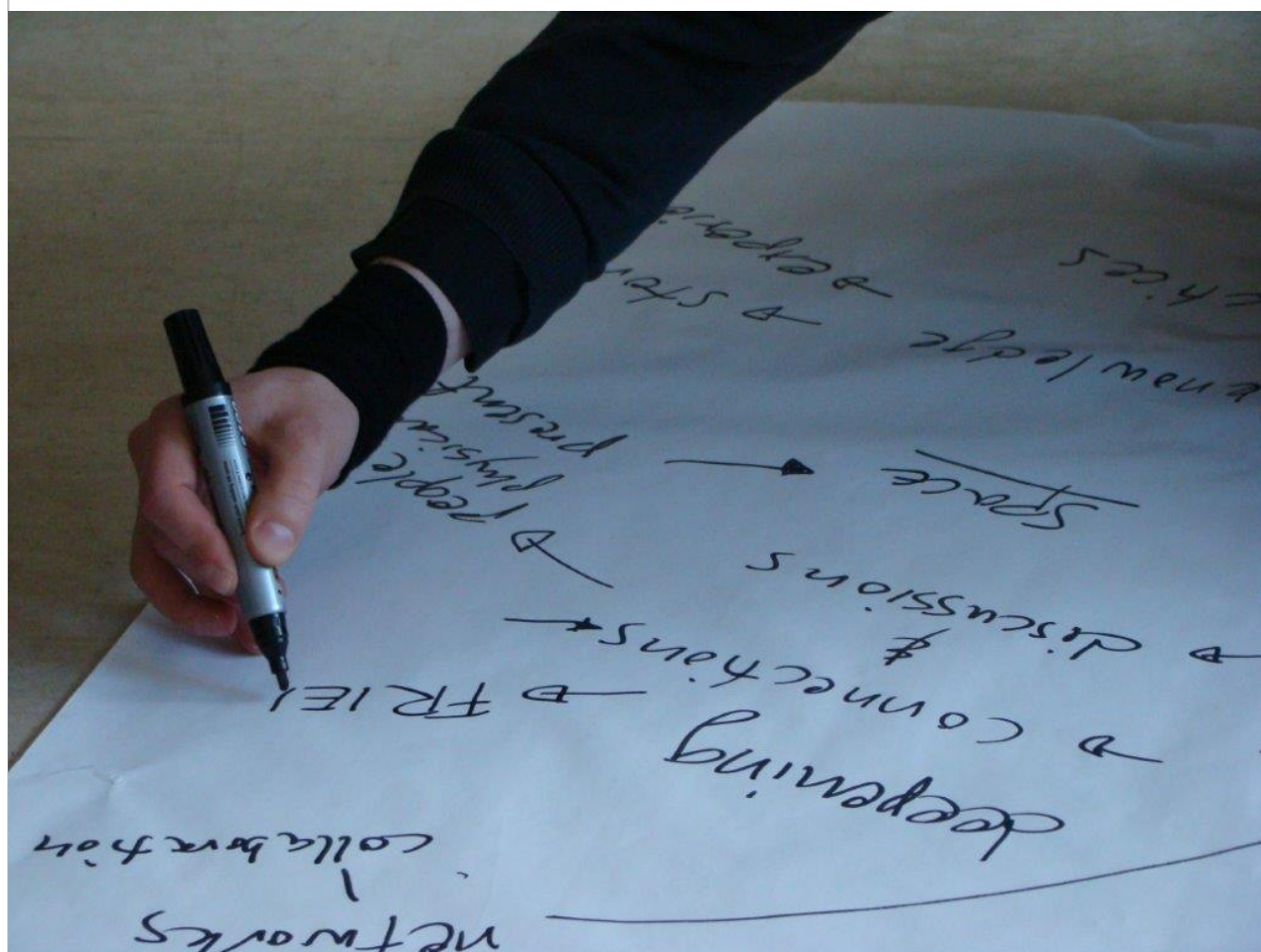




Community Economies Institute

2019/2020

ANNUAL REPORT



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Above: Redrawing the Economy Workshop, Tampere, Finland. Photo by Pieta Hyvärinen.

Cover Image: Redrawing the Economy Workshop, Tampere, Finland. Photo by Pieta Hyvärinen.

## 1.0 Background

**Welcome** to the first annual report of the Community Economies Institute Limited (CEI).

The CEI is a not-for-profit, member-based organization involving scholars, artists, activists and practitioners from different regions of the world. We have 47 members, hailing from North America, South America, Europe, the UK, Asia and the Antipodes (Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand). Each one of these members is engaged in the creative and critical work of thinking and doing community economies, from a range of contexts and fields. Our members conduct research, education and action around ethical economic practices that acknowledge and act on the interdependence of all life forms, human and nonhuman. We are interested in fostering thought and practice to help communities survive well together and to challenge forms of domination that stand in the way of realizing diverse community economies. The CEI exists to support their work.

The CEI also manages and supports the Community Economies Research Network (CERN), an associated global network of 269 scholars, artists, activists and practitioners interested in enacting new visions of economy.

This report overviews the main activities of the CEI over an almost two-year period.

The Communities Economies Institute Limited (CEI) was registered on 26 November 2018 as an Australian Public Company (Limited by Guarantee; Sub-class: Unlisted Public Company – Non-Profit Company). In Australia, this is a common company structure used for not-for-profit organisations that reinvest any surplus (profit) towards the organisation’s purposes. This company form also allows the CEI to apply for grants, and enter into contracts and agreements. In the future, it will allow the CEI to apply to become a registered charitable organisation.

The decision to establish the CEI emerged from conversations within the Community Economies Collective (CEC) about the need for a legal entity to better enable the work that members of the collective were already doing, and wanted to do in the future. It was recognised that a formally registered entity could provide an institutional home and identity for scholars, activists, artists and others who do not have access to an institutional affiliation and who are at different points in their careers. A registered entity could also be an administering institution or auspicing body for funding applications. The key milestones in the journey of forming the CEI are outlined in Appendix 1.

This report reflects on the work of the initial Board of Directors, and their focus on:

- i) establishing practical procedures related to running a new institute; and
- ii) developing strategic-level initiatives.

## 2.0 The Board of Directors

The composition of the initial Board of Directors has been as follows:

Name	Legal Position	Role	Dates acted*
Kelly Dombroski	Director	Member of Board	Nov. 2018 (on Maternity Leave from Nov. 2018)
Katherine Gibson	Director	Research	Nov. 2018 to current
Ana Inés Heras	Director	Membership; Regional Nodes	Nov. 2018 to current
Katharine McKinnon	Director & Secretary	CEI Director	Nov. 2018 to current
Joanne McNeill	Director	Treasurer; Regional Nodes	Nov. 2018 to current
Ethan Miller	Director	Membership; Communications & Outreach	Nov. 2018 to August 2019
Jenny Cameron	Ex-officio	Secretary; Communications & Outreach	March 2019 to current
Istvan Rado	Ex-officio	Teaching & Learning	March 2019 (on LOA from August 2019)

\* Dates are from the registration of the CEI in November 2018. Some of those listed were involved in the earlier process of transitioning from the CEC to the CEI. Their contribution is acknowledged in Appendix 1.

Kelly Dombroski, Ethan Miller and Istvan Rado were not able to serve until the first Annual General Meeting of the CEI. The Board thanks these three members for their service and for the important roles they have played in the transition from the CEC to the CEI, and in helping to set a course for the CEI.

From the date of registration and until the AGM in October 2020, the Board of Directors generally met on a monthly basis, and also held extra meetings to develop the Strategic Plan and the Governance Principles and Practices document. As outlined in Appendix 2, there were 20 monthly Board meetings, and eight meetings for strategic planning and governance.

## 3.0 Initiatives and Achievements

### Overview

Since the CEI became a legal entity in late 2018 the initial Board of Directors has worked to establish the Institute's legal and financial structures, articulate aims and aspirations, and to put in place mechanisms that enable the running of a well-governed institute, while maintaining the collective ethics from the CEC. Two priorities over this time period have been to map out future strategies for the CEI, and to put in place the governing principles and practices of the organisation. Alongside this, the Board of Directors has also worked with members in ongoing work in the areas of coordination and communication; communities of practice; research; and teaching and learning.

### Strategic Plan

In the latter part of 2019 and early 2020, the Board held a series of five meetings to identify strategic priorities based around the themes of coordination and communication; communities of practice; research; and teaching and learning. The material from these meetings has been collated into a draft strategic planning document for discussion with members at the CEI Annual General Meeting on 29/30 October 2020, with the aim of identifying the most important priorities for 2020/2021 and finding members who are keen to work on the priorities. The CEI has broad-ranging interests and there are many activities the CEI could pursue; however, the CEI is also a volunteer-based organisation that relies on the time, effort, commitment and passion of already-busy people (and the 'open budget' in Section 4 helps to identify just some of the input that is involved in running the CEI). As most volunteer-based organisations find, an ongoing challenge will be to balance those things we would like to achieve with what we can feasibly achieve. Striking a balance, as best we can, will be important for self-care and member-care for the CEI going forward.

### Governance Principles and Practices

An important activity for the Board has been to develop a Governance Principles and Practices document that establishes how the CEI is to run and places transparency and equity at the heart of Institutional processes. Initially, governance of the CEI was based on the CEC Governance Structure document which had been approved by CEC members in November 2014. With the transition to the CEI, this document needed to be updated and revised. From June to August 2020, four draft sections of a CEI Governance Principles and Practices document were emailed to members for their input. The final draft of the full document (comprising six sections) was emailed to members at the end of August 2020. The Board is grateful to all those members who provided input, and especially to those who took the time to read and comment on the final (full) version. The proposal is to ratify the final version at the CEI Annual General Meeting on 29/30 October 2020. The Board is of the view that the Governance Principles and Practices is a living document, in the sense that as the CEI continues to develop and take shape the document will need to be updated and revised.

## Coordination and Communication

The board has established systems to ensure the CEI is a well-run organisation that makes CEI and CERN members feel welcomed and valued, and that strengthens connections between members. As a membership-based organisation one of the main coordination activities has been to consolidate and build **CEI and CERN membership**. Some members of the Community Economies Collective decided to 'drop back' to membership of CERN only, and some members of CERN were invited to join the CEI (on the basis of a connection between their research, art or activism, and community economies research and practice). As at 30 September 2020, there were 47 CEI members (and 38 members have their [profiles](#) on the Community Economies website). The list of CEI Members is in Appendix 3. CERN membership continued to develop, and as at 30 September 2020 there were 269 members.

Several IT systems are used to manage membership and throughout 2019 and 2020 a focus has been to make sure that the information in each is up-to-date and that across the systems the information is consistent. The Board investigated whether there was a reasonably-priced system that could be used to manage CEI and CERN membership; however, one could not be found to meet the CEI's various needs. Listservs are managed through Electric Embers; Excel is used to store member information (such as institutional affiliation, keywords, member statements); and TidyHQ is used for CEI membership fees (and other financial matters). The Board thanks Nate Gabriel for his crucial behind-the-scenes contribution for many years of maintaining the Listservs.

In the area of Communication, there have been a number of activities. Throughout 2019 and 2020 there have been four **CEI newsletters** (distributed to CEI members via email) with information about CEI activities and updates on what CEI members have been doing. These take time to put together, and the initial ambition of monthly newsletters was not achievable. One task going forward is to produce a CEI newsletter three to four times each year to keep members updated and connected.

**News** about activities of CEI and CERN members has been communicated through the [News section](#) of the Community Economies website with the most recent stories promoted to the home page. In 2019, the focus was on news from CEI members, and then from January 2020 this was expanded to cover news from CEI and CERN members. Since the first News story on 24 March 2019 to 30 September 2020, there have been 50 News stories (approx. one story every 1.5 weeks). From mid-2020, Christina Jerne has been assisting Jenny Cameron with writing the News stories.

Since February 2017, Jo McNeill has compiled a CERN 'recent publications' bulletin, featuring peer-reviewed publications from across the network (from 2016 onwards). The intention behind this activity is to make it easier and quicker to find and access each other's work, to foster cross-fertilisation, and to provide a repository of Community Economies related material. Until January 2020, the bulletin was compiled quarterly, and now bi-annually. Thirteen bulletins have been distributed via the CERN Listserv to date, and [the](#)



[latest edition distributed in August 2020](#) included 352 publications (303 in English, thirty-one in Spanish, nine in French, five in Finnish, three in German, and one in Danish).

With the transition from the CEC to the CEI, the [Community Economies website](#) has been updated and it continues to be fine-tuned. In late 2018, Lyndsey Jackson a web developer from WeCollaborate worked on the website update, and she continues to train and provide support to the small group who work on the website. She has also worked with Jenny Cameron to restore the Take Back the Economy website (after a malware attack), and this website is now situated within the Community Economies website.

In the twelve-month period from 1 October 2019 to 30 September 2020, there were 22,000 discrete users of the website, and 30,000 sessions (and the average session duration was 2 minutes). Going forward, one new feature to consider for the Community Economies website is a members-only area that can store material relevant to CEI members, such as minutes of the monthly Board meetings, the CEI Constitution, the Governance Principles and Practices document, and the strategic plan.

### **Communities of Practice**

The CEI seeks to build and nurture a diverse network of CEI and CERN members and to foster a culture of ethical engagement and collaborative practice, based on trust and mutual respect for one another. One way that the CEI does this is by working with regionally based groups of CEI and CERN members, and highlights from these groups are included below.

In June 2020, there was discussion on the CEI listserv about ways of responding to the Black Lives Matter protests that were taking place in many countries around the globe. Out of this discussion a Justice and Equity Working Party was formed to consider how the CEI could move forward to address issues of justice, equity and inclusion. The members of this working party are Elizabeth Barron; Bianca Elzenbaumer; Stephen Healy; Ana Inés Heras; Leo Hwang; Oona Morrow; Abby Templer Rodrigues; and Eric Sarmiento. This Working Party is in its infancy and we look forward to the vital contribution that this group will make to shaping the CEI.

### CERN-Asia

The inaugural CERN-Asia meeting was planned to take place during the Southeast Asian Geography Association Conference (in Bangkok). To support members from the region to attend the CEI allocated 'Majority World Travel Scholarships' to three members who did not have access other institutional travel funds. The conference was postponed and then cancelled because of COVID-19 travel restrictions. Happily, there are CEI members keen to establish CERN-Asia in 2021.

### CERN-Europe

During 2019, members of CERN Europe met up on several occasions for workshop sessions aimed at connecting community economies theory with participatory art and design practice: three days in the Italian Alps with the [Alpine Community Economies Lab](#); three days at the University of Wageningen (Netherlands) hosted by the Rural Sociology Group; and two days at [Common\(s\)lab in Berlin](#). In these sessions the CERN members worked especially on how to deal with issues of scale in community economies practice and theory, and developed the idea of *The Interdependence* – a multi-local alliance between community economies initiatives (see below). In 2020, this group continued to work on publicly launching *The Interdependence*. The pandemic was slowing down this work as members were dealing with life in lockdown across multiple European countries, it has however reinforced the need for such an alliance. Moreover, in 2020, a group artists of CERN Europe formed the [Feral Livelihood Coaching Collective](#) as a way to support people in radically rethinking the economies that sustain them and that they create.

### The Interdependence

A group of CEI and CERN members have been working together since June 2019 on *The Interdependence* initiative. The initiative emerged during the Community Economies Practice Exchange June 2019, hosted by Bianca Elzenbaumer of Brave New Alps and Alpine Community Economies Laboratory (see illustration below).



COMMUNITY ECONOMIES: A PRACTICE EXCHANGE  
7-9 JUNE 2019, VALLAGARINA, ITALY

Illustration by Nino Rizzo

Community Economies: A Practice Exchange, Vallagarina, Italy, June 2019. Illustration by Nino Rizzo.

The initial idea was followed up with a workshop in November 2019 in Berlin, hosted by Katharine McKinnon. From this workshop a draft charter was produced:

*The Interdependence is an international initiative to show the scale of global efforts to live ethically in caring recognition of our fundamental and inescapable interdependency. idt. is our identifier.*



*The purpose of the idt. is to act as a symbol for efforts to engage actively and ethically in the mutual interdependence that secures our livelihoods. It signals practices of creating economies that honour interconnection, collectivity, fairness, reciprocity and relationship. It is for individuals, groups and organisations who seek to practice with care for the ways our survival and our wellbeing depends upon each other and on the planet. It is for those who want to cultivate diverse norms and new practices based in an ethic of interconnection. It is for anyone and everyone who knows we are in it together.*

*Use of the idt. replaces (and displaces) the Inc. and Ltd. that are associated corporate norms and the values of competition that go along with them. People and organisations who are part of The Interdependence signal instead an adherence to our connectedness and a desire to recognize and act on it. We are those who want to cultivate different economic principles and practices, who recognize our universal responsibility of mutual care, and strive to bring that understanding into the practice of life everyday.*

*Use of the idt. represents a collective commitment, and a commitment to act ethically. With idt. we signal that commitment to the world. We show that we are many. We show that we are big. And we demonstrate that we are already everywhere.*

*Join us!*

In 2020, Bianca Elzenbaumer, with Kathrin Böhm and Kuba Szreder (from the Centre for Plausible Economies) and Kate Rich (from Feral Trade and the Feral MBA), and with input from other CERN-Europe members, have been working towards a launch of the initiative, scheduled to take place in late 2020. The group applied for support from the CEI to help with website design and launch, and received a grant of US\$1,100.

### CERNLARegional

During 2019, CERNLARegional experimented with Virtual Meetings on discussion topics such as how do we define collaborative knowledge generation of collective property and what does it mean to understand diverse economies in practice, in Latin America. Building on this experiment, Series 2020 CERNLARegional was launched. The topics selected for 2020 were: Recovered Factories (Marcelo Vieta), Circular Politics/Policy (Adrián Beling), Communes and Economic Heterogeneity (Beatriz Cid and team), Deepening into Diverse Perspectives to Understand the Economy (joint session by Heras, Burin, Vieta and Beling), Analysing Learning Collective Processes in *Autogestión* and their Relation to Public Policy over time (Ana Heras, David Burin), Mutual Support Group (Alison Guzmán, Ignacio Krell and Fernando Quilaqueo), and Translating Community Economies and Diverse Economies work into Spanish (Antònia Casellas). Plans for 2021 include having three members from CERN International (Bhavya Chitranshi, Anisah Madden and Juan Francisco Salazar) to present their work bilingually.

The meetings have been attended by around 23 participants including both CERNLARegional members and others who are interested in the topics. This has resulted in meetings comprised of people from different geographies and with diverse areas of expertise, and who identify variously as activists or social militants, and scholars.

As a result of these meetings, some regular participants have expressed their interest in deepening their knowledge on Diverse/Community Economies and on Decolonial Thinking. In that regard, a Workshop coordinated by Erin Araujo at Chiapas México, and put together by Cambalache Cooperative, was disseminated via CERNLARegional. Its main topic was Decolonial Thinking and Action. At least 6 people from CERNLARegional participated. Associated with CERNLARegional a group of four women created a reading group in March 2020 to facilitate South-South perspectives. The issues that have been explored so far relate to processes of subjectivation (in other words, how is this concept different than “subjectivity” or “subject” and how it may make visible processes otherwise not visible) and processes of pedagogical practice (in other words, how do we enact learning, what does learning have to do with knowledge construction, and whether these types of perspectives depart from a traditional way of understanding education, teaching, and “giving lessons”, and how).

#### CERN-NZ

CERN-NZ has gone through a shift over the last eighteen months or so. Initially the CERN-NZ largely operated as a reading group based around a cohort of international PhD and Master students who have now completed their degrees and moved to various countries around the globe. Currently, a small group remains in Christchurch and are reading Ethan Miller's *Reimagining Livelihoods* in their monthly meetings. The core members (who are located throughout Aotearoa New Zealand) worked on a grant application submitted to Ministry of Business, Innovation and Enterprise of the New Zealand Government. The application drew on [earlier research](#) that used the Community Economy Return on Investment tool (from *Take Back the Economy*) and tested its potential for documenting the non-monetary impact of Cultivate, a social enterprise in post-quake Christchurch, Aotearoa New Zealand. The new application is designed to extend this research to test the tool development process on more than 10 community food organisations. It was submitted by Gradon Diprose, Kelly Dombroski, Matt Scobie, Emma Sharp and Stephen Healy among others. While the 2020 round was cancelled due to COVID-19, the application has been placed in the top 1 quintile of applications and we have been encouraged to reapply. Kelly, Gradon and Matt have also received National Science Challenge contracts to work on accounting for investments in community economies in Christchurch's red zone, as part of a larger project looking at bicultural approaches to 'systems change' in Aotearoa New Zealand.

CERN-NZ is also running sessions based around the [Handbook of Diverse Economies](#) for the upcoming DevNet 2020 conference and the New Zealand Geographical Society conference. Members of CERN-NZ have taken advantage of the shift to Zoom and the 2-hour time

difference to participate in the recent CERN-Sydney meetings that have been exploring a diverse economies response to the COVID crisis (see below).

### CERN-Sydney

During 2019, CERN-Sydney kept up their monthly one-day meetings arranged around catch-ups, two readings from CERN members and a convivial pot-luck lunch. In 2020, CERN-Sydney has been meeting mostly virtually—sometimes weekly and otherwise monthly. A subgroup became very interested in thinking about a diverse economies response to the COVID crisis. This group embarked on an iterative scenario building exercise to explore what an economy might be *for* by thinking in time and identifying what steps and actions might be taken to connect COVID recovery to the task of coping with climate change. The group trialled ways of connecting COVID-responses that deal with basic things like food, healthcare, shelter to how these might be extended to the warmer decades-to-come. Discussions have included meeting up with Teppo Eskelinen (one of the editors of *Enacting Community Economies within a Welfare State*, for more information [click here](#)) and with Peter North who has written a briefing paper, *Building Back Better: What Role for the Liverpool City Region Economic Recovery Panel?* (for more information, [click here](#)).

### **Research**

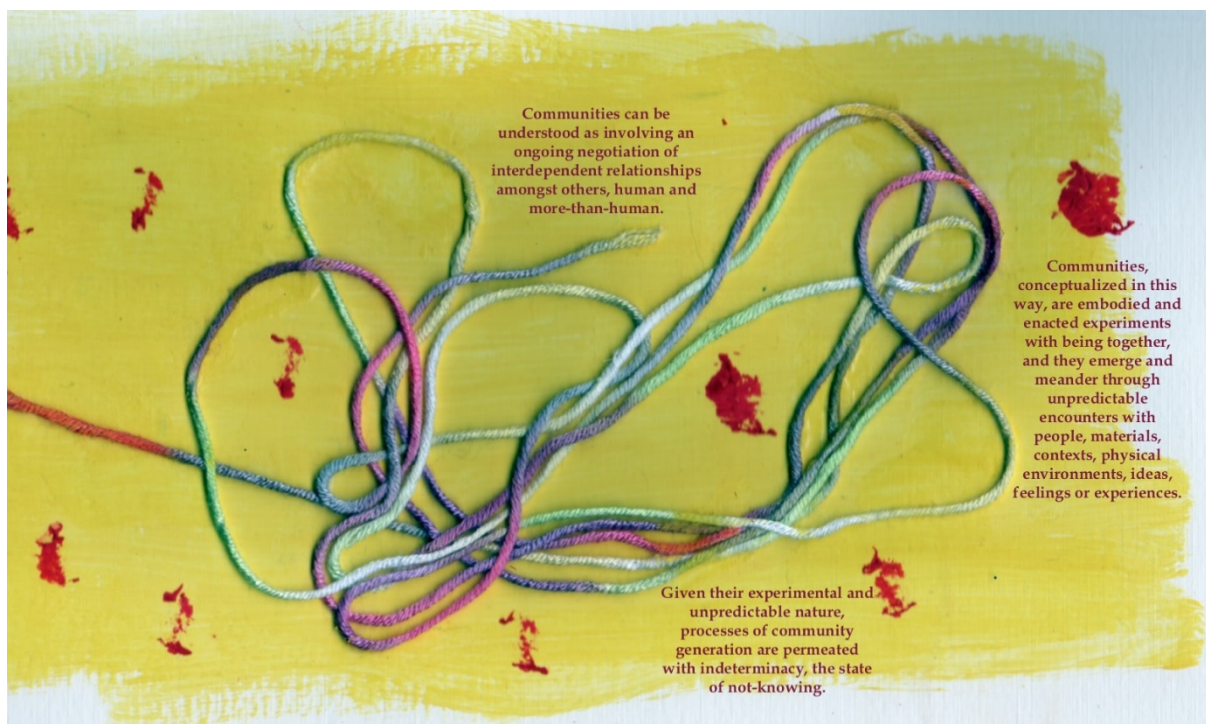
The CEI supports members in their research endeavours and provides a platform from which members can apply for research funding under the auspices of the Institute. The individual research output of CEI members and the wider Community Economies Research Network continues to be prolific and is regularly documented in our CERN Publications Bulletin (with the most recent August 2020 issue available [here](#)). A major milestone in 2020 was publication of *The Handbook of Diverse Economies* edited by J.K. Gibson-Graham and Kelly Dombroski. This volume includes 58 chapters written by 66 CERN members and signifies recognition of a distinct new sub-field of research.

The *Diverse Economies and Livable Worlds Book Series* edited by J.K. Gibson-Graham, Stephen Healy, Maliha Safri and Kevin St Martin, published [two award-winning books](#) in 2019. They are Ethan Miller's *Reimagining Livelihoods: Life Beyond Economy, Society and Environment*, winner of the Outstanding Publication Award from the Association of American Geographers (AAG) Political Ecology Speciality Group, and Lindsay Naylor's *Fair Trade Rebels: Coffee Production and Struggles for Autonomy in Chiapas*, winner of the Julian Minghi Distinguished Book Award from the AAG Political Geography Speciality Group. Other books published in the series are Gerda Roelvink's 2016 [Building Dignified Worlds: Geographies of Collective Action](#); Amanda Huron's 2018 [Carving out the Commons: Tenant Organizing and Housing Cooperatives in Washington D.C.](#); and Christian Anderson's 2020 [Urbanism without Guarantees: The Everyday Life of a Gentrifying West Side Neighborhood](#). More books are in the pipeline.

The inaugural CERN international conference, planned to take place in Thessaloniki in November 2020, was cancelled due to pandemic restrictions. While the face-to-face conference has been postponed to 2021, we are proceeding with the *Liviana*: CERN On-line Conference November which will take place over the period November 2 to 14, 2020.

The CEI has facilitated a number of collective writing projects during 2020. They have included those written by CERN members, by CEI members as a group, or in collaboration with the Community Economies Collective (our joint authorial subject):

- *The Next System Reader* (Routledge, 2020) will include the essay “Cultivating Community Economies: Tools for building a liveable world” penned by CEI members J.K. Gibson-Graham, Jenny Cameron, Kelly Dombroski, Stephen Healy, Ethan Miller, and the CEC, and available on the Community Economies website, [click here](#).
- CEI members (Molly Mullen, Aviv Kruglinski, Leo Hwang, and Ana Inés Heras) have written an entry on “Community” for the Climate Justice Code for arts institutions and arts practitioners in Europe and beyond.
- Contributions to a section on Stimulating Diverse Economies in the Future Cities Lab Volume 3 have been submitted by a number of CERN Early and Mid-Career Researchers (Pryor Placino, Melissa Kennedy, Darren Sharp, Abby Mellick-Lopes).



Communities can be seen as. By Ana Inés Heras. Based on the “Community” entry for the Climate Justice Code by CEI members Molly Mullen, Aviv Kruglinski, Leo Hwang, and Ana Inés Heras.

CEI members have submitted collaborative research proposals, some via University networks and one via the CEI directly, including:

- Pacific Conservation and Development Fund “Backyard Gardening for Environmental and Cultural Resilience in West Ambae, Vanuatu” Luke Drake, Katharine McKinnon submitted via CEI. Unsuccessful but will resubmit.
- Marie Slodowski-Curie Innovative Training Network “Envisioning Diverse Food Futures” Oona Morrow, Nadia Johanisova and others. Unsuccessful but will resubmit.
- Australian Research Council “Cooling the Commons: Enhancing Climate Readiness in Social Housing” Stephen Healy, Katherine Gibson, Louise Crabtree and 3 other colleagues. Under review.

The Julie Graham Community Economies Research Fund (JGCERF), administered through Western Sydney University, continues to provide small grants to support the research activities of CEI and CERN members. The planned 2020 Community Economies Bolsena Writing Retreat supported by the JGCERF was cancelled because of the pandemic and we are hoping it will be held in 2021.

## Teaching and Learning

The CEI aims to support members to provide teaching and learning opportunities that engage with community economies concepts and practices for a range of purposes and in different languages and cultural contexts. Over the past 18 months this has included initiating a dedicated teaching program, the Community Economies Institute summer school, and the ongoing work of gathering and creating teaching resources.

The CEI’s first summer school (entitled ‘Postcapitalist Politics in Practice Summer School’) was held in Bolsena, Italy from 1 to 7 June, 2019. It was taught by Sabrina Aguiari, Tuomo Alohävi, Katherine Gibson and Katharine McKinnon. Participants included 6 PhD students, one Master student, a post doc and an activist-scholar, studying or working in Canada, Finland, Netherlands, Sweden, USA and UK, and hailing from these countries as well as Italy, Japan and Australia. It was a truly international cohort. Over 6 days we explored key elements of community economy thinking around postcapitalist politics and worked on developing these ideas and methods in the context of the research projects and activities of the participants. A number of the Summer School participants have subsequently joined CERN. The second Community Economies Institute summer school (entitled ‘Methods for a Postcapitalist Politics’) was scheduled for 6 to 12 June, 2020 but was cancelled due to travel restrictions.

Members have brought to the CEI a rich collection of teaching resources which continue to be added to the Community Economies website (click [here](#)) and the most recent are:

- A guide by Istvan Rado that provides a step-by-step process for teaching undergraduates about diverse economies and action research (based on two courses

from the Global Studies and Social Entrepreneurship program at the School of Global Studies at Thammasat University, Thailand (click [here](#)).

- A series of teaching videos by Kelly Dombroski on topics and issues related to community economies (click [here](#)).
- A series of resources for teaching *Take Back the Economy*, including the full set of teaching materials for a one-semester course based on the book and taught at the Chinese University of Hong Kong (click [here](#)).

The CEI will provide a short introduction to community and diverse economies within the pilot course 'Building a Wellbeing Economy: Foundations for Learning and Practice' (click [here](#)). This has been designed as a micro-credential course by Jo McNeill in her role at The Yunus Centre Griffith University, with partner the New Economy Network Australia (NENA). The course runs for eight weeks, starting on 28 October, 2020. A CEI introductory video developed by Katharine McKinnon will form part of the introductory content.

## 4.0 Treasurer's Report

The CEI is a small volunteer-run not-for-profit organisation. As such its finances are modest. The CEI's initial Board has adopted the Radmin 'Open Budget' to report on resourcing of the organisation. The 'open budget' template was developed by CEI Member Kate Rich and makes visible the full range of resources supporting the organisation, including so-called 'non-budget' items (bonded, incommensurable, in-kind, gifted, gleaned, granted, non-enumerated, non-remunerated, loaned etc). The table on the following page provides a breakdown of monetary and non-monetary income and expenditure since incorporation in November 2018 to 30th September 2020. This makes visible the full range of resources that have sustained the CEI during its start-up phase (see the back page of this report for a representation of the open budget using the diverse economies iceberg). The CEI account balance at 5 October 2020 was US\$9,028.

Despite modest income and expenditure, the initial Board has established robust financial procedures, and this has formed part of the process of bringing the fledgling organisation through the fiddly but critical start-up phase. With the first strategic plan being finalised, including through discussion at the first Annual General Meeting, 29/30 October 2020, there will be scope for the strategic plan to help guide financial activities going forward.



<b>CEI Open Budget**</b>		
<b>Budget May 2018 - Sept 2020*</b>		<b>Non Budget</b>
Cash	US\$	Bonded, incommensurable, in-kind, gifted, gleaned, granted, non-enumerated, non-remunerated, loaned and borrowed. Including & not limited to:
Income		Use of home and/or institutional offices, wifi, computing equipment, Dropbox accounts, etc.
Memberships (covering 2 sets of annual memberships)	\$6,643.00	Supporting other members by reading each other's work, reviewing job applications, grant applications
2019 Bolsena Summer School	\$15,993.00	Creating connections for people across the CEI and CERN networks
Honorariums, royalties, donations	\$2,950.00	Appropriation on institutional research funds for CERN-Europe Interdependence workshop, 2019
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$25,586.00</b>	'Recruitment' of new CERN & CEI Members (done by all current CERN & CEI Members)
Expenditure		2018-2020 IT support & Website maintenance (gifted by Julie Graham Fund US\$1,060)
Lawyers fees (Company registration costs)	\$1,408.59	2018-2020 Electric Embers hosting fees (gifted by Julie Graham Fund US\$1,459)
Tidy HQ fees	\$563	Weekend + evening phone calls & text messages of mutual moral support, recognition, congratulations
Gateway fees	\$843	Potluck lunches CERN-Sydney 1 dish/person x 6 people on average x 10 meetings = 60 plates of food
2019 Bolsena Summer School	\$10,114.00	Nominating CERN members as reviewers of journal articles, book proposals, keynote lectures
Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC)	\$85.46	Teaching face-to-face Bolsena Summer School. 5 days face-to-face + 5 days prep and logistics
CERN Europe grant: idt. web design and launch	\$1,272.35	CEI Chair, Secretary, Treasurer work hours, approx. 1-2 days/fortnight, sometimes more sometimes less
Social media strategy background research (Pryor, 6 hours)	\$325.60	Appropriation of institutional funds for travel costs to teach the Bolsena summer school
International Bank transfer fees	\$92.76	CEI Introductory video gifted by Katharine McK institutional research account
Majority world scholarship fund (Reallocated to 2021 due to COVID)		Writing, refining, revising, giving feedback, discussing and meeting about initial CEI governance doc.
IT support & Website maintenance	\$592	Mulling time while walking, cycling, running, lying awake at 3am ...
Electric Embers hosting fees (Jul2020-Jun2021)	\$840	Logo design gifted by Kelly D Institutional Research Account
General membership refund (Olivia Williams)	\$34.45	Strategic Planning meetings (series of 6) @ 2 hrs each + hours to organise ideas and write-up plan
Zoom Pro (12 month subscription)	\$341.72	Preparation for Annual General Meeting, including organising and writing Annual Report
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>\$16,512.93</b>	Working group meetings, prior to and following incorporation
*CEI Bank account established May 2019		Maintaining and updating CE Website, 1-2 hours per week
**an adaptation of the Radmin Open Budget template by Kate Rich, thanks Kate!		Monthly Board meetings @ 2hrs each + prep time
		Compiling CERN 'recent publications' e-bulletin (quarterly)
		Managing CERN & CEI Listserv, 1 hour per week
		Organising regional CERN-group meetings
		Childcare, homeschooling during COVID-19
		Coffee, wine, yerba mate, chamomile tea
		Planning and organising CERN conference
		Translating CEI and CERN authored work
		CE Web news, 4 hours per fortnight
		Indeterminate forms of emotional labour
		Listening ...
		Emails ...

## 5.0 Looking to the Future

In November 2020 the membership of the CEI will elect the inaugural Board of Directors. This group will work with members to shape the direction of the organisation in the coming years. There are some strong foundations to build on.

The CEI is now a functioning legal entity, with working systems in place for managing finances, managing memberships, and setting organisational priorities. We have tested our systems for submitting grant applications as an administering organisation (i.e. with an application to the Pacific Conservation and Development Fund with Luke Drake as the lead investigator for "Backyard Gardening for Environmental and Cultural Resilience in West Ambae, Vanuatu"), and are looking for more opportunities to support members in this way. We have held our first successful CEI teaching and learning program with the 2019 Bolsena Summer School, and are looking forward to the opportunity to hold it again in 2021. We have a growing repository of teaching resources online and this is an area that will continue to grow and develop in coming years. We allocated our first round of travel scholarships to support members from the majority world to take part in face-to-face events. As this report is being written we are in the midst of organising the first global CERN conference, hosted by the CEI in a distributed online format. We have also given support to the first member-

led initiative, to launch The Interdependence movement that aims to show the scale of global efforts towards building diverse community economies.

We are proud of these achievements but it is our membership that makes the CEI truly special. Our members are an amazing bunch of people. We are from all over the world and are engaged in a rich array of projects all of which involve thinking and doing economies differently—looking critically at how livelihoods are put together and how they can be oriented to the ethical consideration of the interdependence of all life forms, human and nonhuman. Our members have continued to produce work that engages with community economies ideas and practice, and extends thinking in creative and critical ways—whether authored as individuals, collaboratively, or on behalf of the authorial voice of the Community Economies Collective. While travel is on pause during COVID, we look forward to creating new opportunities for connecting with and learning from each other, whether online or in -person.

In the coming years the CEI still has much to do to strengthen the networks across the CEI and CERN, to learn how to enact our goals of supporting the work of members, and to operate as an organisation that places ethical engagement, equity and collectivity at the heart of our practice.

## Appendix 1: Forming the CEI

Key milestones in the development of the CEI were:

Date	Milestone
August 2017	CEC members were emailed about a preliminary idea to establish a formal institute
Sept. 2017	On the basis of positive feedback, an email was sent to CEC members with an invitation to join a working group to develop a proposal for an institute. A working group was formed and comprised: Kelly Dombroski, Katherine Gibson, Ana Inés Heras, Katharine McKinnon, Ethan Miller and Hermann Ruiz.
Oct. 2017 to Feb. 2018	The working group investigated options and developed the proposal.
Feb. 2018	The working group emailed CEC members with the proposal.
March to April 2018	The proposal was discussed through email and at a face-to-face meeting at the AAG Annual Meeting in New Orleans
April 2018	The revised proposal to establish the Community Economies Institute as an Australian Public Company (Limited by Guarantee) was put to an email vote of CEC members, and was agreed to.
May to Nov. 2018	A working group was formed to take the steps to set-up and register the CEI. This working group met monthly from May to November 2018, and comprised: Kelly Dombroski, Katherine Gibson, Ana Inés Heras, Katharine McKinnon, Joanne McNeill, Ethan Miller and Hermann Ruiz.
Nov. 2018	The CEI was registered with the Australian Securities and Investment Commission.

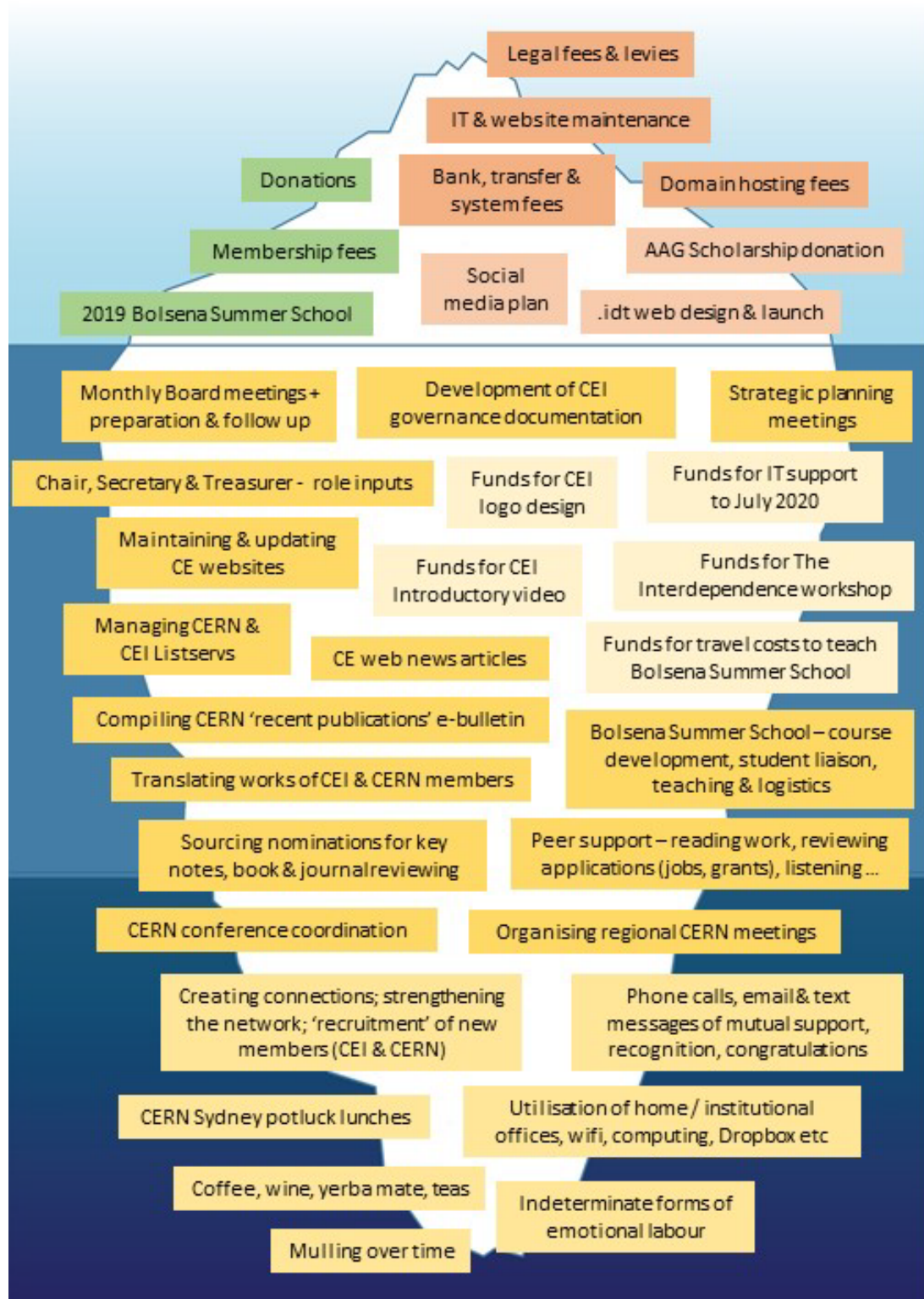
## Appendix 2: Board Meetings

<b>2019</b>	
<b>Title of Meeting</b>	<b>Date of Meeting</b>
Monthly Board Meeting	18/19 March
Monthly Board Meeting	25/26 March
Monthly Board Meeting	29/30 April
Monthly Board Meeting	29/30 May
Monthly Board Meeting	17/18 June
Strategic Planning 1	7/8 July
Strategic Planning 2	8/9 July
Monthly Board Meeting	23/24 July
Monthly Board Meeting	19/20 August
Monthly Board Meeting	16/17 September
Monthly Board Meeting	14/15 October
Monthly Board Meeting	10/11 November
Strategic Priorities 1 (Research)	8/9 December
Monthly Board Meeting	9/10 December
Strategic Priorities 2 (Education / T&L)	15/16 December
<b>2020</b>	
Monthly Board Meeting	9/10 February
Strategic Priorities 3 (Membership)	16/17 February
Strategic Priorities 4 (Communities of Thought & Practice)	23/24 February
Strategic Priorities 5 (Public Communication)	1/2 March
Monthly Board Meeting	8/9 March
Monthly Board Meeting	19/20 April
Monthly Board Meeting	10/11 May
Governance Document	10/11 June
Monthly Board Meeting	14/15 June
Monthly Board Meeting	12/13 July
Monthly Board Meeting	9/10 August
Monthly Board Meeting	13/14 September
Monthly Board Meeting	11/12 October

Note: At all meetings a quorum of Directors participated.

### Appendix 3: CEI Members (as at 30 Sept 2020)

Tuomo	Alhojarvi	Ethan	Miller
Elizabeth	Barron	Oona	Morrow
Jenny	Cameron	Molly	Mullen
Michelle	Carnegie	Lindsay	Naylor
Louise	Crabtree	Pete	North
Gradon	Diprose	Ceren	Özselçuk
Kelly	Dombroski	Marianna	Pavlovskaya
Luke	Drake	Pryor	Placino
Bianca	Elzenbaumer	Istvan	Rado
Esra	Erdem	Kate	Rich
Nate	Gabriel	Gerda	Roelvink
Katherine	Gibson	Hermann	Ruiz
Rhyall	Gordon	Ailie	Rutherford
Stephen	Healy	Maliha	Safri
Ana	Heras	Eric	Sarmiento
Ann	Hill	Boone	Shear
Leo	Hwang	Robert	Snyder
Christina	Jerne	Kevin	St. Martin
Nadia (Naděžda)	Johanisova	Eeva	Talvikallio
Aviv	Kruglanski	Abby	Templer Rodrigues
Yahya	Madra	Kaner	Turker
Katharine	McKinnon	Ted	White
Heather	McLean	Miriam	Williams
Joanne	McNeill		



The Community Economies Institute Open Budget Iceberg, Nov 2018 – Sept 2020. By Jo McNeill.