts will be available to utilise those temporary differences and losses.

The carrying amount of recognised and unrecognised deferred tax assets are reviewed at each reporting date. Deferred tax assets recognised are reduced to the extent that it is no longer probable that future taxable profits will be available for the carrying amount to be recovered.

The carrying amount of recognised and unrecognised deferred tax assets are reviewed at each reporting date. Deferred tax assets recognised are reduced to the extent that it is no longer probable that future taxable profits will be available for the carrying amount to be recovered.

Previously unrecognised deferred tax assets are recognised to the extent that it is probable that there are future taxable profits available to recover the asset.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are offset only where there is a legally enforceable right to offset current tax assets against current tax liabilities and deferred tax assets against deferred tax liabilities; and they relate to the same taxable authority on either the same taxable entity or different taxable entities which intend to settle simultaneously.

(i) Payables

These amounts represent liabilities for goods and services provided to the Company prior to the end of the financial year and which are unpaid. Due to their short-term nature they are measured at amortised cost and are not discounted. The amounts are unsecured and are usually paid within 30 days of recognition.

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Annual Financial Report
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Notes to the financial statements For the financial year ended 30 June 2018

Note 2. Summary of accounting policies (continued)

- (j) Research and Development
Expenditure on research and development activities, undertaken with prospect of gaining new scientific or technical knowledge and understanding, is recognised in the year when incurred.

Development costs will be capitalised where it is assessed the probability of expected future economic benefits, using reasonable and supportable assumptions that represent management's best estimate of the set of economic conditions that will exist over the useful life of the asset.

- (k) Revenue recognition
Interest revenue
Interest revenue is recognised on a time proportionate basis that takes into account the effective yield on the financial asset.

Cash Contributions

Cash contributions from members and participants are recognised when the Company is in control of or has the right to receive the contributions.

Government grants

Government grants received on the condition requiring specified services delivered or conditions fulfilled are considered reciprocal. Such grants are initially recognised as deferred income and then subsequently recognised in the periods necessary to match them with related costs and the fulfilment of services delivered or conditions fulfilled.

Government grants of a non-reciprocal nature are recognised when the Company obtains control of the funds.

Donations

Donations are recognised at the time the pledge is made.

Other revenue

Other revenue is recognised when it is received or when the right to receive payment is established.

- (l) In-kind contributions
In-kind contributions as reported from Participants are brought to account as revenue and expenditure. In-kind contributions are measured at fair value based on reported in-kind consistent with the valuation principles agreed to in the terms of Autism CRC Participants' Agreements. The types of in-kind expenditure recorded by the Company mainly include staffing costs and direct research expenditure. This expenditure was incurred by Participants in conducting research and other CRC activities on behalf of the Company.

- (m) Critical Accounting Estimates & Judgements

In the application of the Company's accounting policies, management is required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis of the judgements. Actual results may differ from these estimates. The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

The judgements, estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities (refer to the respective notes) within the next financial year are discussed below.

Note 2. Summary of accounting policies (continued)

Estimation of useful lives of assets

The Company determines the estimated useful lives and related depreciation and amortisation charges for its property, plant and equipment and finite life intangible assets. The useful lives could change significantly as a result of technical innovations or some other event. The depreciation and amortisation charge will increase where the useful lives are less than previously estimated lives, or technically obsolete or non-strategic assets that have been abandoned or sold will be written off or written down. Acquired intangible assets have not been amortised in the 2018 financial year. Formation Costs and internally generated intellectual property have been amortised over a five year useful life. An assessment of the Australian Autism Biobank will be made at each reporting date.

Impairment of non-financial assets other than goodwill and other indefinite life intangible assets

The Company assesses impairment of non-financial assets, other than goodwill and other indefinite life intangible assets, at each reporting date by evaluating conditions specific to the Company and to the particular asset that may lead to impairment. If an impairment trigger exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is determined. This involves fair value less costs of disposal or value-in-use calculations, which incorporate a number of key estimates and assumptions.

(n) New standards and interpretations not yet adopted

Australian accounting standards and interpretations that have recently been issued or amended but are not yet mandatory have not been early adopted by the Company for the reporting period ended 30 June 2018. The Company has not yet assessed the impact of these new or amended accounting standards or interpretations.

| | 30 June 2018 | 30 June 2017 | 30 June 2018 | 30 June 2017 |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| Note 3. Revenue | | | | |
| Commonwealth Government - CRC Program Grant | 4,371,411 | 4,547,260 | 4,371,411 | 4,547,260 |
| Participant Cash Contribution | 877,500 | 800,000 | 877,500 | 800,000 |
| Participant In-Kind Contribution | 19,531,639 | 19,753,430 | 19,531,639 | 19,753,430 |
| Non-CA Research Income | 370,126 | 768,179 | 370,126 | 768,179 |
| Other Income | 1,282,472 | 755,964 | 539,198 | 149,290 |
| | <u>26,433,148</u> | <u>26,624,833</u> | <u>25,689,875</u> | <u>26,018,159</u> |
| Note 4. Financing Income | | | | |
| Interest Received | 49,871 | 69,819 | 49,814 | 69,749 |
| Dividend Income | - | - | - | 84,000 |
| Dividend Imputation Credit | - | 36,000 | - | 36,000 |
| | <u>49,871</u> | <u>105,819</u> | <u>49,814</u> | <u>189,749</u> |

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| | Consolidated Group | | Parent Company | |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| | 30 June 2018 \$ | 30 June 2017 \$ | 30 June 2018 \$ | 30 June 2017 \$ |
| Note 5. Research Costs | | | | |
| Research costs are expensed except where these costs are in relation to the capitalised development costs where it has been assessed there is a probability of expected future economic benefits. These future economic benefits are based on using reasonable and supportable assumptions that represent management's best estimate of the set of economic conditions that will exist over the useful life of the asset. During the year ending 30 June 2018 the costs associated with the Australian Autism Biobank where capitalised as an intangible asset, see note 14 for further details. | | | | |
| Research Expenditure - Cash | 2,930,440 | 3,575,055 | 2,930,440 | 3,575,055 |
| Research Expenditure - in-kind | 17,378,359 | 19,753,430 | 17,378,359 | 19,753,430 |
| Non-CRC Research Expenditure - Cash | 370,126 | 769,033 | 370,126 | 769,033 |
| | <u>20,678,925</u> | <u>24,097,518</u> | <u>20,678,925</u> | <u>24,097,518</u> |
| Note 6. Employee Expenses | | | | |
| WorkCover | 13,181 | 10,254 | 9,372 | 7,750 |
| Salary & Wages | 1,502,240 | 1,338,962 | 1,298,219 | 1,185,826 |
| Superannuation | 136,842 | 129,865 | 117,849 | 115,635 |
| Accrued Leave | 43,850 | (3,099) | 34,521 | (4,100) |
| | <u>1,696,113</u> | <u>1,475,982</u> | <u>1,459,960</u> | <u>1,305,111</u> |
| Note 7. Other Expenses | | | | |
| Audit Fees | 25,095 | 22,730 | 25,095 | 22,730 |
| Cost of Goods Sold | 317,457 | 320,685 | - | - |
| External Support | 104,740 | 33,530 | 87,532 | 28,280 |
| General & Administrative | 91,383 | 83,809 | 30,814 | 43,489 |
| Gift Fund Expense | 21,802 | 2,000 | 21,802 | 2,000 |
| Insurance | 15,266 | 15,050 | 13,766 | 13,550 |
| IT Support | 136,975 | 53,514 | 108,498 | 49,741 |
| Legal | 4,143 | 12,434 | 2,843 | 5,018 |
| Provision for Bad Debt | - | 20,000 | - | 20,000 |
| Travel | 106,125 | 76,159 | 72,081 | 52,399 |
| | <u>822,985</u> | <u>639,911</u> | <u>362,431</u> | <u>237,207</u> |
| Note 8. Income Tax Expense | | | | |
| Surplus before income tax | 2,961,754 | 200,218 | 2,952,751 | 266,537 |
| Income tax using domestic tax rate of 30% | 888,526 | 60,065 | 885,825 | 79,961 |
| Add/(less) adjustments for | | | | |
| Tax exempt income | (885,825) | (79,961) | (885,825) | (79,961) |
| Other Deductible items | | | | |
| Other non-deductible/(non-assessable) items | (2,701) | 6,476 | - | - |
| Income Tax Expense | <u>-</u> | <u>(13,420)</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> |

| Consolidated Group | | Parent Company | |
|--------------------|---------|----------------|---------|
| 30 June | 30 June | 30 June | 30 June |
| 2018 | 2017 | 2018 | 2017 |
| \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ |

Note 9. Notes to the cash flow statement

(a) Reconciliation of Cash

For the purposes of the cash flows statement, cash and cash equivalents includes cash on hand and in banks and deposits at call. At 30 June 2018 includes prepaid cash held of \$3,561,722 against contracted future expenditure. Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year as shown in the cash flow statement is reconciled to the related items in balance sheet as follows:

| | | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Cash on hand | 38 | 29 | 38 | 29 |
| Cash at bank | 345,878 | 228,036 | 328,031 | 182,194 |
| Short term bank deposits | 3,830,719 | 3,178,589 | 3,830,719 | 3,178,589 |
| Total cash and cash equivalents | 4,176,635 | 3,406,654 | 4,158,788 | 3,360,812 |

(b) Reconciliation of profit for the period to net cash flows from operating activities

| | | | | |
|--|-------------|-----------|-------------|-----------|
| Profit for the period | 2,961,754 | 213,638 | 2,952,751 | 266,537 |
| Add: | | | | |
| Depreciation | 56,616 | 29,665 | 18,996 | 14,177 |
| <i>(Increase)/decrease in assets</i> | | | | |
| Trade and other receivables | (766,290) | (116,012) | (674,274) | (270,877) |
| Capitalised in-kind contributions | (2,153,280) | - | (2,153,280) | - |
| Prepayments | 7,679 | (18,297) | 7,679 | (19,806) |
| <i>Increase/(decrease) in liabilities</i> | | | | |
| Trade creditors and other liabilities | 83,871 | (13,404) | 45,949 | 9,247 |
| Unearned income | 435,483 | (140,340) | 435,483 | (140,340) |
| Provisions for employee benefit & income tax | 32,646 | (52,303) | 30,632 | (251) |
| Net cash provided by operating activities | 658,479 | (97,053) | 663,936 | (141,313) |

Note 10. Trade and Other receivables

Current

| | | | | |
|-------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Trade Receivables | 947,299 | 106,538 | 871,918 | 55,000 |
| Accrued Income | 6,324 | 41,377 | 6,324 | 41,377 |
| Other Receivables | 3,240 | 42,658 | 108,910 | 216,500 |
| | 956,863 | 190,573 | 987,151 | 312,877 |

Non-Current

| | | | | |
|--------------------------------|---|---|--------|--------|
| Other Receivables: Non-Current | - | - | 76,381 | 76,381 |
| | - | - | 76,381 | 76,381 |

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| | Consolidated Group | | Parent Company | |
|---|--------------------|----------------|------------------|-----------------|
| | 30 June 2018 | 30 June 2017 | 30 June 2018 | 30 June 2017 |
| | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| Note 11. Prepayments | | | | |
| Prepayments | 52,925 | 60,604 | 52,925 | 60,604 |
| Prepaid Employment Expenses | - | - | - | - |
| | <u>52,925</u> | <u>60,604</u> | <u>52,925</u> | <u>60,604</u> |
| Note 12. Property, plant and equipment | | | | |
| Plant & Equipment | 114,873 | 102,385 | 101,629 | 91,188 |
| Less: Accumulated Depreciation | (96,529) | (76,337) | (85,189) | (66,192) |
| Leasehold Improvements | 12,303 | 12,303 | - | - |
| Less: Accumulated Depreciation (Leasehold) | (1,353) | (571) | - | - |
| | <u>29,294</u> | <u>37,780</u> | <u>16,440</u> | <u>24,996</u> |
| Note 13. Formation Costs & Intellectual Property | | | | |
| Formation Costs | 7,308 | 7,308 | - | - |
| Less: Accumulated Amortisation | (5,845) | (4,385) | - | - |
| | <u>1,463</u> | <u>2,923</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> |
| Note 14. Intangible Assets | | | | |
| Acquired Intellectual Property | 200,000 | 200,000 | - | - |
| Internally Generated Intellectual Property | 195,676 | 147,563 | - | - |
| Less: Accumulated Amortisation | (45,089) | (10,907) | - | - |
| | <u>350,587</u> | <u>336,656</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> |
| <p>Since June 2014 the Company has been undertaking research to create The Australian Autism Biobank (AA Biobank), with expected completion by 31 December 2018. Since commencement the costs incurred for the creation of the AA Biobank have been expensed, as at the time of undertaking the research the potential future economic benefit to the Company was uncertain. On 1 July 2017 the Company identified that the research being undertaken has significant value and based on estimated access pricing on a cost recovery basis, will likely generate a future economic benefit to the Company. From this point all costs associated with the AA Biobank started to be capitalised. Costs capitalised for the year ending 30 June 2018 were \$2,758,800. Taking into consideration factors including current access pricing, on a cost recovery basis, for bio specimens, and the uniqueness of the AA Biobank data set, the Directors believe that the AA Biobank has a significantly higher value than the amount capitalised to 30 June 2018, and have estimated this to be worth at least \$6M to the company.</p> | | | | |
| Australian Autism Biobank | 2,758,800 | - | 2,758,800 | - |
| Less: accumulated amortisation | - | - | - | - |
| | <u>2,758,800</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>2,758,800</u> | <u>-</u> |
| Note 15. Trade and other payables | | | | |
| Trade Payables | 77,908 | - | 12,499 | - |
| Other Payables | 29,514 | 66,328 | 405 | (24) |
| Accrued Expenses | 92,919 | 139,268 | 78,991 | 137,144 |
| GST payable | 166,146 | 77,021 | 165,503 | 74,329 |
| | <u>366,487</u> | <u>282,617</u> | <u>257,398</u> | <u>211,449</u> |

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 For the financial year ended 30 June 2018

Note 16. Provisions

| | | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Provision for Income Tax | (13,574) | (6,258) | - | - |
| Employee Entitlements | 101,853 | 61,891 | 82,084 | 51,452 |
| | <u>88,279</u> | <u>55,633</u> | <u>82,084</u> | <u>51,452</u> |

Note 17. Deferred Revenues

Current

| | | | | |
|---|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Commonwealth Government CRC program grant | 3,358,855 | 3,858,266 | 3,358,855 | 3,858,266 |
| Other Government grants | 835,030 | 64,163 | 835,030 | 64,163 |
| Other Deferred Revenue | 324,700 | 160,673 | 324,700 | 160,673 |
| | <u>4,518,585</u> | <u>4,083,102</u> | <u>4,518,585</u> | <u>4,083,102</u> |

Non-current

| | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|---|---|
| Other Government grants - Non-Current | - | - | - | - |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|---|---|

Note 18. Operating Leases

Leases as lessee

Non-cancellable operating lease rentals are payable as follows (including GST):

| | | | | |
|---|----------|--------------|----------|--------------|
| Within one year | - | 1,936 | - | 1,936 |
| One year or later but no more than five years | - | - | - | - |
| Later than five years | - | - | - | - |
| | <u>-</u> | <u>1,936</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>1,936</u> |

Note 19. Remuneration of Auditors

During the financial year the following fees were paid or payable for services provided by BDO Audit Pty Ltd, the auditor of the company

| | | | | |
|------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Audit Services – BDO Audit Pty Ltd | 25,095 | 22,730 | 25,095 | 22,730 |
|------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|

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For the financial year ended 30 June 2018

Directors' Declaration

The Directors have determined that the company is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 2 to the financial statements.

The Directors of the company declare that:

1. The financial statements, comprising the statement of comprehensive income, statement of financial position, statement of cash flows, statement of changes in equity, and accompanying notes, are in accordance with the Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and:
 - a. comply with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 2, and Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Regulation 2013; and
 - b. give a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 30 June 2018 and of its performance for the period ended on that date.
2. In the Directors' opinion, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors and is signed for and on behalf of the directors by:



Robert van Barneveld
Chair

Dated on the 3 of October 2018 in Brisbane.



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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the members of Autism CRC Ltd

Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Autism CRC Ltd (the registered entity) and its subsidiaries (the Group), which comprises the statements of financial position as at 30 June 2018, the statements of comprehensive income, the statement of changes in equity and the statements of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial report, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the directors' declaration.

In our opinion the accompanying financial report of Autism CRC Ltd and the Group, is in accordance with Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, including:

- (i) Giving a true and fair view of Autism CRC Ltd and the Group's financial position as at 30 June 2018 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and
- (ii) Complying with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 2 and Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013*.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the registered entity and the Group in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* (ACNC Act) and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's *APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Emphasis of matter - Basis of accounting

We draw attention to Note 2 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the directors' financial reporting responsibilities under the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.



Other information

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information obtained at the date of this auditor's report is information included in the directors' report, but does not include the financial report and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed on the other information obtained prior to the date of this auditor's report, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of directors for the Financial Report

The directors of the company are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and have determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 2 to the financial report is appropriate to meet the requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and is appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The directors' responsibility also includes such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of a financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the directors are responsible for assessing the registered entity and the Group's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial report is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website (<http://www.auasb.gov.au/Home.aspx>) at:

http://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors_responsibilities/ar3.pdf

This description forms part of our auditor's report.

BDO Audit Pty Ltd

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'BDO' followed by a stylized name or initials.

Appendix 3: Publications 2017-18

Program 1

Blanken, L.M.E., Dass, A., Alvares, G., Van Der Ende, J., Schoemaker, N.K., El Marroun, H., Hickey, M., Pennell, C., White, S., Maybery, M., Dissanayake, C., Jaddoe, V.V.W., Verlhurst, F.C., Tiemeier, H., McIntosh, W., White, T. & Whitehouse, A.J.O. (2018). A prospective study of fetal head growth, autistic traits and autism spectrum disorder. *Autism Research*, 11(4), 602-612. doi: 10.1002/aur.1921

Boutrus, M., Maybery, M., Alvares, G., Tan, D.W., Varcin, K.J., & Whitehouse, A.J.O. (2017). Investigating facial phenotype in Autism Spectrum Conditions: The importance of a hypothesis driven approach, *Autism Research*, early online. doi: 10.1002/aur.1824

Eapen, V., Grove, R., Aylward, E., Joosten, A.V., Miller, S.I., Van Der Watt, G., Fordyce, K., Dissanayake, C., Maya, J., Tucker, M., & DeBlasio, A. (2017). Transition from early intervention program to primary school in children with autism spectrum disorder. *World Journal of Clinical Pediatrics*, 6(4), 169-175. doi: 10.5409/wjcp.v6.i4.169

Hudry, K., & Dimov, S. (2017). Spoken-language shows some improvement following intervention for children with autism: But for which children and why? *Evidence Based Mental Health*, 20:e16. doi: 10.1136/eb-2016-102435

Marsh, A., Spagnol, V., Grove, R., & Eapen, V. (2017). Transition to school for children with Autism Spectrum Disorder: A systematic review, *World Journal of Psychiatry*, 7(3), 184-196. doi: 10.5498/wjpv7.i3.184

Masi, A., Breen E., Whitehouse, A.J.O., Alvares, G., Glozier, N., Hickie, I.B., Hunt, A., Beilby, J., Ravine, D., Wray, J. & Guastella, A.J. (2017). Cytokine levels and associations with symptom severity in male and female children with autism spectrum disorder. *Molecular Autism*, 8(63). doi: 10.1186/s13229-017-0176-2

Milbourn, B., Falkmer, M., Black, M.H., Girdler, S., Falkmer, T. & Horlin, C. (2017). An exploration of the experience of parents with children with autism spectrum disorder after diagnosis and intervention. *Scandinavian Journal of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Psychology*, 5(3), 104-110. doi: 10.21307/sjcpp-2017-014

Nevill, R., Hedley, D., Uljarević, M., Sahin, E., Zadek, J., Butter, E. & Mulick, J.A. (2017). Language profiles in young children with autism spectrum disorder: A community sample using multiple assessment instruments, *Autism*, early online. doi: 10.1177/1362361317726245

Patel, S., Masi, A., Dale, R., Whitehouse, A.J.O., Pokorski, I., Alvares, G.A., Hickie, I.B., Breen, E., & Guastella, A.J. (2017). Social impairments in autism spectrum disorder are related to maternal immune history profile. *Molecular Psychiatry*, early online. doi:10.1038/mp.2017.201

Rogerson, J., Falkmer, M., Cuomo, B., Falkmer, T., Whitehouse, A.J.O., Granich, J., & Vaz, S. (2018). Parental experiences using the Therapy Outcomes by You (TOBY) application to deliver early intervention to their child with autism. *Developmental Neurorehabilitation*, early online. doi:10.1080/17518423.2018.1440259

Su, X., Cai, R.Y. & Uljarević, M. (2018). Predictors of mental health in Chinese parents of children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders*, 48(4), 1159-1168. doi: 10.1007/s10803-017-3364-1

Uljarević, M., Arnott, B., Carrington, S.J., Meins, E., Fernyhough, C., McConachle, H., Le Couteur, A., & Leekam, S.R. (2017). Development of restricted and repetitive behaviors from 15 to 77 months: Stability of two distinct subtypes? *Developmental Psychology*, 53(10), 1859-1868. doi:10.1037/dev0000324

Uljarević, M., Hedley, D., Nevill, R., Evans, D.W., Cai, R.Y., Butter, E. & Mulick, J.A. (2018). Brief report: Poor self-regulation as a predictor of individual differences in adaptive functioning in young children with autism spectrum disorder. *Autism Research*, early online. doi: 10.1002/aur.1953

Valstad, M., Alvares, G.A., Egknud, M., Matziorinis, A.M., Andreassen, O.A., Westlye, L.T. & Quintana, D.S. (2017). The correlation between central and peripheral oxytocin concentrations: A systematic review and meta-analysis. *Neuroscience & Biobehavioral Reviews*, 78, 117-124. doi: 10.1016/j.neubiorev.2017.04.017

Varcin, K.J., Alvares, G.A., Uljarević, M. & Whitehouse, A.J.O. (2017). Prenatal maternal stress events and phenotypic outcomes in Autism Spectrum Disorder. *Autism Research*, 10(11), 1866-1877. doi: 10.1002/aur.1830

Vivanti, G., Hocking, D.R., Fanning, P.A.J., Uljarević, M., Postorino, V., Mazzone, L. & Dissanayake, C. (2018). Attention to novelty versus repetition: Contrasting habituation profiles in Autism and Williams syndrome. *Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience*, 29, 54-60. doi: 10.1016/j.dcn.2017.01.006

Whitehouse, A.J.O., Alvares, G.A., Cleary, D., Harun, A., Stojanoska, A., Taylor, L.J., Varcin, K.J. & Maybery, M. (2018). Symptom severity in autism spectrum disorder is related to the frequency and severity of nausea and vomiting during pregnancy: a retrospective case-control study, *Molecular Autism*, 9(37), early online. doi: 10.1186/s13229-018-0223-7

Whitehouse, A.J.O., Granich, J., Alvares, G., Busacca, M., Cooper, M.N., Dass, A., Duong, T., Harper, R., Marshall, W., Richdale, A.L., Rodwell, T., Trembath, D., Vellanki, P., Moore, D.W. & Anderson, A. (2017). A randomised controlled trial of an iPad based application to complement early behavioural intervention in Autism Spectrum

Disorder. *Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry*, 58(9), 1042-1052. doi: 10.1111/jcpp.12752

Zheng, L., Grove, R., & Eapen, V. (2017). Predictors of maternal stress in pre-school and school aged children with autism. *Journal of Intellectual & Developmental Disability*, early online. doi: 10.3109/13668250.2017.1374931

Program 2

Weiss, J.A., Thomson, K., Burnham Riosa, P., Albaum, C., Chan, V., Maughan, A.... Black, K. (2018). A randomized waitlist-controlled trial of cognitive behavior therapy to improve emotion regulation in children with autism. *Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry*, doi: 10.1111/jcpp.12915

den Houting, J., Adams, D., Roberts, J., & Keen, D. (2018). Exploring anxiety symptomatology in school-aged autistic children using an autism-specific assessment. *Research in Autism Spectrum Disorders*, 50, 73-82. doi: 10.1016/j.rasd.2018.03.005

Einfeld, S.L., Beaumont, R., Clark, T., Clarke, K.S., Costley, D. Gray, K.M.,...Howlin, P. (2018). School-based social skills training for young people with autism spectrum disorders. *Journal of Intellectual and Developmental Disability*, 43(1), 29-39.

Keen, D., Adams, D., Simpson, K., den Houting, J., & Roberts, J. (2017). Anxiety-related symptomatology in young children on the autism spectrum, *Autism*, early online. doi: 10.1177/1362361317734692

Macdonald, E., Trembath, D., Ashburner, J., Costley, D., & Keen, D. (2018). The use of visual schedules and work systems to increase the on-task behaviour of students on the autism spectrum in mainstream classrooms. *Journal of Research in Special Education Needs*, early online. doi: 10.1111/1471-3802.12409

Roberts, J., Adams, D., Heussler, H., Keen, D., Paynter, J., Trembath, D., Westerveld, M., & Williams, K. (2018). Protocol for a prospective longitudinal study investigating the participation and educational trajectories of Australian students with autism, *BMJ Open*, 8(1), e017082. doi: 10.1136/bmjopen-2017-017082

Sauve, J.S., O'Haire, C., Hall, H., Lane, C., & Hudson, B. (2018). Adapting a social skills intervention for children with autism within an urban specialty community clinic. *Evidence-Based Practice in Child and Adolescent Mental Health*, <https://doi.org/10.1002/23794925.2018.1483214>

van der Kruk, Y., Wilson, W.J., Palghat, K., Downing, C., Harper-Hill, K., & Ashburner, J. (2017). Improved signal-to-noise ratio and classroom performance in children with Autism Spectrum Disorder: A systematic review. *Review Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders*, 4(3), 243-253

Westerveld, M.F., & Roberts, J.M.A. (2017). The oral narrative comprehension and production abilities of verbal preschoolers on the autism spectrum. *Language, Speech, and Hearing Services in Schools*, 48, 260-272. doi:10.1044/2017_LSHSS-17-0003

Westerveld, M.F., & van Bysterveldt, A.K. (2017). The home literacy environment of a preschool-aged children with autism or Down Syndrome, *Folia Phoniatrica et Logopaedica*, 69, 437-53. doi: 10.1159/000475840

Program 3

Ashburner, J., Bobir, N. & van Dooren, K. (2017). Evaluation of innovative interest-based post-school transition program for young people with autism. *International Journal of Disability, Development and Education*, 65(3), 262-285. doi: 10.1080/1034912X.2017.1403012

Birch, R.C., Foley, K-R., Pollack, A., Britt, H., Lennox, H., & Trollor, J.N. (2017). Problems managed and medications prescribed during encounters with people with autism spectrum disorder in Australian general practice. *Autism*, early online. doi: 10.1177/1362361317714588

Black, M.H., Chen, N.T.M., Iyer, K.K., Lipp, O.V., Bölte, S., Falkmer, M., Tan, T., & Girdler, S. (2017). Mechanisms of facial emotion recognition in autism spectrum disorders: Insights from eye tracking and electroencephalography. *Neuroscience & Biobehavioral Reviews*, 80, 488-515. doi: 10.1016/j.neubiorev.2017.06.016

Cai, R.Y., Richdale, A.L., Dissanayake, C., Trollor, J., & Uljarević, M. (2018). Emotion regulation in autism: Reappraisal and suppression interactions. *Autism*, early online. doi: 10.1177/1362361318774558

Cai, R.Y., Richdale, A.L., Dissanayake, C., & Uljarević, M. (2017). Brief report: Inter-relationship between emotion regulation, intolerance of uncertainty, anxiety, and depression in youth with Autism Spectrum Disorder. *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders*, early online. doi: 10.1007/s10803-017-3318-7

Cai, R.Y., Richdale, A.L., Foley, K-R., Trollor, J. & Uljarević, M. (2018). Brief report: Cross-sectional interactions between expressive suppression and cognitive reappraisal and its relationship with depressive symptoms in autism spectrum disorder. *Research in Autism Spectrum Disorders*, 45, 1-8. doi: 10.1016/j.rasd.2017.10.002

Cowan, G., Earl, R., Falkmer, T., Girdler, S., Morris, S.L., Falkmer, M. (2018). Fixation patterns of individuals with and without Autism Spectrum disorder: Do they differ in

shared zones and in zebra crossings? *Journal of Transport & Health*, 8, 112-122. doi: 10.1016/j.jth.2017.12.001

Foley, K.R., Pollack, A., Britt, H., Lennox, N. & Trollor, J. (2017). General practice encounters for young patients with autism spectrum disorder. *Autism*, early online, 1-10. doi: 10.1177/1362361317702560

Hatfield, M., Falkmer, M., Falkmer, T., & Ciccarelli, M. (2017). Effectiveness of the BOOST-A online transition planning program for adolescents on the autism spectrum: a quasi-randomized controlled trial. *Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Mental Health*, 11(1), 54. doi: 10.1186/s13034-017-0191-2

Hatfield, M., Falkmer, M., Falkmer, T., & Ciccarelli, M. (2018). Process evaluation of the BOOST-A transition planning program for adolescents on the autism spectrum: A strengths-based approach. *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders*, 48(2), 377-388. doi: 10.1007/s10803-017-3317-8

Hatfield, M., Murray, N., Ciccarelli, M., Falkmer, T., & Falkmer, M. (2017). Pilot of the BOOST-A: An online transition planning program for adolescents with autism. *Australian Occupational Therapy Journal*, 0(0). DOI: 10.1111/1440-1630.12410

Hedley, D., Uljarević, M., Foley, K.R., Richdale, A.L., & Trollor, J. (2018). Risk and protective factors underlying depression and suicidal ideation in Autism Spectrum Disorder. *Depression and Anxiety*, early online. doi: 10.1002/da.22759

Hedley, D., Uljarević, M., Wilmot, M., Richdale, A.L., & Dissanayake, C. (2017). Brief Report: Social support, depression and suicidal ideation in adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder. *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders*, 47(11), 3669-3677. doi: 10.1007/s10803-017-3274-2

Hedley, D., Uljarević, M., Wilmot, M., Richdale, A.L., & Dissanayake, C. (2018). Understanding depression and thoughts of self-harm in autism: A potential mechanism involving loneliness. *Research in Autism Spectrum Disorders*, 46, early online. doi: 10.1016/j.rasd.2017.11.003

Hedley, D. & Uljarević, M. (2018). Systematic review of suicide in Autism Spectrum Disorder: Current trends and implications. *Current Developmental Disorders Reports*, 5, 65-78. doi: 10.1007/s40474-018-0133-6

Hwang, Y.I., Foley, K.R., & Trollor, J. (2017). Aging well on the autism spectrum: The perspectives of autistic adults and carers. *International Psychogeriatrics*, early online, 1-14. doi: 10.1017/S1041610217001521

Hwang, Y.I., Foley, K.R. & Trollor, J.N. (2018). Aging well on the autism spectrum: an examination of the dominant model of successful aging. *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders*, early online. doi: 10.1007/s10803-018-3596-8

Scott, M., Falkmer, M., Falkmer, T., & Girdler, S. (2018). Evaluating the effectiveness of an autism-specific workplace tool: A Randomised Control Trial. *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders*, early online. doi: 10.1007/s10803-018-3611-0

Siew, C.T., Mazzucchelli, T.G., Rooney, R., & Girdler, S. (2017). A specialist peer mentoring program for university students on the autism spectrum: A pilot study. *PLoS One*, 12(7): e0180854. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0180854

Thompson, C., Falkmer, T., Bølte, S., & Girdler, S. (2018). To be understood: Transitioning to adult life for people with Autism Spectrum Disorder. *PLOS One*, 13(3):e0194758. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0194758

Uljarević, M., Richdale, A.L., Cai, R.Y., Evans, D.W., Leekam, S.R. (2017). Interrelationship between insistence on sameness, effortful control and anxiety in adolescents and young adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). *Molecular Autism*, 8(36). DOI: 10.1186/s13229-017-0158-4

Uljarević, M., Richdale, A.L., McConachie, H., Hedley, D., Cai, R.Y., Merrick, H., Parr, J.R. & Le Couteur, A. (2018). The Hospital Anxiety and Depression scale: Factor structure and psychometric properties in older adolescents and young adults with autism spectrum disorder. *Autism Research*, 11(2), 258-269. doi: 10.1002/aur.1872

Not Program Specific

Evans, K.L., Milsteed, J., Richmond, J.E., Falkmer, M., Falkmer, T. & Girdler, S. (2018). The impact of within and between role experiences on role balance outcomes for working Sandwich Generation Women. *Scandinavian Journal of Occupational Therapy*, early online. doi: 10.1080/11038128.2018.1449888

Gorjy R.S., Fielding A. & Falkmer, M. (2017). 'It's better than it used to be?': Perspectives of adolescent siblings of children with an autism spectrum condition. *Child & Family Social Work*, 22(4), 1488-1496. doi: 10.1111/cfs.12371

Book Chapters

Program 2

Beaumont, R., Hinton, S., & Sofronoff, K. (2018). The Secret Agent Society: Upskilling Teachers in the Delivery of a Game-Based Social Skills Youth Program. In D. Mentor (Ed.), *Computer Mediated Learning for Workforce Development* (pp. 22-40). Hershey, PA: IGI Global. ISBN: 9781522541110.

Not Program Specific

Rodger, S. (2017). *Autism Spectrum Disorders*. In D. Dawson, S. McEwen & H. Polatajko. *Enabling Participation Across the Lifespan: Advancements, Adaptations and Extensions of the CO-OP Approach*. Bethesda, Maryland: AOTA Press. ISBN: 9781569003817.

Reports 2017-18

Program 1

Whitehouse AJO, Evans K, Eapen V, Prior M, Wray J. (2017) *The diagnostic process for children, adolescents and adults referred for assessment of autism spectrum disorder in Australia: A national guideline (Draft version for community consultation)*. Brisbane: Cooperative Research Centre for Living with Autism.

Program 2

Macdonald, L., Keen, D. Trembath, D., Ashburner, J., Costley, D. and Haas, K. (2018) *The use of structured teaching strategies to support students on the autism spectrum to stay on-task in mainstream classrooms*. Brisbane: Cooperative Research Centre for Living with Autism.

Saggers, B., Klug, D., Harper-Hill, K., Ashburner, J., Costley, D., Clark, T., Bruck, S., Trembath, D., Webster, A. A., & Carrington, S. (2018) *Australian autism educational needs analysis – What are the needs of schools, parents and students on the autism spectrum? Version 2*. Brisbane: Cooperative Research Centre for Living with Autism.

Westerveld, M., Paynter, J., Flückiger, B., Trembath, D., & O'Leary, K. (2018) *Predicting Optimal Literacy Outcomes for Children on the Autism Spectrum in their First Year of Schooling*. Brisbane: Cooperative Research Centre for Living with Autism.

Winter, S., Ashburner, J., Callaghan, S. & Bobir, N. (2018). *The development of an eLearning Package for teachers to help students stay on task and transition between tasks*. Brisbane: Cooperative Research Centre for Living with Autism.

Program 3

Sofronoff, K., Kavanagh, L., O'Moore, L., Attwood, T., Richdale, A., Whelan, M., Hinton, S., & Day, J. (2017) *Supporting staff and students on the autism spectrum in tertiary settings: The development of an interactive website*. Brisbane: Cooperative Research Centre for Living with Autism.

Not Program Specific

Haar, T., Rodger, S., & Brewer, J. (2017) *Evaluation of a leadership program for young autistic adults*. Brisbane: Cooperative Research Centre for Living with Autism.

Gatfield, O., Brewer, J., Lawson, W., Johnson, R., Haar, T. (2017) *Autism CRC 2017 Research Academy: Final Report*. Brisbane: Cooperative Research Centre for Living with Autism.

Russell, R., Cai, R.Y. and Hall, G. (2017) *Financial Wellbeing of Autistic Individuals*. Melbourne: RMIT University and Cooperative Research Centre for Living with Autism

Gatfield, O. & Falkmer, M. (2017) *Autism and Agriculture: Evaluation of an Autism Specific Employment Program*. Brisbane: Cooperative Research Centre for Living with Autism.

Embargoed Reports

Program 3

Trollor, J., Srasuebku, P., Florio, T., Lennox, N. & Foley, K. (2018). *What happens in primary healthcare for young people on the autism spectrum?* Brisbane: Cooperative Research Centre for Living with Autism.

Trollor, J., Srasuebku, P., Florio, T., Lennox, N. & Foley, K. (2018). *Mortality of people on the autism spectrum*. Brisbane: Cooperative Research Centre for Living with Autism.

Conference Proceedings

Program 2

Wilson, C., Brereton, M., Ploderer, B., & Sitbon, L. (2018). MyWord: enhancing engagement, interaction and self-expression with minimally-verbal children on the autism spectrum through a personal audio-visual dictionary. *Proceedings of the 19th ACM Conference on Interaction Design and Children*. doi: 10.1145/3202185.3202755

Wilson, C., Brereton, M., Ploderer, B., Sitbon, L. & Saggers, B. (2017). *Digital strategies for supporting strengths- and interests-based learning with children with autism*. *Proceedings of the 19th International ACM SIGACCESS Conference on Computers and Accessibility*, 52-61. doi: 10.1145/3132525.3132553

Wilson, C., Draper, S., Brereton, M. & Johnson, D. (2017). *Towards thriving: Extending computerised Cognitive Behavioural Therapy*. *Proceedings of the 29th Australian Conference in Human-Computer Interaction*. doi: 10.1145/3152771.3152802

Appendix 4: Resources Developed 2017–18

Not Program Specific

Gatfield, O., Brewer, J., Lawson, W., Johnson, R., & Haar, T. (2017) Autism CRC 2017 Research Academy, Visual Snapshot. Brisbane: Cooperative Research Centre for Living with Autism.

Gatfield, O. & Falkmer, M. (2017) Autism and Agriculture: Evaluation of an Autism Specific Employment Program, Visual Snapshot. Brisbane: Cooperative Research Centre for Living with Autism.

Hall, G., Johnson, R., Lawson, W., & Pellicano, L. (2018) Participatory Research: Autism Month Webinar. Brisbane: Cooperative Research Centre for Living with Autism.

Program 1

Barbaro, J., Eapen, V., Evans, K. & Whitehouse, A. (2018) Early years and Diagnosis: Autism Month Webinar. Brisbane: Cooperative Research Centre for Living with Autism.

Program 2

Clark, T., Saggars, B. & Whitehouse, A. (2018) School Years: Autism Month Webinar. Brisbane: Cooperative Research Centre for Living with Autism.

Macdonald, L., Keen, D., Trembath, D., Ashburner, J., Costley, D. and Haas, K. (2018) The use of structured teaching strategies to support students on the autism spectrum to stay on-task in mainstream classrooms, Visual Snapshot. Brisbane: Cooperative Research Centre for Living with Autism.

McCartney, D., Paynter, J., O'Leary, K., Simpson, K., Westerveld, M. & Wicks, R. (2018) Story Time Collaboration Video. Brisbane: Cooperative Research Centre for Living with Autism.

Program 3

Davis, A., Krzeminska, A., Ormiston, M. & Urbanowicz, A. (2018) Adulthood: Autism Month Webinar. Brisbane: Cooperative Research Centre for Living with Autism.

Annual Meeting, 9-12 May, de Doelen ICC, Rotterdam. International Society for Autism Research.

Chetcuti, L.C., Hudry, K., Ellis-Davies, K., Putnam, S., Prior, M.R. & Uljarević, M. (2018). Temperament in individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD): A systematic review [Poster]. International Society for Autism Research Annual Meeting, 9-12 May, de Doelen ICC, Rotterdam. International Society for Autism Research.

D'Arcy, E., Falkmer, M., Whitehouse, A.J.O., Girdler, S.J., Falkmer, T., Wray, J., Eapen, V., Prior, M.R., & Evans, K. (2018) Get it right, make it easy, see it all: Autism Spectrum Disorder diagnosis in Australia from the perspective of autistic individuals and their caregivers. International Society for Autism Research Annual Meeting, 9-12 May, de Doelen ICC, Rotterdam. International Society for Autism Research.

Dean, R.J., Fenlon, L.R., Edwards, T.J., Trembath, D., Robinson, G.A., Franklin, C., Barker, M.S. & Richards, L.J. (2017). Brain white matter structure in individuals with autism spectrum disorder [Poster]. Systems & Computational Neuroscience Down Under, 13-15 December 2018, University of Queensland, Brisbane. Queensland Brain Institute.

Dissanayake, C., & Barbaro, J. (2017). Identification and diagnosis of autism in Australia: Driving change in developmental outcomes through Social Attention and Communication Surveillance (SACS). Asia Pacific Autism Conference, 7-9 September 2017, International Convention Centre, Sydney. The Australian Advisory Board on Autism Spectrum Disorders.

Eapen, V. (2017). Subtyping autism spectrum conditions (ASC): The past, the present and the future. Asia Pacific Autism Conference, 7-9 September 2017, International Convention Centre, Sydney. The Australian Advisory Board on Autism Spectrum Disorders.

Evans, K., Wray, J., Eapen, V., Prior, M.R. & Whitehouse, A.J.O. (2018). What Australian medical, allied health and educational experts want from an autism spectrum disorder diagnostic process [Poster]. International Society for Autism Research Annual Meeting, 9-12 May, de Doelen ICC, Rotterdam. International Society for Autism Research.

Hollier, L.P., Joshi, R., Barbaro, J. & Dissanayake, C. (2018). Gender differences during toddlerhood in Autism Spectrum Disorder: A community-based longitudinal follow-up study [Poster]. International Society for Autism Research Annual Meeting, 9-12 May, de Doelen ICC, Rotterdam. International Society for Autism Research.

Mazzoni, A., Bruggemann, J., Grove, R. & Eapen, V. (2017). Examining how the brains of young children on the Autism Spectrum respond to social experiences. Asia Pacific Autism Conference, 7-9 September 2017, International Convention Centre, Sydney. The Australian Advisory Board on Autism Spectrum Disorders.

Mazzoni, A., Grove, R., Bruggemann, J., & Eapen, V. (2017). A meaningful understanding of how the brain of children on the autism spectrum responds to social and non-social experiences. Asia Pacific Autism Conference, 7-9 September 2017, International Convention Centre, Sydney. The Australian Advisory Board on Autism Spectrum Disorders.

Morse, A., Barnett, T., Quarmby, L., & Barbaro, J. (2018). Designing for success: State-wide implementation of the Social Attention and Communication Surveillance-Revised (SACS-R) [Poster]. 6th Rural and Remote Health Scientific Symposium, 11-12 April 2018, Hyatt Hotel, Canberra. National Rural Health Alliance.

Rabba, A.S., Dissanayake, C., & Barbaro, J. (2017). The development of a Family Support Package for parents following a child's diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder: What do parents want? Australasian Society for Autism Research Victoria State Conference, 10 November 2017, LaTrobe University, Melbourne. Australasian Society for Autism Research.

Rose, F. (2017). Australian Autism Biobank - Multisite challenges. Australasian Biospecimen Network Association Annual Conference, 12-13 October 2017, Sofitel Brisbane. Australasian Biospecimen Network Association.

Whitehouse, A.J.O. (2017). Australia's first national guidelines for autism diagnosis [Keynote]. Asia Pacific Autism Conference, 7-9 September 2017, International Convention Centre, Sydney. The Australian Advisory Board on Autism Spectrum Disorders.

Zheng, L., Grove, R., & Eapen, V. (2017). Preliminary analysis of repetitive behaviour scale subtypes in school aged children on the autism spectrum. Asia Pacific Autism Conference, 7-9 September 2017, International Convention Centre, Sydney. The Australian Advisory Board on Autism Spectrum Disorders.

Zheng, L. (2017). Preliminary analysis of repetitive behaviour scale subtypes in school aged children on the autism spectrum. Asia Pacific Autism Conference, 7-9 September 2017, International Convention Centre, Sydney. The Australian Advisory Board on Autism Spectrum Disorders.

Program 2

Carrington, S. (2017). Evidence-based, school-based research on inclusive education for students with autism in Australia. Inclusive Education Summit, 27-29 October 2017, University of South Australia, Adelaide. University of South Australia.

Appendix 5: Conference Presentations 2017-18

Program 1

Afsharnejad, B., Whitehouse, A.J.O., Wray, J., Eapen, V., Prior, M.R. & Evans, K. (2018). Experiences of the Autism Spectrum Disorder diagnostic process from the perspective of individuals, families and practitioners: A systematic review [Poster]. International Society for Autism Research Annual Meeting, 9-12 May, de Doelen ICC, Rotterdam. International Society for Autism Research.

Alvares, G.A., Dissanayake, C., Eapen, V., Heussler, H., Rose, F., Whitehouse, A.J.O., & the Australian Autism Biobank team (2018). The Australian Autism Biobank: A national initiative to accelerate ASD discovery research [Poster]. International Society for Autism Research 2018 Annual Meeting, 9-12 May, de Doelen ICC, Rotterdam. International Society for Autism Research.

Barbaro, J., Sadka, N., Dissanayake, C., & the SACS team (2018). Universal developmental surveillance for autism in infants, toddlers and preschoolers: The Social Attention and Communication Study-Revised (SACS-R) and SACS-Preschool. International Society for Autism Research Annual Meeting, 9-12 May, de Doelen ICC, Rotterdam. International Society for Autism Research.

Berends, D., Dissanayake, C., & Hollier, L.P. (2018). Differences between multiplex and simplex autism: Does parent experience contribute to differences in cognitive and behavioural development? [Poster]. International Society for Autism Research

Carrington, S. (2017). Make an impact: School-based research on inclusive education for students with autism in Australia. Department of Education & Training Research Showcase, November 14, Brisbane. Department of Education & Training.

den Houting, J., Roberts, J., & Keen, D. (2017). Too anxious to achieve? A quantitative investigation of anxiety and academic achievement in autistic students. Asia Pacific Autism Conference, 7-9 September 2017, International Convention Centre, Sydney. The Australian Advisory Board on Autism Spectrum Disorders.

Harper-Hill, K., Siggers, B. & Carrington, S. (2017). Knowledge translation strategy: Autism CRC Program 2 The School Years. Asia Pacific Autism Conference, 7-9 September 2017, International Convention Centre, Sydney. The Australian Advisory Board on Autism Spectrum Disorders.

Keen, D., Adams, D., den Houting, J., Simpson, K. & Roberts, J. (2017). Anxiety symptomatology in young children on the autism spectrum. International Association for the Scientific Study of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities 4th Asia-Pacific Regional Congress, 13-16 November 2017, Bangkok. International Association for the Scientific Study of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities.

Klieve, H., Taylor, S., Adams, D., & Roberts, J. (2017). Profiling school transition experiences of children on the autism spectrum. European Conference on Educational Research, 21-25 August 2017, University College UCC, Copenhagen. European Educational Research Association.

Macdonald, E., Keen, D., Ashburner, J., Costley, D. & Trembath, D. (2017). Teachers' views on the implementation of visual schedules and work systems in the mainstream classroom. Asia Pacific Autism Conference, 7-9 September 2017, International Convention Centre, Sydney. The Australian Advisory Board on Autism Spectrum Disorders.

Ozdowska, A. (2017). Overcoming the difficulties of students with ASD with written expression. Autism Queensland Research to Practice Seminar, 21 July 2017, University of Queensland, Brisbane. University of Queensland.

Paynter, J., Westerveld, M., & Trembath, D. (2017). Emergent literacy in pre-school children on the autism spectrum: A journey from research to practice. Asia Pacific Autism Conference, 7-9 September 2017, International Convention Centre, Sydney. The Australian Advisory Board on Autism Spectrum Disorders.

Roberts, J. (2017). Autism and education: The art and the science [Keynote]. Asia Pacific Autism Conference, 7-9 September 2017, International Convention Centre, Sydney. The Australian Advisory Board on Autism Spectrum Disorders.

Siggers, B., & Carrington, S. (2017). Early Years Behaviour Support: Using a teleconsultation approach in rural and remote areas- Some initial findings. Asia Pacific Autism Conference, 7-9 September 2017, International Convention Centre, Sydney. The Australian Advisory Board on Autism Spectrum Disorders.

Siggers, B. (2017). School Connectedness? Why is it important and how to enhance school connectedness. Autism Queensland Research to Practice Professional Development Seminar Series, 20 October 2017, Autism Hub Queensland. Autism Queensland.

Siggers, B. (2018). Surviving or thriving: Addressing the social emotional needs of diverse learners in school and classroom communities. Addressing the Social-Emotional Well-being of Diverse Learners, 16 March 2018, Autism Hub and Reading Centre, Woolloongabba. Department of Education and Training.

Shochet, I., Orr, J., Siggers, B., Carrington, S., Wurfl, A., & Duncan, B. (2017). The experience of participating in the Autism CRC School Connectedness Project: Feedback from young adolescents living with autism and their parents. Asia Pacific Autism Conference, 7-9 September 2017, International Convention Centre, Sydney. The Australian Advisory Board on Autism Spectrum Disorders.

Shochet, I. (2018). School connectedness: Why is it important for mental health and how can we promote it? Addressing the Social-Emotional Well-being of Diverse Learners, 16 March 2018, Autism Hub and Reading Centre, Woolloongabba. Department of Education and Training.

Simpson, K., Adams, D., Alston-Knox, C., Roberts, J., & Keen, D. (2017). Exploring the sensory profiles of children with autism. Asia Pacific Autism Conference, 7-9 September 2017, International Convention Centre, Sydney. The Australian Advisory Board on Autism Spectrum Disorders.

Taylor, S., Roberts, J., & Klieve, H. (2017). Parent perspectives of their relationships with staff at the school attended by their child with autism. Asia Pacific Autism Conference, 7-9 September 2017, International Convention Centre, Sydney. The Australian Advisory Board on Autism Spectrum Disorders.

Westerveld, M., Paynter, J., Trembath, D. & O'Leary, K. (Awaiting acceptance). Longitudinal predictors of word reading skills in verbal children on the autism spectrum who are in their first year of schooling. Australasian Society for Autism Research Conference, 6-7 December 2018, Griffith University, Gold Coast. Australasian Society for Autism Research.

Wilson, C., Brereton, M., Ploderer, B., Sitbon, L. & Siggers, B. (2017). Digital strategies for supporting strengths- and interests-based learning with children

with autism. ACM SIGACCESS Conference on Computers and Accessibility, 30 October-November 1 2017, Sheraton Inner Harbor Hotel, Baltimore. Association for Computing Machinery.

Wilson, C., Brereton, M., Ploderer, B., & Sitbon, L. (2018). MyWord: enhancing engagement, interaction and self-expression with minimally-verbal children on the autism spectrum through a personal audio-visual dictionary. Interaction Design and Children Conference, 19-22 June 2018, Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Trondheim. Association for Computing Machinery.

Wilson, C., Draper, S., Brereton, M. & Johnson, D. (2017). Towards thriving: Extending computerised Cognitive Behavioural Therapy. Australian Conference in Human-Computer Interaction, 28 November-1 December 2017, Stamford Plaza Hotel, Brisbane. Human Factors and Ergonomic Society of Australia.

Wilson, C. (2017). Co-designing technologies with children on the spectrum to enhance interaction and self-expression. Asia Pacific Autism Conference, 7-9 September 2017, International Convention Centre, Sydney. The Australian Advisory Board on Autism Spectrum Disorders.

Program 3

Arnold, S.R.C., Foley, K-R., Hwang, Y.I., Trollor, J. & Autism CRC Program 3 (2018). The Australian Longitudinal Study of Adults with Autism (ALSAA): Inclusive research protocol development and baseline sample characteristics [Poster]. International Society for Autism Research Annual Meeting, 9-12 May, de Doelen ICC, Rotterdam. International Society for Autism Research.

Ashburner, J. (2017). The development and evaluation on a goal setting tool with visual cues for young people on the autism spectrum. Asia Pacific Autism Conference, 7-9 September 2017, International Convention Centre, Sydney. The Australian Advisory Board on Autism Spectrum Disorders.

Black, M.H., Almabruk, T., Albrecht, M.A., Lipp, O.V., Bölte, S., Tan, T., & Girdler, S. (2018). Atypical connectivity in adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder during complex facial emotion recognition: An EEG imaginary coherence study [Poster]. International Society for Autism Research Annual Meeting, 9-12 May, de Doelen ICC, Rotterdam. International Society for Autism Research.

Black, M.H., Chen, N.T.M., Lipp, O.V., Bölte, S., Falkmer, M., & Girdler, S. (2018). Examining complex facial emotion processing in typical development and autistic traits: An investigation of dimensional models of emotion [Poster]. International Society for Autism Research Annual Meeting, 9-12 May, de Doelen ICC, Rotterdam. International Society for Autism Research.

Black, M.H., Iyer, K., Albrecht, M.A., Lipp, O.V., Bölte, S., Tan, T., & Girdler, S. (2018). Complex emotion processing in adults with autism: Evidence of atypical brain response modulation [Poster]. International Society for Autism Research Annual Meeting, 9-12 May, de Doelen ICC, Rotterdam. International Society for Autism Research.

Bölte, S., Mahdi, S., Esposito, C.M., Falkmer, M., Black, M.H., Lerner, M.D., Girdler, S. & Halladay, A. (2018). Seeking and maintaining employment among adults with ASD: Clinician, family and employer views in Australia, Sweden and the USA. International Society for Autism Research Annual Meeting, 9-12 May, de Doelen ICC, Rotterdam. International Society for Autism Research.

Cai, R.Y., Richdale, A.L., & Uljarević, M. (2018). Patterns of cognitive reappraisal and expressive suppression use and relationship with psychological wellbeing in youth on the autism spectrum: A cluster analysis approach. International Society for Autism Research 2018 Annual Meeting, 9-12 May, de Doelen ICC, Rotterdam. International Society for Autism Research.

Catto, K., Falkmer, M., Girdler, S.J., & Jones, M. (2018). Social coding: The viewpoints of adolescents with ASD, their parents and mentors on participation in social coding clubs. International Society for Autism Research Annual Meeting, 9-12 May, de Doelen ICC, Rotterdam. International Society for Autism Research.

de Broize, M., Evans, K., Whitehouse, A.J.O., Wray, J., Eapen, V., Prior, M.R., & Urbanowicz, A. (2018). Exploring the experience of seeking an autism diagnosis as an adult: Findings from online submissions and interviews [Poster]. International Society for Autism Research Annual Meeting, 9-12 May, de Doelen ICC, Rotterdam. International Society for Autism Research.

Dreaver, J., Girdler, S., Thompson, C., Bölte, S., Black, M., & Falkmer, M. (2018). Factors underpinning the successful employment of autistic adults [Poster]. International Society for Autism Research 2018 Annual Meeting, 9-12 May, de Doelen ICC, Rotterdam. International Society for Autism Research.

Ee, D., Arnold, S.R.C., Hwang, Y.I., Reppermund, S., Foley, K-R., Srasuebkul, P., & Trollor, J. (2018). Testing a theoretical model of loneliness in adults on the autism spectrum [Poster]. International Society for Autism Research Annual Meeting, 9-12 May, de Doelen ICC, Rotterdam. International Society for Autism Research.

Falkmer, M., Kuzmiski, R., Netto, J., Wilson, J. & Falkmer, T. (2018). Linking knowledge and attitudes: Determining neurotypical knowledge about and attitudes towards autism [Poster]. International Society for Autism Research Annual Meeting,

9-12 May, de Doelen ICC, Rotterdam. International Society for Autism Research.

Girdler, S., Falkmer, M., Scott, M.T., Lerner, M.D., Esposito, C.M., Gerber, A.H., Milbourn, B., Black, M.H., Mahdi, S., Halladay, A. & Bölte, S. (2018). A cross-cultural perspective of the views of stakeholders on the employment of individuals with ASD. International Society for Autism Research Annual Meeting, 9-12 May, de Doelen ICC, Rotterdam. International Society for Autism Research.

Haas, K. (2017). Where am I now? The challenges of independent use of public transport for young adults on the autism spectrum. Asia Pacific Autism Conference, 7-9 September 2017, International Convention Centre, Sydney. The Australian Advisory Board on Autism Spectrum Disorders.

Hatfield, M., Falkmer, M., Falkmer, T., & Ciccarelli, M. (2018). Evaluation of the BOOST-A transition planning program for adolescents with autism: Quasi-randomised controlled trial and process evaluation. International Society for Autism Research Annual Meeting, 9-12 May, de Doelen ICC, Rotterdam. International Society for Autism Research.

Hedley, D., Spoor, J., Uljarević, M., Cai, R.Y., Moss, S., Richdale, A.L., Bartram, T., & Dissanayake, C. (2018). An optimistic outlook concerning employment: High tech meets Autism Spectrum Disorder [Poster]. International Society for Autism Research Annual Meeting, 9-12 May, de Doelen ICC, Rotterdam. International Society for Autism Research.

Hedley, D., Uljarević, M., Foley, K-R., Richdale, A.L., & Trollor, J. (2018). Mechanisms underlying thoughts of self-harm and depression in Autism Spectrum Disorder. International Society for Autism Research Annual Meeting, 9-12 May, de Doelen ICC, Rotterdam. International Society for Autism Research.

Hollier, L.P., & Richdale, A.L. (2017). School and job satisfaction among young people on the autism spectrum. Australasian Society for Autism Research Victoria State Conference, 10 November 2017, LaTrobe University, Melbourne. Australasian Society for Autism Research.

Hollier, L.P., & Richdale, A.L. (2018). Factors associated with post-secondary school independence among young Australian adults on the autism spectrum [Poster]. International Society for Autism Research Annual Meeting, 9-12 May, de Doelen ICC, Rotterdam. International Society for Autism Research.

Hwang, Y.I., Foley, K-R., & Trollor, J. (2017). What does it mean for autistic adults to "age well"? A mixed methods investigation. Asia Pacific Autism Conference, 7-9 September 2017, International Convention Centre, Sydney. The Australian Advisory Board on Autism Spectrum Disorders.

Lerner, M.D., Esposito, C.M., Gerber, A.H., Milbourn, B., Black, M.H., Bölte, S., Mahdi, S., Halladay, A., & Girdler, S. (2018). An international survey on barriers & access to employment: perspectives of adults with ASD. International Society for Autism Research Annual Meeting, 9-12 May, de Doelen ICC, Rotterdam. International Society for Autism Research.

Mangan, C. & Johnson, R. (2017). Technology, autism and human-centered solutions: Design thinking on the spectrum. Asia Pacific Autism Conference, 7-9 September 2017, International Convention Centre, Sydney. The Australian Advisory Board on Autism Spectrum Disorders.

Richards, K., Mangan, C., Hobbs, J., Gatfield, O., Falkmer, M., Zaborny, Z. & Rodger, S. (2017). Autism and Agriculture: Setting the scene for employment success. Asia Pacific Autism Conference, 7-9 September 2017, International Convention Centre, Sydney. The Australian Advisory Board on Autism Spectrum Disorders.

Richdale, A.L., & Uljarević, M. (2017). Arousal and the prediction of insomnia symptoms in young people on the autism spectrum. Australasian Society for Autism Research Victoria State Conference, 10 November 2017, LaTrobe University, Melbourne. Australasian Society for Autism Research.

Richdale, A.L., & Uljarević, M. (2017). Exploring the role of arousal in predicting sleep problems in youth and young adults with ASD. World Sleep, 7-11 October 2017, Prague Conference Centre, Prague. World Sleep Society.

Richdale, A.L., Lawson, L.P., & Uljarević, M. (2018). Predicting poor sleep quality in young adults on the autism spectrum [Poster]. International Society for Autism Research Annual Meeting, 9-12 May, de Doelen ICC, Rotterdam. International Society for Autism Research.

Scott, M., Falkmer, M., Falkmer, T., & Girdler, S. (2018). Evaluating the effectiveness of an autism specific workplace tool. International Society for Autism Research Annual Meeting, 9-12 May, de Doelen ICC, Rotterdam. International Society for Autism Research.

Scott, M., Milbourn, B., Falkmer, M., Halladay, A., Lerner, M., Taylor, J.L., & Girdler, S. (2018). Factors impacting employment for people with Autism Spectrum Disorder: A scoping review. International Society for Autism Research Annual Meeting, 9-12 May, de Doelen ICC, Rotterdam. International Society for Autism Research.

Tang, J., Chen, N., Falkmer, M., Bölte, S., & Girdler, S. (2018). 'Gaming seriously!': A systematic review and meta-analysis of the influence of Serious Game elements on the effectiveness of social-emotional computer based interventions for individuals

on the autism spectrum [Poster]. International Society for Autism Research Annual Meeting, 9-12 May, de Doelen ICC, Rotterdam. International Society for Autism Research.

Tomkins, V. & Ashburner, J. (2018). Putting people on the spectrum in the driver's seat of their own lives: The clinical utility of a goal-setting tool that enables genuine self-determination [Poster]. International Society for Autism Research Annual Meeting, 9-12 May, de Doelen ICC, Rotterdam. International Society for Autism Research.

Not Program Specific

Eapen, V. (2017). Moving beyond routine outcome measures in the management of autism: Focus on Quality of Life. Asia Pacific Autism Conference, 7-9 September 2017, International Convention Centre, Sydney. The Australian Advisory Board on Autism Spectrum Disorders.

Lawson, W., Gatfield, O., & Brewer, J. (2017). An inclusive approach to autism research [Workshop]. Asia Pacific Autism Conference, 7-9 September 2017, International Convention Centre, Sydney. The Australian Advisory Board on Autism Spectrum Disorders.

Nadachowski, W., Smith, C., & Koia, M. (2017). Technology is inclusion: What we create must be accessible [Interactive Demonstration]. Asia Pacific Autism Conference, 7-9 September 2017, International Convention Centre, Sydney. The Australian Advisory Board on Autism Spectrum Disorders.

Vu, H., Rodger, S., Hoang, H., Trinh, H., Le, G., & Tran, M. (2017). A pilot model of using technology and multi-stakeholder partnership to enhance parent mediated intervention for children with autism spectrum disorder in Vietnam. Asia Pacific Autism Conference, 7-9 September 2017, International Convention Centre, Sydney. The Australian Advisory Board on Autism Spectrum Disorders

Appendix 6: Intellectual Property

| Description | Project reference | Nature of Intellectual Property | Background Intellectual Property | Centre Intellectual Property |
|--|-------------------|---------------------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| Project Intellectual Property | | | | |
| AXAS™ Autism related risk prediction software. | Project 1.003RC | Copyright Trademark | University of Queensland | X |
| Australian Autism Biobank Database, Questionnaires, Data Dictionary and Data. | Project 1.002RC | Copyright Confidential information | | X |
| Graduate Certificate in Autism Diagnosis Online course content: Intro to Autism, Diagnosis of Autism, Practicum, Adult and toddler modules. | Project 1.004RC | Copyright | | X |
| Developmental Surveillance for Autism Social. Attention and Communication Study-Revised, developed by La Trobe University (SACS-R); Assessment videos and the training materials for SACS-R. | Project 1.005RC | Copyright | La Trobe University | X |
| Transcriptome Analyses of Human Brain Tissue Knowhow and confidential information. | Project 1.019RC | Copyright | | X |
| BrainsTorm Model for stem cell transduction from blood. | Project 1.020RI | Confidential Information | | X |
| Diagnostic Practices and Reliability in Australia Questionnaire and Survey data. | Project 1.021RS | Copyright Trademark | | X |
| Pathways Beyond Diagnosis Family support package (online and paper form) website, facilitator manual, evaluation data. | Project 1.022RS | | | X |
| Therapy for Infants Showing Early Signs of Autism iBASIS-VIPP, ASD Subtype project research data. | Project 1.023RS | Copyright | iBASIS-VIPP owned by University of Manchester | X |
| School Years Program (Program 2) Conceptual model for in-kind contributions. | Project 2.006RC | Copyright | | X |
| The Longitudinal Study of Australian Students with Autism Trajectory study parent, teacher, principal questionnaires and data. | Project 2.007RS | Copyright | | X |
| Secret Agent Society Whole of Class Social skills training program and materials, evaluation data. | Project 2.008RS | Copyright | | X |
| Education Needs Analysis Surveys for teachers, parents, students, survey data and V2 report. | Project 2.009RC | Copyright | | X |
| Overcoming Difficulties in Written expression Videos, game format, website, source code, manuals and teachers' materials web, pdf and evaluation data. | Project 2.010RS | Copyright | | X |
| Helping Students Stay on Task and Move Between Tasks Teacher training packages and resources for structured teaching. The On-task Toolkit and evaluation data. | Project 2.011RS | Copyright | | X |
| Emergent Literacy Fact sheets, FAQs, tips for teachers for CRC website; parent resources | Project 2.024RI | Copyright | | X |
| Lego Robotics Club Evaluation Robotics resource kits, manual for teachers, website content and source code, YouTube clips and evaluation data. | Project 2.026RI | Copyright | | X |
| Early Years Behaviour Support Project Teleconsultation protocols, tools and evaluation data. | Project 2.027RS | Copyright | | X |
| Impact of Improved Classroom Acoustics Evaluation data. | Project 2.028RS | Copyright | | |

| Description | Project reference | Nature of Intellectual Property | Background Intellectual Property | Centre Intellectual Property |
|--|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| School Connectedness Resourceful Adolescent Program for parents, teachers and adolescent prototype program resources and evaluation data | Project 2.029RS | Copyright | RAP program owned Queensland University of Technology | X |
| Shared Book Reading Intervention Parent-led intervention, a parent book reading observation checklist and evaluation data | Project 2.034 | Copyright Confidential Information | | X |
| How Was Your Day? Parent surveys, teacher surveys, child surveys pertaining to home school communications and survey data | Project 2.036RI | Copyright | | X |
| Primary School Transition Models of Practice website, source code, manuals and teachers' materials web, pdf and evaluation data. | Project 2.037RS | Copyright | | X |
| Australian Longitudinal Study of Adults with Autism Longitudinal survey questionnaire and data. | Project 3.013RC | Copyright Confidential Information | | X |
| Better Outcomes and Successful Transitions- Autism (BOOST-A) formerly STEP-A formerly STEP-AName, design, materials, source code, format of tool (paper and online), video content and evaluation data. Instructional training program. | Project 3.014RC and 3.031RI | Copyright Trademark | | X |
| The Integrated Employment Success Tool (IESTTM) Trademark name, content, format, design, tool and evaluation data. | Project 3.014RC | Copyright Trademark | | X |
| Health Hub Name, website, content, materials and design. | Project 3.015RC | Copyright | | X |
| Health and Wellbeing of Adults with Autism Autism CHAP evaluation data. | Project 3.015RC | Copyright | | X |
| Health and Wellbeing of Adults with Autism Spectrum cooking resource. | Project 3.015RC | Copyright | CHAP tool owned by University of Queensland | X |
| Longitudinal Study of Australian School Leavers Questionnaires for adults and parents and data. | Project 3.016 | Copyright Confidential Information | | X |
| Peer Mentoring and Enhancing Social Relationships Peer mentoring program modules, manuals, facilitator, mentee materials and evaluation data. | Project 3.032RS | Copyright | | X |
| Peer Mentoring and Enhancing Social Relationships Brain Computer Interface Game, content, source code, design. | Project 3.032RS | Copyright | | X |
| Using Big Data to Answer Important Questions on Health and Wellbeing Research analyses and report. | Project 3.038RI | Copyright | | X |
| Supporting staff and students on the spectrum in STEM programs Website for staff Decision tree protocol, visual walk through lecture/tutorial | Project 3.039 STEM | Copyright | | X |
| Inclusive Research Practice Guides and Checklists Versions 1 and 2. | | Copyright | | X |
| Research Academy Curriculum Modules and e-learning resources. | | Copyright | | |
| Research Academy Visual Research Dictionary | | Copyright | | |
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Appendix 7: Glossary of Terms

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|---|-----------------------|--|
| ACT on your life | Acceptance and Commitment Therapy anxiety program | LASA | Longitudinal Study of Australian Students with Autism |
| ACU | Australian Catholic University | LTU | La Trobe University |
| ALSAA | Australian Longitudinal Study of Adults with Autism | MoP | Models of Practice |
| AEIOU | AEIOU Foundation | MYBSP | Middle Years Behaviour Support Project |
| ASAN AUNZ | Autistic Self Advocacy Network of Australia and New Zealand | NDIA | National Disability Insurance Agency |
| ASD | Autism Spectrum Disorder | Neurodiversity | Concept that neurological differences – such as Autism, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) and Tourette Syndrome – are to be recognised, accepted and respected as any other human variation. |
| APAC | Asia Pacific Autism Conference | NHMRC | National Health and Medical Research Council |
| ASELCC | Autism Specific Early Learning and Care Centre | NSW | New South Wales |
| ASfAR | Australasian Society for Autism Research Conference | OAM | Order of Australia Medal |
| ASPECT | Autism Spectrum Australia | OT | Occupational Therapy |
| ATSI | Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander | PhD | Doctor of Philosophy |
| AUTISM SA | Autism South Australia | Probands | In the context of human genetics, a patient or family member that brings a family under study |
| BIP | Background Intellectual Property | Qld DET | Queensland Department of Education and Training |
| BOOST-A | Better Outcomes and Successful Transitions – Autism (formerly STEP-A) | Q-Sort | Q-methodology – the systematic study of people's viewpoints |
| CALD | Culturally and Linguistically Diverse | QUT | Queensland University of Technology |
| CEO | Chief Executive Officer | RAP-A | Resourceful Adolescent Program for Autism |
| CFO | Chief Financial Officer | RHD | Research Higher Degree |
| CU | Curtin University | RCT | Randomised Control Trial |
| Autism CHAP | Comprehensive Health Assessment Program for autistic adults and adolescents | SACS-R | Social, Attention and Communication Surveillance – Revised |
| CIP | Centre Intellectual Property | SANE Australia | National charity helping Australians affected by mental illness |
| CoEP | Classrooms of Excellence Program | SAS | Secret Agent Society |
| CRC | Cooperative Research Centre | SAS-WOC | Secret Agent Society Whole-of-Class program |
| CRM | Customer Relationship Management | SME | Small and Medium-sized Enterprise |
| EVAP | Education and Vocational Assessment Protocol | SST | Social Skills Training Pty Ltd – a wholly owned subsidiary of Autism CRC |
| EYBSP | Early Years Behaviour Support Project | STEM Programs | Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths programs |
| FTE | Full-time Equivalent, or hours worked on a full-time basis | STEP-A | Successful Transition to Employment Protocol - Autism |
| GCAD | Graduate Certificate in Autism Diagnosis | TCC | Tele-Classroom Consultation |
| GP | General Practitioner | UNSW | University of New South Wales |
| GU | Griffith University | UQ | University of Queensland |
| HFA | High Functioning Autism | UTAS | University of Tasmania |
| Human-Centred Approach | Also referred to as Human-Centred Design Thinking – an approach to problem solving that involves human perspectives at all phases of the problem-solving process. | UWA | University of Western Australia |
| IASSIDD | International Association for the Scientific Study of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities | WRI | Wesley Research Institute |
| ICAN | The I Can Network | | |
| IDPA | Integrated Diagnostic Protocol | | |
| IEST | Integrated Employment Success Tool | | |
| IMfAR | International Meeting for Autism Research | | |
| INSAR | International Society for Autism Research | | |
| IP | Intellectual Property | | |

Our values



Inclusion

Working together with those with the lived experience of autism in all we do



Innovation

New solutions for long term challenges



Independence

Guided by evidence based research, integrity and peer review



Cooperation

Bringing benefits to our partners; capturing opportunities they cannot capture alone



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