



CIVIL CONTRACTORS
FEDERATION



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ANNUAL REPORT

2022-2023





**CIVIL CONTRACTORS
FEDERATION**

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CIVIL CONTRACTORS FEDERATION

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Michael Boyle
President
Civil Contractors
Federation National

President's Report

It is with great pleasure that I provide my first annual report summarizing the main CCF National activities and achievements for 2022-2023. It has been a busy year of change and transition and a year where CCF as a federation has continued to work cooperatively and effectively across all the state and territory branches for the benefit of all our members.

The infrastructure pipeline at a state, territory and at a federal level continued to experience some uncertainty this year. The cause of this uncertainty commenced with the federal government's review into its transport infrastructure investment pipeline and continued as several state and territory governments carried out their own investment pipeline reviews. The underlying cause of the reviews and project pipeline delays were budget concerns developing from significant cost blow outs on several of the multi-billion-dollar major infrastructure projects being delivered across the country.

CCF National made direct representation to the federal government in writing and in person. National CEO Chris Melham and I met with Minister King in June, advising of industry's concerns, and requesting the immediate release of infrastructure funds to projects across the country. We asked for funds to be focused on a range of project sizes up to \$500 million and across regional and metropolitan areas where CCF members have capacity. We reinforced that smaller to medium project sizes delivered by CCF member companies provide the government with a better value proposition. This argument is eventually getting some traction.

CCF continued to advocate to the government for a sustained level of infrastructure investment over the next 10 years to ensure we can grow and develop our industry capacity. We reinforced that a strong and sustainable local industry is critical because it will be our industry and our members, over the next 40 years, that will deliver the infrastructure for the energy and fuel transition that the country requires.

As the year developed the importance of the Civil Contractors Federation role as a Registered Organization able to advocate for, and represent, its membership on industrial relations issues and matters came more and more into focus. Industrial relations will be a major focus of CCF National over the next few years.

Civil Contractors Federation National once again completed its Annual Infrastructure Market Capacity Survey that helps inform our advocacy effort to government. CCF members from each jurisdiction across metropolitan, rural and regional Australia participated in the survey that focused on obtaining data across three key areas:

President's Report (continued)



CCFA Ltd Board and CEOs at the annual CCF Policy and Advocacy Workshop

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We have been successful on a number of levels as a result of our efforts, these have included:

- the market capacity of the civil construction industry.
- the civil construction industry's ability to undertake additional projects now, and into the future.
- Any resource constraints affecting civil construction companies.

The key findings would not surprise our membership who participated at significant levels in the survey:

- A quarter of respondents indicated their volume of work has increased more than 50% over the past 12 months.
- A large proportion of mid-tier companies said they could take on additional work, with around a third saying they could take on between 10% and 25%.
- Companies confirmed they had additional capacity to take on this additional work in both metropolitan and rural/regional areas.
- Almost half the respondents advised their costs to have increased by between 10% and 25%.

President's Report *(continued)*

The 6 pillars of the CCF National policy platform continue to be:

1. Infrastructure Investment
2. Efficient, Equitable and Competitive Procurement
3. Enhancing Skills Development and Training
4. Environmental Sustainability
5. Enhancing Industrial Relations
6. Building a Stronger, More Sustainable Industry

The data provided by members in the Annual Infrastructure Market Capacity Survey provides invaluable evidence to support the 6 policy pillars and form the basis of the following policy submissions which were supported by the considerable effort and input of all our state and territory branches.

1. Federal Government's Fair Work Amendment (Secure Jobs, Better Pay) Bill 2022 - without doubt our biggest victory this year was successfully lobbying to remove the civil construction industry from the multi-employer bargaining provisions of the Federal Government's Fair Work Amendment (Secure Jobs, Better Pay) Bill 2022 which was passed by the Federal Parliament on 2 December 2022.
2. Federal Government's Closing the Loopholes Bill - CCFA lodged a submission into the federal governments proposed Closing the Loopholes Industrial Relations Bill.
3. ANZSCO Review of Civil Construction Occupations - CCFA provided the Australian Bureau of Statistics with a comprehensive submission as part of their review of construction occupations on the ANZSCO. The review is ongoing.
4. Vocational Education and Training - CCFA collaborated with a number of national industry bodies to establish the new 'Building Skills Australia' Industry Cluster to guide and implement the previous Government's Vocational Education and Training (VET) reforms of the Australian Government and we are a Foundation Member.
5. Federal Government Inquiry into the \$120 Billion Infrastructure Investment Pipeline - CCFA lodged a submission into the federal governments 90 day inquiry into the \$120 Billion Infrastructure Investment Pipeline.
6. Federal Government Employment White Paper Inquiry - CCFA lodged a submission into the federal governments Employment White Paper.
7. Infrastructure Australia - CCF has provided a number of submissions to Infrastructure Australia critical of their stakeholder engagement processes, and the strong emphasis they have placed on reflecting the views of tier 1 organisations in their reports. As a

President's Report *(continued)*

result the annual CCFA Market Capacity and Constraints Report is fed into Infrastructure Australia to ensure a more holistic assessment of industry conditions.

8. Federal Budget – CCFA lodged a submission to Federal Treasury calling for the retention of the \$120 billion, 10-year infrastructure program which was subsequently confirmed by the Treasurer in the 2022/2023 Budget. Our submission also encouraged sustained growth of infrastructure investment and highlighting additional capacity in the civil construction industry based on the CCFA Market Capacity Survey results.
9. Australia Skills Guarantee Discussion Paper and Australian Apprenticeships Services and Support Discussion Paper - CCFA submissions were provided to Government on both reviews with our main to keep on pushing the need to update and reclassify occupations on the Australian New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations (ANZSCO).

During the year CCF National also engaged with a range of government and non-government bodies, directly and in participating in committees and forums, to advocate for policies that support the civil construction sector such as Federal Treasury, Infrastructure Australia, Future Made in Australia Office, Australian Bureau of Statistics, Australian Taxation Office, Office of Federal Safety Commissioner, The Department of Infrastructure, Department of Employment and Jobs and Skills Australia.

As part of the year of change and transition at CCF National we accepted the resignation of National CEO Chris Melham. Chris has been in the CCF National CEO role of for 7 years and during that time he established the CCF National Canberra based office which was a major focus of the CCF National Board when it commenced restructuring at around the time Chris was engaged. Chris has guided the organization through that restructure and positioned CCF as a credible voice for the civil construction industry federally. We wish him very well and thank him for all that he has done for our industry.

The CCF National Board is currently in the final stages of recruiting for a new Canberra placed National CEO who will be charged with building on all the great work being carried out by the teams in the state and territory branches, to coordinate and amplify those efforts around the country on national issues, so as to increase our federal advocacy impact.

The appointment of a new CEO will give CCF National a wonderful opportunity to increase our advocacy efforts at this critical time in our industry, a time when the CCF membership has so many years of nationally critical infrastructure to deliver for Australia.

President's Report *(continued)*

I am delighted at CCF that as well as advocating and looking forward we provide opportunities for the industry to come together to reflect on and celebrate our considerable collective achievements. To that end, the Civil Contractors Federation National Earth Awards will be held on Friday 10 November 2023. I congratulate all finalists and wish them luck in their respective categories and look forward to seeing industry come together on our night of nights in Canberra.

I wish to acknowledge the eight CCFA Ltd Member States and Territories, including their dedicated Boards, staff, and CEOs for their tireless efforts during 2023. I would especially like to again acknowledge the support of the member states as CCF National navigate the recruitment of a new CEO. I would also like to thank my fellow Board members:

CCFVIC – Antony Damiani, Vice President

CCFACT - Nick Zardo, Treasurer

CCFNSW – Gladys Woods

CCFQLD – David Moody

CCFSA – Charles Hatcher

CCFWA – Michael Unger

CCFTAS - Bill Abbott

CCFNT - Ian Hinchliffe

The years ahead are an important time for the country and an exciting time for our industry, which has a critical role to play in making Australia more efficient as well as being able to meet our international carbon reduction obligations. CCF National is working hard to improve the industry not only for our members but also for the benefit of the whole country. That would not be possible without the collective efforts of my fellow CCF Board members, a dedicated and hardworking group, who I offer my heartfelt thanks and appreciation. Most importantly I wish to thank our 2,000 members because your continued support of our industry association provides much more weight to our collective advocacy.



Mick Boyle
President
Civil Contractors Federation National



Treasurer's Report

Financial Result and Principal Activities

Nick Zardo

Treasurer
Civil Contractor
Federation National

The CCFR0, generated a loss of \$119,628.

CCFR0 has a working capital, cash surplus of a little over \$224,000 and can pay its debts when they fall due.

The membership of CCF remains steady with 1,181 Contractor Members and 669 Associate Members.

The financial position allowed the Directors to take Board meetings to members, visiting Darwin in the reporting period, last year and Hobart where we were able to connect with the Board and members of the branches.

A restating of the accounts was required, rectifying a legacy issue from the restructure, transferring funds to CCF Australia Limited, which had inadvertently ended up in the CCF Registered Organisation bank account.

There were no matters or circumstances that arose during the reporting year which significantly affected the financial affairs of the CCF.

I would like to thank my fellow Board Directors, the National Office, and most importantly each and every CCF member for their support as the National CCF Office continues to represent the Civil Industry and its members in the Federal arena.

Nick Zardo

Treasurer
Civil Contractor Federation National

CCF Australia Limited generated a modest profit of \$19,272 Tight but again commensurate with a low-cost self-supporting National Office.

CCFAL has a working capital, cash surplus of a little over \$470,000 and can pay its debts when they fall due.

CCF members financial contributions were invested principally in the following activities by CCF National over the past 12 months:

- Advocacy at a Federal level
- Connection with boards and members in their home branches
- High level media engagement
- Communication and information sharing with media, members, politician and bureaucrats
- and the community
- Member service provision through the State and Territory Member industry associations;

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Nick Zardo

Treasurer

Civil Contractor Federation National

