



LESBIAN INFORMATION LIBRARY AND ARCHIVE CENTRE

187 Willis Street, Wellington
PO Box 427, Wellington 6140

November 2018

Financial Report 1 July 2017 – 30 June 2018

There are four main sources of income for LILAC: membership subscriptions, donations, grants and fundraising. While the income has remained stable as compared to the two previous financial years, the proportion of income from each of these sources altered during the 2017-2018 year.

The membership income has reduced by \$520 compared to the previous year and totalled \$1715. An equivalent decrease can be seen in the number of members.

Donations have increased marginally thanks to an additional \$50 per month from an anonymous donor who now regularly deposits \$250 per month to LILAC.

LILAC extends its gratitude to the Armstrong and Arthur Trust for its on-going generous support by way of a grant of \$3000 received in April 2018.

At this time last year the Collective identified fundraising as a priority for the year ahead. Diversifying our fundraising activities has resulted in a substantial increase in net fundraising income, with the almost \$1900 raised coming close to quadrupling the \$505 from the previous financial year. This has helped to offset some of the 50% reduction in grants income. While the Collective attempted to gain grants income from sources other than the A&A Trust, this was not successful.

The largest expenditure is, of course, the rent of our premises. A rent increased from December 2017 sees LILAC paying \$1022.17 per month for rent and electricity combined. The increase of \$1442 annually is not excessive when the overall commercial rental market in Wellington is considered, and was the result of exemplary efforts in negotiation by a member of the Collective.

The amount spent on acquisitions has remained low in an effort to manage the deficit. This year it dropped below the amount of expenditure on administration. It should be noted that the reduction in spending on the collection may be a contributing factor to the reduction in membership numbers as the lack of new material does nothing to attract and maintain interest. This has been somewhat ameliorated by many donated titles, including some recent publications, being added to the Collection in the last year.

The focus on fundraising by the Collective has meant there has not been the necessary resources available to put sufficient effort into increasing, or indeed even maintaining, the level of membership.

LILAC started the financial year with net funds of \$14,757.59 and at the conclusion of June 2018 this had reduced to \$11,774.90. This represents an excess of expenditure over income to the amount of approx. \$3000.

The subscriptions are currently

Annual Income (gross)	Subscription
Up to \$27 000	\$20.00
Up to \$40 000	\$40.00
Over \$40 000	\$60.00

Recommendation: That the annual subscriptions at all levels remain the same.

ADDENDUM TO FINANCIAL REPORT

It is important that the Collective lays out the situation we are facing as an organisation.

Over the last two or three years fewer and fewer women have joined LILAC. Of those who do retain membership they visit the facility less often, borrow fewer books, almost no DVDs and magazines.

If we look at the bare statistics:

LILAC is open some 8 hours per week, 47 weeks of the year, thus a total of 376 hours per year.

Based on the statistics in the annual report we average 0.9 persons visit per hour and 0.8 books are borrowed per hour.

There are times that, when on duty, no one calls in but the duty person takes out three or four books. This situation exists for a number of duty persons. The statistics include a significant contribution from members of the Collective.

The rent of our facility is \$12, 266.04 per annum. This includes the cost of electricity. This means the facility costs us \$32.62 per hour for fewer than 1 person borrowing less than one book.

In terms of income:

membership subscriptions	\$1715
A&A Trust	\$3000
Fundraising	\$1900
Donations	\$3055
Total	\$9660

As you can see, we do not have enough income to even pay our rent let alone increase stock, etc.

Over a number of years we squirrelled away some cash in our "Rainy Day" fund. We managed to maintain this fund at some \$10,000 for several years

It has been "raining" for several months as our income has steadily reduced.

We now have enough in reserve to cover our rent for approx. another six months unless we have a significant increase in the number of financial members, preferably women who actually use the facilities.

The Collective has worked hard to maintain LILAC but we only have seven members, some of whom have had significant health issues which has reduced the time and energy they have been able to contribute to LILAC.

We have had two very successful visits to plays of significance at Circa. We had several other ideas for fund raising but not the time or personnel to actually get them off the ground.

Over the years we have had visitors from a number of countries including, USA, Great Britain, Canada and several from Australia, including two earlier this year.

The reaction from them all is the same, "what a wonderful resource", "great facility", "wish we had something like this."

2019 will see the world conference of IGLA here in Wellington. We can expect a number of overseas visitors, what a shame if they come to see it is about to close.

We could use the facility for additional activities if we had the women to organise them and others to attend. In the past we have had book launches, guest speakers - essentially lesbians from many occupations- a quiz night. We welcome suggestions for activities but we also need the women to help organise them.

There are groups who could use the facility who meet the purposes of the Society, namely:

- a. provide members in the greater Wellington region with a wide range of lesbian-related library and information services;
- b. build and maintain archives of lesbian-related material.
- c. provide an informal meeting space for members;

- d. maintain LILAC as a lesbian-led and lesbian-identified organisation that is inclusive of any woman meeting the membership criteria;
- e do anything necessary or helpful to the above purposes.

These are the facts of our situation which we need to discuss thoroughly at our AGM on 21 November 2018.

We look forward to seeing as many as possible of our current financial members attending the AGM and giving full consideration to the facts laid out in this part of the Financial Report.