

AUSTRALIA TIBET COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT 2020



May 2021

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In the spirit of reconciliation, Australia Tibet Council acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of country throughout Australia and their connections to land, sea and community. We pay our respect to their elders past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples today.





WHO WE ARE

Australia Tibet Council campaigns for the human rights and freedom of Tibetans. We are a not-for-profit organisation funded by members across Australia. Founded in 1988, we are the largest community of Australians standing in solidarity with the people of Tibet. We are inspired by the Tibetans who oppose China's occupation of their homeland with courage, hope and tenacity and who resist abuses of their fundamental human rights and freedoms.

Our objective

ATC's objective is to pursue the following charitable purposes:

- (a) to work to achieve United Nations Resolution 1723 of 1961 which calls for "the cessation of practices which deprive the Tibetan people of their fundamental human rights and freedoms, including their right to self-determination";
- (b) to raise awareness of the situation in Tibet at all levels of Australian society, by encouraging government and community leaders to take positive action, and by supporting appropriate Australian and international initiatives; and
- (c) to do all other lawful things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of these objects or any of them or which may be calculated to advance directly or indirectly ATC's interests.

Our vision

A free Tibet in which Tibetans can determine their future, and freely pursue their religious practices and their political, cultural and economic development.

ATC values

ATC enables everyone in Australia to raise awareness of the real situation in Tibet and build public and political support for Tibetans' human rights. We empower Tibetans in Australia to become effective advocates and play an active role in the global Tibet movement.

Our values

Putting the interest of Tibetans at the heart of everything we do.

ATC exists to support Tibetans in their quest for self-determination and help restore freedom in Tibet. Amplifying Tibetan actions and voices is at the heart of all our campaigns.

We build people power.

Our work is made possible by our members and supporters who believe in our work. We empower our community to take action for Tibet. We collaborate with diverse stakeholders for maximum impact.

We hold ourselves to the highest standards.
We are resourceful with the funds provided by our members and supporters. We value the trust placed in us by our community and recognise the importance of protecting the information of our members and supporters that we store on our database.

ATC strives for a positive organisational and workplace culture. Our principles include:

Independence – ATC is an independent movement, funded by its members and supporters. We are ordinary people from all walks of life, standing together for justice, freedom, human dignity and equality. We are independent of any government, political party, ideology, economic interest or religion.

Cooperation – ATC works in a complex environment which requires effective collaboration between our Board, staff, members, donors and volunteers. The success of our work requires effective interaction with diverse stakeholders, including the Tibetan community, partner organisations, government officials and news media. We aim to strengthen and grow the organisation by building relationships and utilising excellent people skills.

Integrity – ATC expects all its staff and volunteers to conduct themselves with the highest degree of honesty. We are accountable for our actions.

Respect – ATC aims to build a diverse and inclusive team. All Australians with an interest in defending and promoting human rights in Tibet may apply to join ATC. We treat each other and all our stakeholders with respect.

What we do

We raise awareness about human rights in Tibet.

We ensure our decision-makers get accurate information and we challenge misrepresentations of the actual situation in Tibet.

We lobby the Australian parliament and government to take a firm, principled stand on human rights in Tibet.

We amplify the voices of Tibetans and ensure the Australian and international communities hear their stories as China intensifies its efforts to control the discourse on human rights in Tibet.

We implement focussed campaigns which are designed to support our objective.

We contribute to international efforts to raise awareness about human rights in Tibet and to support the Tibetan people.



MESSAGE FROM THE CO-CHAIRS

2020 was a year the world would rather forget. COVID-19 caused countries around the world to shut their borders and lock down. For Tibet, this experience is nothing new. It has been shut off from the world since 1950 when China invaded. That said, in recent years repression inside Tibet has increased and Tibetans have become less free than ever. The 2021 Freedom in the World report by Freedom House ranks Tibet as the world's least free country, tying with Syria as the worst on the list.

This report is an urgent reminder that we must take action for Tibet.

In 2020, ATC continued its campaigns for the freedom and human rights of Tibetans. Like other organisations around the world, we were forced to find new ways to campaign and speak up for Tibet. This was the first time we held our annual Tibet Lobby Week as an online event. Usually we would take a number of Tibetans to Canberra to undergo media and political training. Then they would meet face-to-face with politicians to share their stories and to highlight the ongoing human rights abuses in Tibet. With Tibet Lobby Week moving into the digital space, we were given the unprecedented opportunity to give 40 ATC members and Tibetans the opportunity to meet with 26 MPS from across Australia. The focus was on asking the Australian Parliament to work on legislation called Reciprocal Access to Tibet. For the last five years, the Chinese government has failed to respond to requests by Australian MPs to visit Tibet. Tibetan-Australians have their applications for visas to return home routinely denied by Chinese officials.

This is despite reciprocity being a fundamental principle of any diplomatic relationship.

Tibet's ranking as the least free country in the world makes the reciprocal access bill even more important. As the world begins to emerge from isolation and the post-COVID era begins to unfold, Tibet will remain in a state of isolation. Mass surveillance and militarization will continue to expand. The more than 500 Tibetan political prisoners languishing in China's brutal prisons will continue to face torture and abuse. The Chinese government will continue to replace Tibetan language with Chinese as the language of instruction at Tibetan schools. And the large-scale coercive labor program that has pushed more than half a million Tibetans off their land into labour camps (military-style 'training centres') in the first half of 2020 is an ever-growing concern. All of this makes our support for Tibet even more urgent. We must continue to speak out for Tibet and speak out louder than ever before.

We extend a heartfelt thank you to the late Damien Lovelock who left a generous bequest for ATC, at the end of 2020. His legacy to Tibet will not be forgotten. Visit our website to learn more about leaving a bequest to ATC.

Best wishes,



KATIE CAMARENA AND TENZIN LOBSANG KHANGSAR

Co-chairs of ATC Board

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER

2020 was a big year for all of us, with changes to the way we live. But it was also a big year for ATC with changes to our staff. I am delighted to take up this role and build on the important work of ATC and Kyinzom Dhongdue, and I thank her for her dedication and contribution to the role.

But of course, 2020 was an interesting and challenging year because of COVID-19. This pandemic was both a unifying and dividing force. Some people really felt 'that we were all in it together' while for others 2020 was a year marked by separation and loneliness.

ATC was affected by the pandemic and we had to cut some programs, such as the Little Tibet Tour to Dharamsala which was unfortunate because it is a fantastic tour and a much-needed fundraiser for ATC. However, in other areas ATC saw opportunity in the crisis and adapted things, for example, changing our Annual General Meeting to be a teleconference meeting, which resulted in the largest attendance we have ever had. We also adapted our Tibet Lobby Week which resulted in great participation of the Tibetan communities of Australia and also ATC members and supporters with 40 ATC members and Tibetans meeting with 26 MPs from across Australia to represent the issues of the Panchen Lama, political prisoners and reciprocal access to Tibet – a brilliant result!

One atrocious effect of COVID-19 has been the rise of racism and violence towards people of Asian-descent in some countries. In the USA this racism and escalation of hatred has turned tragically violent.

But we are not immune here in Australia, with a study finding that as many as 8 in 10 Asian Australians have reported racism and discrimination. This is a shocking figure and ATC condemns racism unilaterally. It is important to remember that as well as Tibetans, Uyghurs and people from Hong Kong, ordinary Chinese people are also the victims of Chinese Communist Party policies that deny human rights, freedom of speech and enforce policies of surveillance. Those trying to blow the whistle on the COVID-19 crisis did so at great risk to themselves personally and Chinese human rights and democracy activists suffer under the regime of the CCP.

Let us all remember the words of His Holiness the Dalai Lama: **"If you want others to be happy, practice compassion. If you want to be happy, practice compassion."**

2021 is a new year with new opportunities for ATC. We will be busy calling attention to human rights abuses in Tibet by campaigning against the Beijing Winter Olympics in 2022, pushing Australian lawmakers to pass the Magnitsky Act which would mean that those responsible for human rights abuses in Tibet could be sanctioned, and highlighting the issues of forced labour in Tibet and the separation of families under this policy. We hope you will join in our campaigns and continue to support ATC and freedom for Tibet! With metta,



DR ZOË BEDFORD

ATC Executive Officer



OUR CAMPAIGNS

All our campaigns are designed to amplify Tibetan voices, raising awareness of the ways that Tibetans are deprived of their human rights under Chinese occupation. We lobby political leaders in Australia to take a stand against severe abuses and social injustices being perpetrated by the Chinese Communist Party in Tibet and empower supporters with actions they can take to advocate for the freedoms and human rights of Tibetans.

In 2020, our work centred on four campaign areas: calling on China for information about the well-being and whereabouts of Tibet's Panchen Lama, strengthening political support for human rights in Tibet (specifically building the pathway to an Australian law around reciprocal access), protecting Tibet's environment by advocating for the Tibetans' rights to control their land, resources and way of life and finally, combatting Chinese propaganda about human rights in Tibet on Australian university campuses and in the media.

Panchen Lama

17 May 2020 marked 25 years since the Chinese government kidnapped Tibet's second highest spiritual leader, the Panchen Lama. In 1995, the Dalai Lama recognised Gedhun Choekyi Nyima, a six-year-old boy in eastern Tibet, as Tibet's 11th Panchen Lama. Three days later, the boy was kidnapped by the Chinese government, becoming the world's youngest political prisoner.

To coincide with the 25th anniversary of the Panchen Lama's kidnapping, we put together a video with strong statements by members of the Australian All-Parliamentary Group For Tibet – Coalition MP Warren Entsch,

Labour MP Susan Templeman and Greens Senator Nick McKim – calling on the Chinese government to release the Panchen Lama.

ATC supporters rallied together urging our political leaders to raise the profile of the Panchen Lama's case and call for information about his whereabouts. During Tibet Lobby Week, ATC members and Tibetans met with MPs from across Australia, asking them to appeal to Foreign Minister Marise Payne to make a public statement. Additionally, 700 supporters emailed Foreign Minister Payne, as part of our petition action, calling on the Australian Government to push for the immediate release of the Panchen Lama and his family. ATC followed this up with a letter to Foreign Minister Payne.

As a result of our campaign to bring renewed awareness of the Panchen Lama's story and secure his freedom, Australian officials raised Gedhun Choekyi Nyima's case directly with the Chinese Government. A letter from Foreign Minister Marise Payne informs us that government officials, "requested information from China about his welfare and urged China to allow an independent observer to visit him and confirm his wellbeing." Foreign Minister Marise Payne has raised concerns about religious freedom and belief directly with her Chinese counterpart, State Councilor Wang Yi. "The government will continue to...seek greater access to Tibet for Australian and international representatives," the letter reads.

This advocacy stems from our collective action! Well done to everyone who took part in this campaign.

Building political support for human rights in Tibet

We strive to make human rights issues in Tibet an important part of Australia's relationship with China. We do this by engaging our political leaders and ensuring the voices of our community and Tibetan-Australians are heard.

Every year, we organise a group of Tibetan-Australian delegates to meet with politicians at Parliament House to share their stories and ask for support to challenge the Chinese government's abuses so that Tibetans' deprivation of fundamental rights does not go unchecked. Our annual flagship Tibet Lobby Day could not go ahead in the usual format in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2020, we held an online Tibet Lobby Week instead and showed how we can keep speaking up for Tibet even as we live through strange and challenging times. 40 ATC members and Tibetans met with 26 MPs and Senators from across Australia during the 2020 Tibet Lobby Week.

As well as appealing for action to support the release of Tibet's Panchen Lama, we called for an end to Tibet's isolation from the international community. We lobbied for Australia to demand access to Tibet for journalists and foreign officials, or else decline entry to Australia to Chinese officials responsible for the ongoing atrocities. Reciprocity is a fundamental principle of any diplomatic relationship and yet, for more than five years, the Chinese government has failed to respond to a request by Australian MPs to visit Tibet. The foundations for an Australian law on Tibet have been laid but the campaign is ongoing and there is still much work ahead of us to bring a bill to fruition.

We participated in two government inquiries, by making submissions and also giving testimony. The first was about the use of targeted sanctions to address human rights abuses worldwide; a Magnitsky style act that is likely to be passed by Parliament in 2021. We will continue to push for Chinese officials responsible for human rights abuses in Tibet to be sanctioned. The second was about issues facing diaspora communities in Australia. One of the key issues we raised was how agents of the Chinese government exert pressure and intimidate members of the Tibetan community in Australia, preventing them from speaking out for fear of repercussions for their family in Tibet or their ability to get a visa to visit relatives.



Tibet Climate Crisis

In 2020, we planned to attend COP26 to build on the momentum garnered from participating in COP25 the previous year in Madrid, Spain. However, the international conference was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. COP26 was to be the deadline for all countries to get their house in order and submit new, stronger commitments to curb climate change.

The final outcome of COP25 meant that COP26 took on an even greater relevance to Tibetans than first anticipated. Governments failed in Madrid to finalise the last piece of the 'Paris rulebook' – the rules governing Article 6, which is all about global carbon markets.

Today, China violates the rights of Tibetans in part on the pretence that it is protecting the environment. China's forced displacement of Tibetans is being carried out on the false argument that it is necessary to protect Tibet's grasslands. It's true that Tibet's grasslands are degrading, but China's claim that it was the fault of Tibetans cannot be further from the truth. After all, Tibetans have lived sustainably on the Roof of the World for millennia. Respecting the traditional knowledge of Tibetans is an essential part of restoring Tibet's grasslands, a vital carbon sink.

The rules for Article 6 need to include safeguards to protect human rights and the rights of Indigenous peoples. But governments failed to reach agreement on that, key opponents being Brazil and China among others. Seeing no deal as better than a bad deal, governments decided not to conclude negotiations on Article 6 at COP25. This was to be taken up in Glasgow 2020. With COP26's postponement, our campaign efforts centred around raising the profile of Tibetans as stewards of their environment by participating in online panel discussions and sharing content via digital channels.

Countering propaganda in Australia on human rights in Tibet

In recent years, the Chinese government has intensified its crackdown on rights and freedoms in Tibet. At the same time, it has elevated its global push to control the discourse on human rights issues in Tibet.

Chinese propaganda has found its way onto university campuses in the form of Confucius Institutes and in newspapers that carry the Chinese government's China Watch supplement.

There is a serious threat to academic freedom in 13 Australian universities. Contracts reveal that the universities hosting China's Confucius Institutes must comply with Beijing's directive on Chinese language teaching. Disguised as centres for teaching Chinese language and culture, Confucius Institutes are embedded in universities worldwide to promote a distorted view of China and silence discussions on issues such as Tibet, East Turkestan (Xinjiang), Taiwan, Hong Kong, Falun Gong and Tiananmen Square Massacre. We petitioned the University of Queensland's Vice-Chancellor Peter Høj to shut down the Confucius Institute on its campus and also wrote an open letter on behalf of a coalition of Tibet support groups.

In the media space, after concerted backroom lobbying of journalists by ATC and a segment on ABC Media Watch, Nine Entertainment, which owns The Sydney Morning Herald, The Age and The Australian Financial Review, quietly dropped an arrangement with China Daily to carry the China Watch eight-page Chinese Communist Party insert each month. On the day of Nine Entertainment's announcement, one of the senior journalists working there told us, "The internal and external pressure has borne fruit... it is a small, belated, attempt to fix a big error of judgement." The move to drop the propaganda sheet followed similar decisions by media organisations across the world, such as the UK's Daily Telegraph, and the USA's The Wall Street Journal.

2020 IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS



700,000

Facebook post reach



28,700

Website visitors



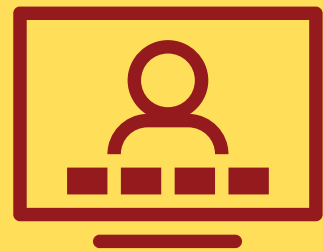
5501

Petition signatures



26

Tibet Lobby Day meetings



5

Webinars



2

Submissions



GOVERNANCE

The year was busy in terms of changes to our organisational structure and personnel. Some changes were a direct result of Government imposed measures to address the pandemic. Others were routine, reflecting growth and generational change.

On 23 May 2020, ATC held its first ever online Annual General Meeting (AGM). It was a great success, with the largest attendance at an AGM for many years. The Board thanks the more than 60 ATC members who participated. At the AGM, members elected the following as directors of ATC's Board for the next two years: Sonam Paljor, Hal Young, Katie Camarena, Annie Wale, Henrike Korner and Tenzin Lobsang Khangsar. The AGM considered the Annual Report 2019 and provided an opportunity for members to ask questions about ATC's activities and finances.

ATC's new Board subsequently elected Sonam Paljor as its Chair and expressed its thanks to Hal Young for his time as Co-chair.

On 15 June, the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission (ACNC) advised that it had approved ATC's application for registration as a charity. The approval greatly assisted ATC's finances in 2020, as our usual fundraising activities were severely curtailed by the coronavirus-related restrictions. Our charity status meant that ATC received the Commonwealth Government's Jobkeeper payments as it met the charity sector's threshold of a 15% reduction in income.

On 3 August, Kyinzom Dhongdue advised the Board that she intended to step down as ATC's Executive and Campaigns Officer by the end of December 2020.

The Board convened a recruitment team to advertise and recruit for a new Executive Officer (EO) and a new Campaigns Officer (CO).

On 13 August, Henrike Korner resigned from the Board.

Kyinzom's resignation took effect on 18 September, and she moved on to an exciting new opportunity with Amnesty International. ATC's Board acknowledges the enormous contribution that Kyinzom made to ATC in her more than 10 years with us and wishes her well in her new position.

After a competitive recruitment process, the Board appointed Zoë Bedford as EO, effective 5 October. The Board welcomes Zoë, a former ATC Chair and staff member, back into an active role with ATC. On 20 October, the Board appointed James Kent as the CO. James later accepted a job offer from another organisation and resigned from ATC. ATC hired Harvey Purse as CO in January 2021.

The Board and staff held a two-day strategic planning meeting on 5-6 December to plan our campaign and other priorities for 2021. On 5 December 2020, Sonam Paljor resigned as Chair of ATC's Board due to ill health. The Board thanks Sonam for his many contributions and wishes that he makes a full and speedy recovery. Sonam will remain a Board member in 2021. The Board elected Tenzin Lobsang Khangsar and Katie Camarena as Co-chairs, under clause 41.2 of ATC's constitution.

The Board, pursuant to clause 40.5 of ATC's Constitution, appointed Tenzin Dolmey as a director, to fill a casual vacancy on the Board. Her term commenced on 12 December 2020.

OUR COMMUNITY

Members & donors

We have a dedicated and generous community of supporters with a shared passion for preserving Tibetan culture and supporting the people of Tibet in their fight for human rights, freedom and justice. Australia Tibet Council has 251 Voice for Tibet members who give monthly, providing us with the most reliable source of funding. Additionally, we have 180 life members, 92 legacy members who continue to make annual donations, and one-off donors who respond to various fundraising appeals throughout the year.

The coronavirus pandemic that swept the globe in 2020 presented significant challenges to individuals, communities, businesses and organisations like ours. We were expecting to see a drop in income from membership and appeals due to the economic upheavals that people were experiencing. However despite the difficulties our community faced, their dedication to the Tibet cause was unwavering. It was heartening to see supporters rally around Australia Tibet Council: renewing memberships, donating to appeals and buying raffle tickets and merchandise to ensure that we could continue campaigning for the freedom and human rights of Tibetans.

Volunteers

Although opportunities were limited due to the pandemic, a core group of Sydney-based volunteers remained active and engaged in our fundraising and campaign efforts. We organised a small get-together in Sydney to celebrate Losar in 2020, with special Tibetan guest Bhagdro, a former political prisoner and monk-activist who had recently moved to Australia. Volunteer activities included stuffing envelopes for appeal mailouts, packing and posting merchandise, helping with Tibet Lobby Week preparations and participating in ATC's regular fundraiser book stall at the Rozelle Markets early in 2020 before social distancing rules were introduced. ATC expresses its deep gratitude to these volunteers whose dedication enhances our capacity to campaign for the people of Tibet.



OUR TEAM

Board



Katie Camarena was elected as Co-chair in Dec 2020. She holds a Bachelor of International Studies from the University of New South Wales and a Graduate Certificate in International Health from Curtin University. She has worked in digital communications at Greenpeace Australia Pacific, Inspired Adventures and Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA. She had also worked for the Burma Children Medical Fund based on the Thai-Burma Border. Katie has been a volunteer with Australia Tibet Council since 2000 and worked in the national office between 2003 and 2007. She joined the Board in 2014.



Tenzin Lobsang Khangsar joined the Board in June 2020 and was elected Co-chair in December 2020. He currently works as an interpreter with Home Affairs (Immigration), alongside being a home loan consultant at Star Lending Pvt. Ltd. and bi-cultural worker at Co-health. He has served as both the vice-president (2013-2015) and president (2017-2019) of the Tibetan Community of Victoria. Lobsang completed his schooling at the Tibetan Children's Village, Ladakh and Dharamsala, India. He has a Masters in Economics from M.S. University and Master in Business (SAP) from Victoria University, Australia.



Sonam Paljor stepped down as Chair in Dec 2020. He works with the NSW Health Department. Before moving to Australia, he had worked at the Department of Health at Central Tibetan Administration in Dharamsala. Sonam was born at the Dolanji Tibetan refugee settlement in northern India. He has a Bachelor of Science from Punjab University and a Masters in International Public Health from Sydney University. He joined the Board in 2014.



Hal Young is a former Chair and current Treasurer at ATC. He worked in IT with Qantas and Jetstar Airlines for over 30 years. He also served as the treasurer at Tara Institute in Melbourne and was part of the organising committee for the Dalai Lama's Australia tour in 1992. He joined the Board in 2014. Hal has a B.A. from Carleton University in Canada, a Diploma in Education from Melbourne University and Graduate Diploma in Data Processing from Monash University.



Annie Wale has been a long-time Tibet supporter, witnessing the lead-up to the 1987 uprising while in Lhasa. She has taught regularly in Dharamsala with the Dalai Lama's Science and Monastics initiative. She has worked in environmental education at the Australian Museum, Taronga Zoo and Royal Botanical Gardens and was a founding board member of WIRES. She is also an active environmental campaigner and is a SIDS grief support worker with Red Nose. Annie has a Bachelor of Arts and a Diploma in Education from the University of New South Wales.



Tenzin Dolmey was appointed to fill a casual vacancy on the Board. Her term commenced on 12 December 2020. She is the General Secretary of the Tibetan Community of Victoria, and a critical care nurse with a post-graduation in emergency nursing. She has interests in literature and has organised campaigns and lobbied with state and federal parliamentarians on issues concerning Tibet and Tibetans.

Resigned from Board in 2020



Henrike Körner has been a longtime member of the Australia Tibet Council and joined the Board in 2020. She was an English teacher, then a lecturer in applied linguistics, and then a senior research fellow at the University of New South Wales, National Centre for HIV Social Research. After her retirement she took on a volunteer role as a mentor providing learning support to refugee students at a high school in Western Sydney. She has a BA(Hons), Dep.Ed., MA, and a PhD in linguistics.

Staff



Kyinzom Dhongdue was Executive and Campaigns Officer until September 2020. Kyinzom is the first Member of Tibet's Parliament-in-Exile representing the Tibetan community in Australasia and East Asia. Born to Tibetan refugee parents in southern India, she was schooled at the Tibetan Children's Village in Dharamsala. She studied English literature at Delhi University and journalism at the Indian Institute of Mass Communication. She worked as a journalist in New Delhi before moving to Australia in 2006.



Gemima Harvey, ATC's Digital Campaigner, has a background in journalism, photography, communications and digital marketing. Previously, she worked as Communications Officer for a charity based in Cambodia. Before moving into the not-for-profit sector, Gemima worked as an international freelance journalist and photographer focusing on forced migration, human rights and social justice issues. Gemima has a Master of Refugee Protection and Forced Migration from the University of London, and a Bachelor of Journalism from Griffith University.

In October 2020, ATC hired an Executive Officer and a Campaigns Officer.



Dr Zoë Bedford joined ATC as Executive Officer. She has been involved with ATC since 1999 when she volunteered at an event. Since that time she worked with ATC as a campaigner and also on the Board as a director and chairperson. Born and raised in Sydney, Australia, Zoë has lived and worked overseas in the Philippines and Thailand. She was an aid worker for many years, supporting projects in the Pacific and working with Burmese refugees on the Thai-Burma border on diverse projects. Zoë has a Doctor of Social Sciences in Peace and Conflict studies from the University of Sydney as well as a Master in International Social Development from the University of NSW and a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) from Newcastle University.



James Kent was hired as ATC Campaigns Officer. James worked as a development consultant in Indonesia and Lebanon before starting with ATC.

James Kent resigned in January 2021. ATC has since hired Harvey Purse as Campaigns Officer.



Harvey Purse has a background in labour rights and human rights campaigning and organising. A life-long activist he has been involved in or supported many causes and campaigns. In International trade policy, he worked for a fairer system based on human rights, heightening the voices of the people of the Pacific and other countries and regions to Australian governments. He has worked as an advisor on corporate accountability and fair trade, with a focus on labour rights and supply chain transparency for Oxfam Australia and as an advisor on influencing for Oxfam Cambodia on its multi-nation Fair Finance Asia project providing workshops on influencing.

Company secretary



Mark Openshaw, ATC's Company Secretary, has been an ATC member for twenty-five years. Mark has worked as a policy adviser to the NSW Government, at the Organisation of Economic Development in Paris and for the Australian Government in Canberra. Mark has a Bachelor of Economics from Sydney University, a graduate degree in geography from the Australian National University and a Master of Arts from Macquarie University.



FUNDRAISING & FINANCIAL REPORTS

ATC is 100% community funded and reliant on funds from supporters to carry out our work. Voice for Tibet membership is the largest, and most regular and reliable income stream. This is followed by appeals, raffles, events and merchandise.

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, we had to downscale or postpone many existing campaign and fundraising activities. For example, the Little Tibet Tour, a fundraising adventure tour to the heart of Tibetans in exile, Dharamsala, India was scheduled to take place in November 2020 but had to be put on hold. As did plans for new peer-to-peer fundraising activities that were centred around gatherings and events.

2020, with all its challenges, required the qualities of adaptivity and innovation and so we ramped up our digital efforts and content offerings to build stronger connections with supporters online.

We held an online auction, with supporters donating paintings, precious Buddhist objects, Tibetan rugs and services ranging from meals to boat cruises and tea leaf readings. We spent more time developing merchandise, adding facemasks to our Free Tibet Shop, selling copies of His Holiness the Dalai Lama's first children's book 'The Seed of Compassion' and creating special gift sets at Christmas time, including a limited edition album, tote bag and set of greeting cards.

As an organisation, we were fortunate to be eligible for support as part of the Government's COVID stimulus packages. Without this, we would have struggled to break even.

In late 2020, we learnt that Damien Lovelock had left a bequest to ATC in his will. ATC expresses deep gratitude to Damien for his support for Tibet, in both life and death. His bequest is a lasting legacy of compassion and support for the Tibetan people.



SUMMARY OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

	\$2020	\$2019
Income		
Membership	71,036	69,712.26
Appeals and donations	88,050	43,717.71
Merchandise and raffles	49,721	42,518.91
Events	4,633	13,266.70
Grants	-	1,527.00
Government COVID stimulus	79,980	-
Total income	293,420	170,742.58*
Expenditure		
Campaigns	116,211.28	93,976.94
Fundraising	58,180.84	47,052.90
Administration	40,455.88	32,705.72
Total expenditure	214,848	173,735.56*

**These do not include the funding that ATC received and passed on to a Tibetan group in exile.
Full financial report available to members upon request.*

BALANCE SHEET

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Australian Tibet Council Limited A.B.N 15 088 312 529

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2020

	Notes	2020 \$	2019 \$
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents		101,242	26,099
Financial Assets		-	-
Other Assets		-	-
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		<u>101,242</u>	<u>26,099</u>
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, Plant and Equipment		-	-
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>101,242</u>	<u>26,099</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and other payables		3,427	2,972
Current tax liabilities		4,718	5,113
Provisions		3,719	7,561
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>11,864</u>	<u>15,646</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>89,378</u>	<u>10,453</u>
MEMBERS' FUNDS			
Accumulated Profits		89,378	10,453
TOTAL MEMBERS' FUNDS		<u>89,378</u>	<u>10,453</u>

THE AUDITOR'S REPORT

6

Australian Tibet Council Limited A.B.N 15 088 312 529

Review of Financial Report to the Members of Australia Tibet Council Limited

Report on the Financial Report

We have reviewed the accompanying financial report of Australia Tibet Council Limited (Company), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2020, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flow for the year ended on that date, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the directors' declaration.

Directors' Responsibility for the Financial Report

The directors of the company are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report and have determined that the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, which form part of the financial report, are appropriate to meet the requirements of the Corporations Act 2001 and are appropriate to meet the needs of the members.

The director's responsibility also includes establishing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatements, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimate that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express a conclusion on the financial report based on our review. We conducted our review in accordance with Auditing Standard on review Engagements ASRE 2415 Review of a Financial Report – Company Limited by Guarantee, in order to state whether, on the basis of the procedures described, we have become aware of any matter that makes us believe that the financial report is not in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001 including : giving a true fair view of the company's financial position as at 31 December 2020 and its performance for the year ended on that date; and complying with the Australian Accounting Standards and Corporations Regulations 2001. ASRE 2415 requires that we comply with the ethical requirements relevant to the review of the financial report.

A review of a financial report consists of making enquiries, primarily of persons responsible for financial and accounting matters, and applying analytical and other review procedures. A review is substantially less in scope than an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards and consequently does not enable us to obtain assurance that we would become aware of all significant matters that might be identified in an audit. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion.

Independence

In conducting our review, we have complied with the independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001*. We confirm that the independence declaration required by the *Corporations Act 2001*, which has been given to the directors of Australia Tibet Council Limited, would be in the same terms if given to the directors as at the time of this auditor's report.

THE AUDITOR'S REPORT

⁷ Australian Tibet Council Limited A.B.N 15 088 312 529

Qualification

As is common for organisation of this type, it is not practicable for the company to maintain an effective system of internal control over donations, subscriptions and other fund-raising activities, especially those of the state branches, until the monies are banked. Accordingly, our audit in relation to funds from the above activities was limited to amounts recorded.

Qualified Conclusion

Based on our review, which is not an audit, with the exception of the matter described in the preceding paragraphs, nothing has come to our attention that makes us believe that the financial report of Australia Tibet Council Limited is not in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001* including:

- (a) Giving a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 31 December 2020 and of its performance for the year ended on that date; and
- (b) Complying with Australian Accounting Standards and *Corporations Regulations 2001*.

Emphasis Matter-

Basis of Accounting

- We draw your attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared to satisfy the requirements of the company's constitution and meet the needs of the members. As a result, financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

A JOSEPH & CO
Chartered Accountants



Alisten Joseph
Registered Company Auditor 424462
63 Wigram Street
Harris Park NSW 2150

Dated this ...12.....day ofMay..... 2021

A young girl with dark hair in pigtails, wearing a black jacket, is looking up at a large, colorful flag. The flag features a yellow diagonal stripe and various colorful patterns. The text "Thank you!" is overlaid in a bold, dark red font.

Thank you!

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

The people of Tibet need your help. Please visit our website where you can take the following actions and support our vital work for human rights for Tibetans.

www.atc.org.au

Stay informed

Our supporters are essential for our movement. When you subscribe to our mailing list, you will receive regular email updates about our campaigns and how you can take part to show your support.

Be a Voice for Tibet

Our monthly giving membership program provides us with the most reliable source of funding. By becoming a Voice for Tibet, you join a dedicated group of members powering our campaigns, month after month, year after year. As a monthly giving member, you can help shape the direction of the organisation by standing for board positions and sharing your passion and skills to champion the Tibet cause.

Become a volunteer

Volunteering is a great way to meet like-minded people while helping to make a positive change in the world. The passion and dedication of our volunteers are vital to our ongoing campaigns to promote freedom and human rights for Tibetans. ATC volunteers can work from anywhere in Australia. We don't have a physical office. You can work on one event or campaign for a short time or take on a more significant role.

Make a one-off donation

If you are not in a position to become a member right now, please consider making a one-off donation. Every contribution helps. It drives every single campaign.

Leave a bequest

Including a gift in your will to ATC can make a profound difference, allowing us to continue working for Tibet far into the future. After taking care of your nearest and dearest, we hope you will consider leaving a legacy for Tibet. Your support will help provide critical resources to continue our work until genuine freedom is restored. Any gift, large or small, will be a lasting legacy of your compassion for Tibetans.

