

## ASIAN BUSINESS LAW INSTITUTE

(Registration No: 201500327G)  
(Registered under the Charities Act 1994)

### Statement by Directors and Financial Statements

Year Ended 31 March 2023

#### RSM Chio Lim LLP

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**Business Advisors to Growing Businesses**





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**Statement by Directors and Financial Statements**

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## ASIAN BUSINESS LAW INSTITUTE

### Statement by Directors

The directors of the company are pleased to present the financial statements of the company for the reporting year ended 31 March 2023.

#### 1. Opinion of the directors

In the opinion of the directors,

- (a) the accompanying financial statements are drawn up so as to give a true and fair view of the financial position and of performance of the company for the reporting year covered by the financial statements; and
- (b) at the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the company will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

The board of directors approved and authorised these financial statements for issue.

#### 2. Directors

The directors of the company in office at the date of this statement are:

Serene Wee Kheng Lian  
Paul Neo Tien Song  
Yeong Zee Kin

(Appointed 6 February 2023)

#### 3. Arrangements to enable directors to acquire benefits by means of the acquisition of shares and debentures

The company is a public company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. There were no shares or debentures issued.

#### 4. Options

The company is a public company limited by guarantee. As such, there are no share options or unissued shares under options.

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**5. Independent auditor**

RSM Chio Lim LLP has expressed willingness to accept re-appointment.

On behalf of the directors



.....  
Yeong Zee Kin  
Director



.....  
Paul Neo Tien Song  
Director

3 August 2023

**RSM Chio Lim LLP**

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**Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of  
ASIAN BUSINESS LAW INSTITUTE**

**Report on the audit of the financial statements**

**Opinion**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Asian Business Law Institute (the "company"), which comprise the statement of financial position as at 31 March 2023, and the statement of financial activities, statement of changes in fund and statement of cash flows for the reporting year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including the significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements are properly drawn up in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act 1967 (the "Act"), the Charities Act 1994 and other relevant regulations (the "Charities Act and Regulations"), and the Financial Reporting Standards ("FRS") so as to give a true and fair view of the financial position of the company as at 31 March 2023 and of the financial activities, changes in fund and cash flows of the company for the year ended on that date.

**Basis for opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with Singapore Standards on Auditing ("SSAs"). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the company in accordance with the Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority ("ACRA") Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics for Public Accountants and Accounting Entities ("ACRA Code") together with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Singapore, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements and the ACRA Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

**Other information**

Management is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the statement by directors but does not include the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon.

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

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed, 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.

**Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of  
ASIAN BUSINESS LAW INSTITUTE**

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**Responsibilities of management and directors for the financial statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with the provisions of the Act and the financial reporting standards, and for devising and maintaining a system of internal accounting controls sufficient to provide a reasonable assurance that assets are safeguarded against loss from unauthorised use or disposition; and transactions are properly authorised and that they are recorded as necessary to permit the preparation of true and fair financial statements and to maintain accountability of assets.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the company or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

The directors' responsibilities include overseeing the company's financial reporting process.

**Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are 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 SSAs 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 these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with SSAs, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- a) Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- b) Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the company's internal control.
- c) Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.



**Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of  
ASIAN BUSINESS LAW INSTITUTE**

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**Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements (cont'd)**

- d) Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- e) Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the directors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

**Report on other legal and regulatory requirements**

In our opinion, the accounting and other records required by the Act to be kept by the company have been properly kept in accordance with the provisions of the Act and the Charities Act and Regulations.

The engagement partner on the audit resulting in this independent auditor's report is Lock Chee Wee.



RSM Chio Lim LLP  
Public Accountants and  
Chartered Accountants  
Singapore

3 August 2023

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Statement of Financial Activities  
Year Ended 31 March 2023

	<u>Notes</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
		\$	\$
<b>Income</b>	4	22,534	48,387
Operating grants utilised	13	459,755	426,345
Deferred capital grant amortised	14	1,172	1,237
Other income	5	87,402	22,404
Secondment fees expense		(99,927)	(40,523)
Employee benefits expense	7	(295,154)	(297,446)
Professional and consultancy fees		(51,206)	(6,420)
Other expenses	6	(75,197)	(83,193)
<b>Net surplus before tax</b>		<u>49,379</u>	<u>70,791</u>
Income tax expense	8	—	—
<b>Net surplus transferred to accumulated fund</b>		<u>49,379</u>	<u>70,791</u>

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

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Statement of Financial Position  
As at 31 March 2023

	<u>Notes</u>	<u>2023</u> \$	<u>2022</u> \$
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b><u>Non-current assets</u></b>			
Plant and equipment	9	3,599	2,107
<b>Total non-current assets</b>		<u>3,599</u>	<u>2,107</u>
<b><u>Current assets</u></b>			
Trade and other receivables	10	18,216	2,976
Other non-financial assets	11	1,025	1,223
Cash and cash equivalents	12	3,117,645	3,356,741
<b>Total current assets</b>		<u>3,136,886</u>	<u>3,360,940</u>
<b>Total assets</b>		<u>3,140,485</u>	<u>3,363,047</u>
 <b>FUND AND LIABILITIES</b>			
<b><u>Fund</u></b>			
Accumulated fund		1,130,713	1,081,334
<b>Total fund</b>		<u>1,130,713</u>	<u>1,081,334</u>
<b><u>Non-current liabilities</u></b>			
Deferred capital grant	14	3,599	2,107
<b>Total non-current liabilities</b>		<u>3,599</u>	<u>2,107</u>
<b><u>Current liabilities</u></b>			
Other payables	15	164,689	102,614
Grants received in advance	13	1,841,484	2,176,747
Contract liabilities	16	–	245
<b>Total current liabilities</b>		<u>2,006,173</u>	<u>2,279,606</u>
<b>Total liabilities</b>		<u>2,009,772</u>	<u>2,281,713</u>
<b>Total fund and liabilities</b>		<u>3,140,485</u>	<u>3,363,047</u>

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

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**Statement of Changes in Fund  
Year Ended 31 March 2023**

	Accumulated <u>fund</u> \$
<b>Current year:</b>	
Opening balance at 1 April 2022	1,081,334
<b>Changes in fund:</b>	
Net surplus for the year	49,379
<b>Closing balance at 31 March 2023</b>	<u>1,130,713</u>
<b>Previous year:</b>	
Opening balance at 1 April 2021	1,010,543
<b>Changes in fund:</b>	
Net surplus for the year	70,791
<b>Closing balance at 31 March 2022</b>	<u>1,081,334</u>

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

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**Statement of Cash Flows**  
**Year Ended 31 March 2023**

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	\$	\$
<b><u>Cash flows from operating activities</u></b>		
Net surplus before tax	49,379	70,791
Adjustments for:		
Interest income	(5,346)	(1,013)
Depreciation of plant and equipment	1,172	1,237
Amortisation of deferred capital grant	(1,172)	(1,237)
Operating grant utilised	<u>(459,755)</u>	<u>(426,345)</u>
Operating cash flows before changes in working capital	(415,722)	(356,567)
Trade and other receivables	2,797	(202)
Other non-financial assets	198	800
Contract liabilities	(245)	(13,471)
Other payables	<u>106,770</u>	<u>(14,313)</u>
Net cash flows from operations	(306,202)	(383,753)
Grant received	<u>127,156</u>	<u>760,512</u>
Net cash flows (used in) / from operating activities	<u>(179,046)</u>	<u>376,759</u>
<b><u>Cash flows from investing activities</u></b>		
Additions to plant and equipment	(2,664)	(1,835)
Proceeds from disposals of plant and equipment	-	1,032
Interest received	<u>1,013</u>	<u>1,012</u>
Net cash flows (used in) / from investing activities	<u>(1,651)</u>	<u>209</u>
<b><u>Cash flows from financing activities</u></b>		
Net movement in amounts due to a member	<u>(58,399)</u>	<u>(42,925)</u>
Net cash flows used in financing activities	(58,399)	(42,925)
<b>Net (decrease) / increase in cash and cash equivalents</b>	(239,096)	334,043
Cash and cash equivalents, statement of cash flows, beginning balance	<u>3,356,741</u>	<u>3,022,698</u>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents, statement of cash flows, ending balance (Note 12)</b>	<u>3,117,645</u>	<u>3,356,741</u>

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

## ASIAN BUSINESS LAW INSTITUTE

### Notes to the Financial Statements 31 March 2023

#### 1. General

The company is incorporated in Singapore as a public company limited by guarantee, with The Singapore Academy of Law ("SAL") as the sole subscriber to the constitution of the company. In accordance with the constitution of the company, SAL has undertaken to contribute a sum not exceeding \$100 to the assets of the company in the event of it being wound up. As at 31 March 2023 and 31 March 2022, SAL was the sole member of the company (the "Member"). The financial statements are presented in Singapore dollars.

The company is registered as a charity under the Charities Act 1994.

The board of directors approved and authorised these financial statements for issue on the date of the statement by directors. The directors have the power to amend and reissue the financial statements.

The principal activities of the company are to conduct legal research, training and development of Asian business laws.

The address of its registered office is 1 Coleman Street, #08-06, The Adelphi, Singapore 179803. The company's principal place of business is in Singapore.

Uncertainties relating to the current economic conditions  
Management has considered the current economic conditions caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, commodities inflation, as well as the war in Ukraine at the end of the reporting year and reviewed the probable impact and plausible downside scenarios. No material uncertainties were identified in connection with the reporting entity's ability to continue in operational existence for the near future.

#### **Statement of compliance with financial reporting standards**

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards ("FRS") and the related interpretations to FRS ("INT FRS") as issued by the Singapore Accounting Standards Council. They comply with the provisions of the Companies Act 1967. The company is also subjected to the provisions of Charities Act 1994.

#### **Accounting convention**

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention except where a financial reporting standard requires an alternative treatment (such as fair values) as disclosed where appropriate in these financial statements. The accounting policies in the financial reporting standards may not be applied when the effect of applying them is not material. The disclosures required by financial reporting standards may not be provided if the information resulting from that disclosure is not material.

#### **Basis of preparation of the financial statements**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires the management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting year. Actual results could differ from those estimates. The estimates and assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Changes in estimates are reflected in profit or loss in the reporting year they occur.

**1. General (cont'd)**

**Basis of preparation of the financial statements (cont'd)**

Apart from those involving estimations, management has made judgements in the process of applying the accounting policies. The areas requiring management's most difficult, subjective or complex judgements, or areas where assumptions and estimates are material to the financial statements, are disclosed at the end of this footnote, where applicable.

**2. Significant accounting policies and other explanatory information**

**2A. Significant accounting policies**

**Revenue and income recognition**

The financial reporting standard on revenue from contracts with customers establishes a five-step model to account for revenue arising from contracts with customers. Revenue is recognised at an amount that reflects the consideration to which the entity expects to be entitled in exchange for transferring goods or services to a customer (which excludes estimates of variable consideration that are subject to constraints, such as right of return exists, and modifications), net of any related taxes and excluding any amounts collected on behalf of third parties. An asset (goods or services) is transferred when or as the customer obtains control of that asset. As a practical expedient the effects of any significant financing component is not adjusted if the payment for the good or service will be within one year.

Publication income – Revenue is recognised at a point in time when the performance obligation is satisfied by transferring a promised goods to the customer. Control of the goods is transferred to the customer, generally on delivery of the goods.

Webinars – Revenue is recognised over time when the entity satisfies the performance obligation over the duration of the service generally when the significant acts have been completed and when transfer of control occurs.

Interest income – Interest income is recognised using the effective interest method.

Other income – Other income including donations, gifts and grants that provide core funding or are of general nature are recognised at an amount that reflects the consideration to which the company expects to be entitled. Such income is only deferred when: the donor specifies that the grant or donation must only be used in future accounting periods; or the donor has imposed conditions which must be met before the fund has unconditional entitlement. Revenue from donations are accounted for when received, except for committed donations that are recorded when commitments are signed.

**Employee benefits**

Contributions to a defined contribution retirement benefit plan are recorded as an expense as they fall due. The entity's legal or constructive obligation is limited to the amount that it is obligated to contribute to an independently administered fund (such as the Central Provident Fund in Singapore, a government managed defined contribution retirement benefit plan). For employee leave entitlement the expected cost of short-term employee benefits in the form of compensated absences is recognised in the case of accumulating compensated absences, when the employees render service that increases their entitlement to future compensated absences; and in the case of non-accumulating compensated absences, when the absences occur. A liability for bonuses is recognised where the entity is contractually obliged or where there is constructive obligation based on past practice.

**2. Significant accounting policies and other explanatory information (cont'd)**

**2A. Significant accounting policies (cont'd)**

**Income tax**

As a charity, the company is exempt from income tax on income and gains within section 13(1)(zm) of the Income Tax Act 1947 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

**Foreign currency transactions**

The functional currency is the Singapore dollar as it reflects the primary economic environment in which the entity operates. Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded in the functional currency at the rates ruling at the dates of the transactions. At each end of the reporting year, recorded monetary balances and balances measured at fair value that are denominated in non-functional currencies are reported at the rates ruling at the end of the reporting year and fair value measurement dates respectively. All realised and unrealised exchange adjustment gains and losses are dealt with in statement of financial activities except when a gain or loss on a non-monetary item is recognised in other comprehensive income, any exchange component of that gain or loss is recognised in other comprehensive income. The presentation is in the functional currency.

**Plant and equipment**

Plant and equipment are carried at cost on initial recognition and after initial recognition at cost less any accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. Depreciation is provided on a straight-line method to allocate the gross carrying amounts of the assets less their residual values over their estimated useful lives of each part of an item of these assets (or, for certain leased assets, the shorter lease term). The annual rate of depreciation is as follows:

Computer equipment	33.33%
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An asset is depreciated when it is available for use until it is derecognised even if during that period the item is idle. Fully depreciated assets still in use are retained in the financial statements.

The gain or loss arising from the derecognition of an item of plant and equipment is recognised in profit or loss. The residual value and the useful life of an asset is reviewed at least at each end of the reporting year and, if expectations differ significantly from previous estimates, the changes are accounted for as a change in an accounting estimate, and the depreciation charge for the current and future periods are adjusted.

Cost also includes acquisition cost, borrowing cost capitalised and any cost directly attributable to bringing the asset or component to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by management. Subsequent costs are recognised as an asset only when it is probable that future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to the entity and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. All other repairs and maintenance are charged to profit or loss when they are incurred.



**2. Significant accounting policies and other explanatory information (cont'd)**

**2A. Significant accounting policies (cont'd)**

**Leases of lessee**

A lease conveys the right to use an asset (the underlying asset) for a period of time in exchange for consideration. A right-of-use asset is capitalised in the statement of financial position, measured at the present value of the unavoidable future lease payments to be made over the lease term. A liability corresponding to the capitalised right-of-use asset is also recognised, adjusted for lease prepayments, lease incentives received, initial direct costs incurred and an estimate of any future restoration, removal or dismantling costs. The right-of-use asset is depreciated over the earlier of the end of the useful life of the right-of-use asset or the end of the lease term. An interest expense is recognised on the lease liability (included in finance costs). For short-term leases of 12 months or less and leases of low-value assets (such as personal computers and small office equipment) where an accounting policy choice exists under the lease standard, the lease payments are expensed to profit or loss as incurred on a straight line basis over the remaining lease term.

**Carrying amounts of non-financial assets**

Irrespective of whether there is any indication of impairment, an annual impairment test is performed at about the same time every year on an intangible asset with an indefinite useful life or an intangible asset not yet available for use. The carrying amount of other non-financial assets is reviewed at each end of the reporting year for indications of impairment and where an asset is impaired, it is written down through profit or loss to its estimated recoverable amount. The impairment loss is the excess of the carrying amount over the recoverable amount and is expensed. The recoverable amount of an asset or a cash-generating unit is the higher of its fair value less costs of disposal and its value in use. When the fair value less costs of disposal method is used, any available recent market transactions are taken into consideration. When the value in use method is adopted, in assessing the value in use, the estimated future cash flows are discounted to their present value using a pre-tax discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset. For the purposes of assessing impairment, assets are grouped at the lowest levels for which there are separately identifiable cash flows (cash-generating units). At each end of the reporting year non-financial assets other than goodwill with impairment loss recognised in prior periods are assessed for possible reversal of the impairment. An impairment loss is reversed only to the extent that the asset's carrying amount does not exceed the carrying amount that would have been measured, net of depreciation or amortisation, if no impairment loss had been recognised.

**Financial instruments**

Recognition and derecognition of financial instruments:

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised when, and only when, the entity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. All other financial instruments (including regular-way purchases and sales of financial assets) are recognised and derecognised, as applicable, using trade date accounting or settlement date accounting. A financial asset is derecognised when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial asset expire or it transfers the rights to receive the contractual cash flows in a transaction in which substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership of the financial asset are transferred or in which the entity neither transfers nor retains substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership and it does not retain control of the financial asset. A financial liability is removed from the statement of financial position when, and only when, it is extinguished, that is, when the obligation specified in the contract is discharged or cancelled or expires.

**2. Significant accounting policies and other explanatory information (cont'd)**

**2A. Significant accounting policies (cont'd)**

**Financial instruments (cont'd)**

At initial recognition the financial asset or financial liability is measured at its fair value plus or minus, in the case of a financial asset or financial liability not at fair value through statement of financial activities, transaction costs that are directly attributable to the acquisition or issue of the financial asset or financial liability.

Classification and measurement of financial assets:

Financial assets are classified into (1) Financial asset classified as measured at amortised cost; (2) Financial asset that is an equity investment measured at fair value through other comprehensive income ("FVTOCI"); (3) Financial asset that is a debt asset instrument classified as measured at FVTOCI; and (4) Financial asset classified as measured at fair value through statement of financial activities ("FVTSFA"). At the end of the reporting year, the reporting entity had the following financial assets:

- Financial asset classified as measured at amortised cost: A financial asset is measured at amortised cost if it meets both of the following conditions and is not designated as at FVTSFA, that is (a) the asset is held within a business model whose objective is to hold assets to collect contractual cash flows; and (b) the contractual terms of the financial asset give rise on specified dates to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest on the principal amount outstanding. Typically trade and other receivables, bank and cash balances are classified in this category.

Classification and measurement of financial liabilities:

Financial liabilities are classified as at FVTSFA in either of the following circumstances: (1) the liabilities are managed, evaluated and reported internally on a fair value basis; or (2) the designation eliminates or significantly reduces an accounting mismatch that would otherwise arise. All other financial liabilities are carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method. Reclassification of any financial liability is not permitted.

**Cash and cash equivalents**

For the statement of cash flows, cash and cash equivalents includes cash and cash equivalents less cash subject to restriction and bank overdrafts payable on demand that form an integral part of cash management. Cash equivalents are short-term, highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value.

**Fair value measurement**

The fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. When measuring the fair value of an asset or a liability, market observable data to the extent possible is used. If the fair value of an asset or a liability is not directly observable, an estimate is made using valuation techniques that maximise the use of relevant observable inputs and minimise the use of unobservable inputs (eg by use of the market comparable approach that reflects recent transaction prices for similar items, discounted cash flow analysis, or option pricing models refined to reflect the issuer's specific circumstances). Inputs used are consistent with the characteristics of the asset / liability that market participants would take into account. The entity's intention to hold an asset or to settle or otherwise fulfil a liability is not taken into account as relevant when measuring fair value.

**2. Significant accounting policies and other explanatory information (cont'd)**

**2A. Significant accounting policies (cont'd)**

**Fair value measurement (cont'd)**

Fair values are categorised into different levels in a fair value hierarchy based on the degree to which the inputs to the measurement are observable and the significance of the inputs to the fair value measurement in its entirety: Level 1 fair value measurements are those derived from quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities. Level 2 fair value measurements are those derived from inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly (ie as prices) or indirectly (ie derived from prices). Level 3 fair value measurements are those derived from valuation techniques that include inputs for the asset or liability that are not based on observable market data (unobservable inputs). Transfers between levels of the fair value hierarchy are recognised at the end of the reporting period during which the change occurred.

The carrying values of current financial instruments approximate their fair values due to the short-term maturity of these instruments and the disclosures of fair value are not made when the carrying amount of current financial instruments is a reasonable approximation of the fair value. The fair values of non-current financial instruments may not be disclosed separately unless there are material differences at the end of the reporting year and in the event the fair values are disclosed in the relevant notes to the financial statements. The recurring measurements are made at each reporting year end date.

**2B. Other explanatory information**

**Provisions**

A liability or provision is recognised when there is a present obligation (legal or constructive) as a result of a past event, it is probable that an outflow of resources embodying economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation. A provision is made using best estimates of the amount required in settlement and where the effect of the time value of money is material, the amount recognised is the present value of the expenditures expected to be required to settle the obligation using a pre-tax rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the obligation. The increase in the provision due to passage of time is recognised as interest expense.

**2C. Critical judgements, assumptions and estimation uncertainties**

There were no critical judgements made in the process of applying the accounting policies that have the most significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements. There were no key assumptions concerning the future, and other key sources of estimation uncertainty at the end of the reporting year, that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next reporting year.

**3. Related party relationships and transactions**

The financial reporting standard on related party disclosures requires the reporting entity to disclose: (a) related party relationships, transactions and outstanding balances, including commitments, including (b) relationships between parents and subsidiaries irrespective of whether there have been transactions between those related parties. A party is related to a party if the party controls, or is controlled by, or can significantly influence or is significantly influenced by the other party.

## ASIAN BUSINESS LAW INSTITUTE

### 3. Related party relationships and transactions (cont'd)

#### 3A. Member of a group:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Relationship</u>	<u>Country of incorporation</u>
The Singapore Academy of Law	Parent and Ultimate parent	Singapore

The Singapore Academy of Law (the "Academy") has control over the company through powers granted to the president of the Academy to appoint directors of the company. Related companies in these financial statements include the members of the above group of companies.

#### 3B. Related party transactions:

There are transactions and arrangements between the reporting entity and related parties and the effects of these on the basis determined between the parties are reflected in these financial statements. The related party balances and transfer of resources, services or obligations if any are unsecured, without fixed repayment terms and interest or charge unless stated otherwise.

In addition to transactions and balances disclosed elsewhere in the notes to the financial statements, this item includes the following:

Significant related party transactions:

	<u>2023</u>	<u>Member</u>	<u>2022</u>
	\$		\$
Publication, webinar and other income received/receivable	75,595		26,863
Secondment fees and other fees paid/payable	(28,816)		(49,543)
Rental expense paid/payable	(30,759)		(30,688)
Operating expenses paid on behalf of company	<u>(354,900)</u>		<u>(360,438)</u>

#### 3C. Key management compensation:

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	\$	\$
Salaries and other short-term employee benefits	<u>150,239</u>	<u>193,473</u>

The above amounts are included under employee benefits expense.

Key management personnel include the directors and those persons having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the entity, directly or indirectly. The above amounts do not include compensation if any of certain key management personnel and directors of the company who received compensation from related corporations in their capacity as directors and or executives of those related corporations.

#### 3D. Other receivables from and other payables to related party:

The trade transactions and the related receivables and payables balances arising from sales and purchases of goods and services are disclosed elsewhere in the notes to the financial statements.

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**3. Related party relationships and transactions (cont'd)**

**3D. Other receivables from and other payables to related party (cont'd):**

The movements in other receivables from and other payables to related parties are as follows:

	<u>2023</u>	<u>Member</u>	<u>2022</u>
	\$		\$
<u>Other payables:</u>			
At beginning of the year	(73,324)		(116,249)
Amounts paid out and settlement of liabilities on behalf of related parties	58,399		42,925
At end of the year – Net	<u>(14,925)</u>		<u>(73,324)</u>
Presented in statement of financial position as follows:			
Other receivables (Note 10)	13,704		–
Other payables (Note 15)	<u>(28,629)</u>		<u>(73,324)</u>
At end of the year – Net	<u>(14,925)</u>		<u>(73,324)</u>

**4. Income**

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	\$	\$
Income from webinars	15,584	27,213
Publication income	6,950	21,174
	<u>22,534</u>	<u>48,387</u>

Publication income is recognised based on point in time and income from webinars is recognised over time. The customers are commercial consumers and individuals. All the contracts are short term contracts less than 12 months.

**5. Other income**

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	\$	\$
Secondment income	60,558	–
Donation income	11,326	11,254
Interest income from bank deposits	5,346	1,013
Others	10,172	10,137
	<u>87,402</u>	<u>22,404</u>

**6. Other expenses**

The material components and other selected components include the following:

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	\$	\$
Staff benefits and training	27,139	30,352
Rental expenses	<u>30,759</u>	<u>30,688</u>

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**7. Employee benefits expense**

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	\$	\$
Wages and salaries	278,521	283,057
Contributions to defined contribution plan	16,633	14,389
Total employee benefits expense	<u>295,154</u>	<u>297,446</u>

**8. Income tax**

With effect from 27 October 2016, the company is registered as a charity with the Commissioner of Charities under the Charities Act 1994 and is exempted from income tax under the provisions of the Income Tax Act 1947.

**9. Plant and equipment**

	<u>Computer equipment</u>
	\$
<u>Cost:</u>	
At 1 April 2021	17,447
Additions	1,835
Disposals	<u>(1,846)</u>
At 31 March 2022	17,436
Additions	2,664
At 31 March 2023	<u>20,100</u>
<u>Accumulated depreciation:</u>	
At 1 April 2021	14,906
Depreciation for the year	1,237
Disposals	<u>(814)</u>
At 31 March 2022	15,329
Depreciation for the year	1,172
At 31 March 2023	<u>16,501</u>
<u>Net book value:</u>	
At 1 April 2021	<u>2,541</u>
At 31 March 2022	<u>2,107</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>3,599</u>

**10. Trade and other receivables**

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	\$	\$
<u>Trade receivables:</u>		
Outside parties	<u>-</u>	<u>2,797</u>
<u>Other receivables:</u>		
Member	13,704	-
Interest receivables	4,512	179
Other receivables – subtotal	<u>18,216</u>	<u>179</u>
Total trade and other receivables	<u>18,216</u>	<u>2,976</u>

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<b>11. Other non-financial assets</b>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	\$	\$
Prepayments	<u>1,025</u>	<u>1,223</u>

<b>12. Cash and cash equivalents</b>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	\$	\$
Cash at bank and on hand	2,103,094	2,343,204
Fixed deposits with financial institution	<u>1,014,551</u>	<u>1,013,537</u>
	<u>3,117,645</u>	<u>3,356,741</u>

The fixed deposits placed with a financial institution have an average maturity of 4 months (2022: 4 months) from the financial year end and have a weighted-average effective interest rate of 2.50% (2022: 0.10%) per annum at the end of the financial year.

<b>13. Grants received in advance</b>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	\$	\$
At beginning of the year	2,176,747	1,843,383
Grants received during the year	127,156	760,512
Transfer to deferred capital grant (Note 14)	(2,664)	(803)
Recognised during the year	<u>(459,755)</u>	<u>(426,345)</u>
At end of the year	<u>1,841,484</u>	<u>2,176,747</u>

<b>14. Deferred capital grant</b>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	\$	\$
At beginning of the year	2,107	2,541
Transfer from grants received in advance (Note 13)	2,664	803
Recognised during the year	<u>(1,172)</u>	<u>(1,237)</u>
At end of the year	<u>3,599</u>	<u>2,107</u>

Deferred capital grants are transferred to the statement of financial activities over the periods necessary to match the depreciation of the assets previously purchased with the grants.

<b>15. Other payables</b>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	\$	\$
Member	28,629	73,324
Accrued operating expenses	<u>136,060</u>	<u>29,290</u>
	<u>164,689</u>	<u>102,614</u>

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### 16. Contract liabilities

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	\$	\$
The amount of contract liabilities on uncompleted contracts is made up of:		
Advance billings for publication income	–	245
	<u>–</u>	<u>245</u>

The movement in contract liabilities are as follows:

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	\$	\$
At beginning of the year	245	13,716
Performance obligation satisfied – revenue recognised in the reporting year that was included in the contract liability balance at the beginning of the year	(245)	(13,716)
Consideration received	–	245
At end of the year	<u>–</u>	<u>245</u>

The contract liabilities primarily relate to the advance consideration received from customers for which no transfer of control occurs, and therefore no revenue is recognised. The entity recognises revenue for each respective performance obligation when control of the product or service transfers to the customer.

### 17. Financial instruments: information on financial risks

#### 17A. Categories of financial assets and liabilities

The following table categorises the carrying amount of financial assets and liabilities recorded at the end of the reporting year:

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	\$	\$
<u>Financial assets:</u>		
Financial assets at amortised cost	<u>3,135,861</u>	<u>3,359,717</u>
<u>Financial liabilities:</u>		
Financial liabilities at amortised cost	<u>164,689</u>	<u>102,614</u>

Further quantitative disclosures are included throughout these financial statements.

#### 17B. Financial risk management

The main purpose for holding or issuing financial instruments is to raise and manage the finances for the entity's operating, investing and financing activities. There are exposures to the financial risks on the financial instruments such as credit risk, liquidity risk and market risk comprising interest rate, currency risk and price risk exposures. Management has certain practices for the management of financial risks. The following guidelines are followed: All financial risk management activities are carried out and monitored by senior management staff. All financial risk management activities are carried out following acceptable market practices.

There have been no changes to the exposures to risk; the objectives, policies and processes for managing the risk and the methods used to measure the risk.



**17. Financial instruments: information on financial risks (cont'd)**

**17C. Fair values of financial instruments**

The analyses of financial instruments that are measured subsequent to initial recognition at fair value, grouped into Levels 1 to 3 are disclosed in the relevant notes to the financial statements. These include the material financial instruments stated at amortised cost and at fair value in the statement of financial position. The carrying values of current financial instruments approximate their fair values due to the short-term maturity of these instruments. The disclosures of fair value are not made when the carrying amount of current financial instruments is a reasonable approximation of the fair value.

**17D. Credit risk on financial assets**

Financial assets are principally from cash balances with banks, cash equivalents, receivables and other financial assets at amortised cost. They are potentially subject to credit risk due to failures by counterparties to discharge their obligations in full or in a timely manner. The maximum exposure to credit risk is the total of the fair value of the financial assets at the end of the reporting year. Credit risk on cash balances and any other financial instruments with banks and other financial institutions is limited because the counter-parties are entities with acceptable credit ratings. For expected credit losses ("ECL") on financial assets, the general approach (three-stage approach) in the financial reporting standard on financial instruments is applied to measure the ECL allowance. Under this general approach the financial assets move through the three stages as their credit quality change. On initial recognition, a day-1 loss is recorded equal to the 12 month ECL unless the assets are considered credit impaired. However, for trade receivables that do not contain a significant financing component or when the reporting entity applies the practical expedient of not adjusting the effect of a significant financing component, the reporting entity applies the simplified approach in calculating ECL as is permitted by the financial reporting standard on financial instruments. Under the simplified approach, the reporting entity does not track changes in credit risk, but instead recognises the loss allowance at an amount equal to lifetime ECL at initial recognition and throughout its life at each reporting date. For the credit risk on the financial assets an ongoing credit evaluation is performed on the financial condition of the debtors and any loss is recognised in profit or loss. Reviews and assessments of credit exposures in excess of designated limits are made. Renewals and reviews of credits limits are subject to the same review process.

Note 12 discloses the cash and cash equivalents balances. Cash and cash equivalents are also subject to the impairment requirements of the standard on financial instruments. There was no identified impairment loss.

**17E. Liquidity risk – financial liabilities maturity analysis**

The liquidity risk refers to the difficulty in meeting obligations associated with financial liabilities that are settled by delivering cash or another financial asset. It is expected that all the liabilities will be settled at their contractual maturity within twelve months after at the end of the reporting year. The classification of the financial assets is shown in the statement of financial position as they may be available to meet liquidity needs and no further analysis is deemed necessary.

**17E. Interest rate risk**

Interest rate risk arises on interest-bearing financial instruments. The interest from financial assets is not material

**18. Changes and adoption of financial reporting standards**

For the current reporting year the Singapore Accounting Standards Council issued new or revised financial reporting standards. These applicable new or revised standards did not require any material modification of the measurement methods or the presentation in the financial statements.

<u>FRS No.</u>	<u>Title</u>
Various	Annual Improvements to FRS (I)s 2018-2020 – Amendments. to FRS 101 First-time Adoption of FRS; FRS 109 Financial Instruments; FRS 116 Leases; and FRS 41 Agriculture

**19. New or amended standards in issue but not yet effective**

For the future reporting years the Singapore Accounting Standards Council issued certain new or revised financial reporting standards. The transfer to the applicable new or revised standards from the effective dates is not expected to result in any material modification of the measurement methods or the presentation in the financial statements for the following reporting year from the known or reasonably estimable information relevant to assessing the possible impact that application of the new or revised standards may have on the entity's financial statements in the period of initial application.

<u>FRS No.</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Effective date for periods beginning on or after</u>
FRS 1	Presentation of Financial Statements - amendment relating to Classification of Liabilities as Current or Non-current	1 January 2024