

Australia Tibet Council

Annual Report 2022



MAY

2023



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In the spirit of reconciliation, the Australia Tibet Council acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the 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, resisting abuses of their fundamental human rights and freedoms.

ATC is an independent movement, funded by its members and supporters. We are independent of any government, political party, ideology, economic interest or religion.



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 objectives or any of them which may be calculated to advance directly or indirectly ATC's interests.

OUR VISION

A free Tibet in which Tibetans can determine their future, 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.



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 social justice values. We empower our community to take action for Tibet, collaborating with diverse stakeholders for maximum impact.

We hold ourselves to the highest standards.

We are resourceful with funds provided by members and supporters, valuing the trust placed in us by our community. We recognise the significance of protecting the information of members through a secure database.

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 governments 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 focused campaigns which are designed to support our objectives.

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





Message from the Co-Chairs

Dear Members,

In early 2022, the world cast their eyes towards China as the Beijing Winter Olympic Games got underway. During this period, China scaled up their repression and surveillance of Tibetans. Meanwhile, ATC and Tibet Support Groups around the world scaled up their efforts to ensure that Tibet was not forgotten.

Australia elected a change of government and along with it came changes to the leadership of the Australian All-Party Parliamentary Group for Tibet (AAPGGT). ATC welcomes Senator Janet Rice and Susan Templeman MP as co-chairs and thanks Warren Entsch MP for his many years as Chair.

We would like to acknowledge Senator Kimberly Kitching.

Senator Kitching was a staunch ally and her sudden passing was a great loss for the Tibet movement in Australia.

For the first time since 2019, ATC was able to proceed with Tibet Lobby Day as a face-to-face event. With the support of our members, ATC took 14 Tibetan delegates to Parliament House in Canberra to meet with Australian MPs and Senators.

As part of the Festival of Tibet, members of the Board joined Executive Officer Zoe Bedford for an in-depth discussion about education in Tibet, in particular, the challenging situation parents face in Tibet whereby they are left with little option but to send their children away to Chinese Communist Party (CCP)-run boarding schools. The issue of boarding school system in Tibet has now become a full campaign, Not on our watch: Cultural Genocide in Tibet.

2022 also saw the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Michelle Bachelet complete a six-day visit to China. Despite international pressure to address and further investigate the CCP-run boarding schools in Tibet, it was an underwhelming tour which failed to address the ongoing human-rights violations in Tibet.

Overall, ATC achieved some great outcomes for Tibet.

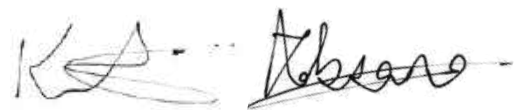
The launch of the *Overcoming Obstacles: Protecting Tibetan Religious Identity* report outlining the systemic attacks on Tibetan religious identity. ATC continues to work to protect Tibetan religious identity and press Australia to call for greater access to Tibet under our proposed Reciprocal Access to Tibet legislation.

Tibet Lobby Day took place in Canberra. This was the first face-to-face Lobby Day since 2019.

Little Tibet Tour - for the first time since the pandemic, ATC was able to take a group of supporters to Dharamsala, India where they were immersed into the world of Tibetan resistance and resilience in exile.

There was a lot to celebrate in 2022 yet the situation in Tibet remains dire. This report serves as a reminder that we must double-down on our efforts to support Tibet and maintain the pressure on our decision makers. We know that Australia can do more for Tibet, and with your help, we will make sure that happens!

As Co-Chairs of the ATC Board of Directors, we want to express our gratitude for your commitment to furthering the Tibetan cause. We thank all ATC supporters who took part in online actions, signed petitions and wrote to their members of parliament about Tibet. We also thank our members and generous donors – we could not gain these meaningful outcomes for Tibet without you!



**Katie Camarena &
Tenzin Lobsang
Khangsar**

Co-Chairs of ATC Board

END THE
OCCUPATION
IN TIBET



BOYCOTT
BEIJING
2022



From the Executive Officer

2022 saw the rise of imperialistic expansion and aggression from two of the world's superpowers, Russia and China.

Countries around the world were shocked into action when Russia rolled their tanks into Ukraine, invading and attacking their sovereign neighbour nation.

This event was particularly traumatising for Tibetan people who were painfully brought back to the events in 1949, when – completely unprovoked – Mao Zedong's army rolled their tanks into Tibet. The events are nearly identical – two sovereign nations, bordering a much larger, imperial aggressor intent on invading and taking their smaller nation by force.

However, there is a glaring difference. In 2022, the world has taken notice and sided unequivocally with Ukraine. Australia has joined the world in providing political and military support and enacting sanctions.

We commend this position and can only lament that the same mindset was not present in 1949 when it was the sovereign nation of Tibet being invaded by their large, aggressive, imperialistic expansionist neighbour. In 1949, when Tibet requested assistance from the US and British governments and expressed its intention to defend the sovereignty of Tibet against the People's Republic of China (PRC), the world failed to act. The world failed Tibet.

The world is still failing Tibet.

It is in large part because of this failure that the PRC believes nobody will stop its current imperialistic expansion and aggression. In August 2022, China's ambassador to Australia stated that China would reunify with Taiwan 'by any means necessary' and told the gathered press to 'use their imagination' to understand what that means.

Tibetans do not have to use their imaginations. The threats against Taiwan from China's ambassador are the lived experience of Tibetans. The years following the 1949 invasion were violent, and culminated in the complete overthrow of the Tibetan government and the Dalai Lama escaping to India in 1959 after threats were made on his life by the Chinese officials.

Violence has been a constant during China's now 73-year occupation of Tibet. With Tibet's time-honoured Buddhist practices disrupted by the forcible dis-robing of monks and nuns in their thousands, the PRC would destroy over 6,000 monasteries in their first years of occupation.

This brutal destruction has never ended. In 2019, Chinese authorities expelled monks and nuns en masse from *Yachen Gar* monastery and bulldozed half the complex and, in an ongoing denial of Tibetan's right to practise their religion freely, China continues to destroy Buddhist statues in Tibet.

Incontestably, Tibetan people do not have to imagine what China's ambassador meant when he said 'by any means necessary' — Tibetans know the brutal force of the PRC and the human rights abuses and systemic oppression that will follow any invasion.

If the world had been listening to what Tibetans had to say in 1949 and since, they would understand that Tibetans have made it clear through their courageous and unflinching protest that they reject China's occupation of their land. Tibetans have never wavered from their support of the Dalai Lama and have used nonviolent means to consistently and clearly call for a Free Tibet.

That is why ATC appreciates each and every action taken by Tibet supporters — because every time you speak out about a Tibetan who has been imprisoned for their beliefs, who has been tortured for speaking out, every time you write to the Australian Government to support a campaign to make a positive change for Tibet, you are contributing to the Tibetan people’s nonviolent struggle.

These efforts can contribute to real change in Tibet. The Tibet movement now more than ever needs to keep working together to achieve a peaceful outcome 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 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 Tibetan human rights and freedoms.

In 2022, our work centred on the following four campaigns: “I will not watch” (Beijing Olympics), protecting Tibetan religious identity and the future succession of the Dalai Lama by Tibetan people, calling on Australia to adopt reciprocal access to Tibet legislation and applying *Magnitsky* sanctions for human rights abuses.

Finally, after two years of disruption from COVID, we were able to conduct Tibet Lobby Day in person, sending fourteen delegates to Canberra, helping promote the Tibetan cause with various parliamentarians.

I WILL NOT WATCH - 2022 BEIJING OLYMPICS

In February, many ATC members and supporters took part in the ‘I will not watch’ campaign. ATC, together with Tibet support groups from around the world, put together a website with many alternative options to watching the 2022 Beijing Winter Olympic games.

I am pleased to report that according to Forbes “The Beijing Games on NBCU delivered an average primetime audience of 10.7 million viewers, making it the least watched Olympics on linear television of all time.

This was a 40% decline from the 2018 Olympics from *Pyeongchang*, South Korea. When NBCU’s Total Audience Delivery (TAD) was factored, which includes other screens, the average audience increased to 11.4 million viewers, still a record low.” [Source Forbes.com Feb 23, 2022]

PROTECTING TIBETAN RELIGIOUS IDENTITY AND THE FUTURE SUCCESSION OF THE DALAI LAMA

In May, we launched a new report, '[Overcoming Obstacles: Protecting Tibetan Religious Identity](#)' at NSW Parliament. The event was well attended and the report outlines the systemic attacks on Tibetan religious identity and the threat to the succession of the future Dalai Lama.

As part of our efforts, we emphasised the importance of the Australian government taking the policy position that "Australia will oppose any effort by the government of the People's Republic of China to select or appoint Tibetan Buddhist religious leaders, including any future Dalai Lama."

The campaign reinforced the notion that the selection of Tibetan Buddhist leaders is to be determined by the Dalai Lama and the Tibetan Buddhist community, in accordance with Tibetan Buddhist practices and traditions, without interference from the Chinese Government and in accordance with international human rights law."



In conjunction with the report, ATC launched an online pledge to protect Tibetan religious identity which you and many Tibet supporters around Australia took.

Thank you to everyone that made the pledge! More than 1,000 pledges were presented to Senator Janet Rice during Tibet Lobby Day.



RECIPROCAL ACCESS TO TIBET

Tibet remains one of the most restricted areas in the world to travel to, with foreigners, diplomats and journalists unable to visit without an official invitation from the Tibet Autonomous Region Government. Whilst Tibetans living in the region cannot visit other Chinese provinces, certain Buddhist holy sites, or family in other countries.

Our campaign emphasised the need for Australia to adopt the Reciprocal Access to Tibet legislation which would enable politicians, diplomats, journalists and most importantly, Tibetan-Australians to visit their homeland.

MAGNITSKY SANCTIONS

Chinese government officials continue to oppress Tibetans and other minority groups. Many of Australia's allies such as the USA, UK, Canada and EU (European Union) have placed sanctions on CCP officials for their repressive measures towards Tibetan people which have restricted religious and political freedoms and violated international human rights law.

Our ATC campaign focused on convincing the Australian government to join with their allies to enact *Magnitsky* sanctions on all CCP (Chinese Communist Party) officials responsible for policies of oppression and human rights abuses.



TIBET LOBBY DAY



With your support, we took 14 Tibetan delegates to Parliament House in Canberra for Tibet Lobby Day 2022. After a full day of training in advocacy, they met with Australian MPs and Senators, briefing them on the current situation in Tibet.

Our delegates spoke about the actions they themselves can take as politicians to help with issues in Tibet.

This was our first Tibet Lobby Day conducted in person since 2019 due to the pandemic. It was great to be back in Canberra and we look forward to an even bigger and better Lobby Day in 2023.



OTHER CAMPAIGNS

We closed out 2022 with a snap action to Foreign Minister Penny Wong when she suddenly visited Beijing to re-ignite Australia's trade relationship with China.

With your quick response and activism, the Foreign Minister received tweets asking her to raise China's ongoing human rights violations in Tibet while she is in China. This served as a stark reminder to Senator Wong Australia cannot abandon our social justice values for trade and economic prosperity.

It was apparent the Foreign Minister heard the message of Tibet Supporters as she told reporters she had communicated Australia's "principled view about the observance and respect for Human Rights". She further stated "That applies in terms of our views about Xinjiang or Tibet or Hong Kong – those are principles that Australia will continue to advocate".

In addition to all of this, Tibet supporters took action by reading and engaging with our updates, buying raffle tickets, supporting Tibet Lobby Day, signing petitions, enquiring about leaving a legacy bequest for Tibet, attending events like Tibetan New Year, Tibet Uprising Day, Dalai Lama's Birthday celebrations, rallies, movie-night fundraisers, and our AGM.

In the lead up to the federal election in May, many of you wrote to and spoke to your candidates about their Tibet policy. From these responses, ATC compiled a comprehensive Election Scorecard rating each party on their responses to key questions about Tibet and human rights.

Our campaign work continues into 2023 - to view our current campaigns please go to www.atc.org.au and join our email list to ensure you receive campaign updates and actions.

Governance

On Saturday 25th June, 2022, ATC convened our Annual General Meeting (AGM) online where ATC's annual awards were awarded for the first time.

The two awards, the Snowlion Certificate of Appreciation and the Damien Lovelock Award for Meritorious Service were created with the aim of recognising members who have made significant contributions over the years.

AWARD RECIPIENTS in 2022

SNOWLION CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

The Snowlion Certificate of Appreciation is for financial members of ATC who have assisted ATC in an important way. Eligibility criteria for the CA award includes major contributions as a volunteer, long-time financial membership of ATC and significant success in fundraising for ATC.

Award winners of the Snow Lion Certificate of Appreciation for 2023:

Annie Wale: Former director of ATC. Annie was a dedicated volunteer before becoming an ATC director. She coordinated volunteers and merchandise stalls on a regular basis to raise funds for ATC. Annie kept ATC and its work relevant by lobbying with politicians during Tibet Lobby Day, engaging with the public, and attending marches and protests.

Nigel Hungerford: Was a member of former ATC Victoria. Nigel has assisted Gabriel Lafitte and the then, Tibetan government-in-exile with mapping mineral deposits in Tibet to pressure and campaign against western mining companies involved in mining in Tibet. He keeps a close relationship with ATC and the local Tibetan community by attending its events and providing financial assistance. Nigel has financially supported Tibetan children in their education.



DAMIEN LOVELOCK AWARD FOR MERITORIOUS SERVICE

The Damien Lovelock Award for Meritorious Service is for supporters and financial members who have made an extraordinary contribution to ATC's work. Eligibility criteria for the award includes making a significant contribution, including financial contribution, to the success of ATC's campaigns and organisational capacity.

Award winners of the Damien Lovelock Award for Meritorious service for 2023:

Gabriel Lafitte: Former ATC Director, author and expert on environment and development challenges in Tibet.

He has authored numerous reports and submissions on Tibet's fragile environment under Chinese occupation for ATC. In 2019, he co-authored '[An Iron Fist in a Green Glove](#)' to highlight the scale of China's forced displacement of Tibetan nomads at the COP25 UN climate change conference.

Mr. Lafitte maintains rukor.org a popular website highlighting the impact of Chinese policies on the Tibetan plateau. He continues to inform and inspire the work of ATC and its supporters.

Richard Boele: founding member and former board member of ATC. Richard is generous with his expertise and willing to contribute to grassroots campaigns for many years.

Richard has lent his skills to the facilitation of ATC strategic planning and assisted ATC in long term goal setting and planning campaign structures to lead to positive outcomes for Tibet.

Richard was a former board member of ATC - which is a volunteer role, giving countless hours to assist the running of ATC. Richard has also supported ATC through significant financial contributions and by assisting our fundraising efforts.

Special recognition to past supporters of ATC

Allan Green: Though Allan has left us now (posthumously); he was the former treasurer of the ATC Queensland. branch. Allan was an active member of former ATC Queensland branch, who firmly believed in the strength of grassroots movement.

He never missed an opportunity to stand for Tibet from organising events, running information and merchandise stalls, printing and distributing flyers to being MC at events and attending protests and marches. Around 20 years ago, Allan jointly set up a health clinic in Tibet with *Zatrul Rinpoche*, the abbot of *Rongbuk* monastery and the clinic is still in operation today.

ATC Volunteers

ATC would like to express gratitude to Chris Teasdale for volunteering his graphic design skills which has assisted ATC in designing new merchandise as well as helping our campaign information and report, *Overcoming Obstacles: Protecting Tibetan Religious Identity* in its engaging and professional appearance.

We would like to take this opportunity to call out for volunteers, as ATC looks to rebuild our volunteer engagement after the pandemic. ATC particularly needs assistance when it comes time for large mail outs, in events and fundraising and finance. Importantly the ATC Board is looking for a Treasurer. Please email tibet.council@atc.org.au if you would like to volunteer.





Dr. Zoë Bedford at the Tibet Network Asia and Australasia Regional Meeting in India

Community

INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION OF TIBET SUPPORT GROUPS

While most of our collaboration with Tibet Support Groups internationally occurs in online forums it was fantastic that in 2022 ATC could once again attend the Tibet Network Asia and Australasia Regional Meeting in India.

ATC engages in strategic cooperation and collaboration with Tibet Support Groups across the world. In 2022 the Australasia Regional meeting brought together Tibet campaigners from India, Taiwan, Japan, the UK, and the USA.

Strategic planning and discussion centred on the following campaign areas:

The Colonial Boarding school system in Tibet where it is estimated that 800,000 Tibetan children are separated from their families, their religion and their language in boarding schools controlled by the CCP.

The Tibet Climate Crisis with a presentation about the damming of Tibet's rivers and the devastating effect it will have not only for Tibet but for the millions of people across Asia.

As well as the risks to the future succession of the Dalai Lama and China's expressed attempts to manipulate and control the future process of deciding the next Dalai Lama.

It is to the credit of the Tibet movement that there are so many campaigners working in so many countries who all come together to share and learn from each other – campaign work is stronger when built on collaboration and cooperation.

ATC continues to work with campaigners from across the world to collaborate on strategies to counter these issues and press our respective governments and the UN to take action to help Tibet.

ATC'S DIRECTORS

At the 2022 AGM, members elected the following as directors of ATC's Board for a two year term: Sonam Paljor, Katie Camarena, Tenzin Dolmey, Yujian Zhang and Tenzin Lobsang Khangsar. Previous board members Annie Wale, Mark Openshaw and Tenzin Lhamo did not stand for election.

The AGM considered the Annual Report 2021 and provided an opportunity for members to ask questions about ATC's activities and finances.

The Board elected Katie Camarena and Tenzin Lobsang Khangsar as Co-chairs, under clause 41.2 of ATC's constitution.

The Board, pursuant to clause 40.5 of ATC's Constitution, appointed Professor Jonathan Cebon and Karen Collier as directors to fill casual vacancies on the Board, commencing in September 2022 and November 2022 respectively.



Co-Chairs of the Board



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.



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.

Katie now works as a digital journalist at the Independent Education Union NSW/ACT.

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.

ATC BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Sonam Paljor recommenced his position as Board member in 2021 after a leave of absence. He works with the NSW Public Sector. Before moving to Australia, he had worked at the Department of Health in the 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.



Tenzin Dolme 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-Graduate degree 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.



Yujian was born and raised in Mainland China. He has a Bachelor degree in Secondary Education and has worked in both government and non-government schools across Queensland and Sydney. Since coming to Australia in 2014, Yujian has continued to be a student of Tibetan Buddhism, engaging extensively with Buddhist centres associated with 'the Foundation for the Preservation of the Mahayana Tradition' (FPMT) in various countries.

At the beginning of 2017, Yujian attended his first in person teaching in Bodhgaya, India with His Holiness the Dalai Lama (HHDL). He has been an adherent follower of HHDL and a supporter of the Free Tibet movement. He joined the Board via election at the ATC AGM in June 2022.



Jonathon Cebon joined the board in September 2022. He is an experienced Medical Oncologist with a demonstrated history of working in the hospital and healthcare industry. Jonathan is skilled in Cancer Research, Healthcare, Life Sciences, Medicine, and Cancer. Healthcare services professional with considerable experience in clinical translation, with a focus on immuno-oncology.

Jonathan's connection to Tibet goes back to the formation of ATC as he was one of ATC's very first board members.



Karen Collier is a multidisciplinary communications specialist, Karen has over 15 years experience working in mass communication at the intersection with human rights and global PR.

In 2004 she began volunteering as a personal aide assisting the then Dalai Lama's Representatives in Australia, NZ, SE Asia and Oceania between 2004-2010, and again from 2010-2014 respectively. Karen was professionally involved with the official Australia wide visits of His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama of Tibet between 2008-2013. In 2012, Karen completed a Masters in Peace and Conflict Studies from the University of Sydney and served on the governing council of the Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies (Faculty of Social & Political Sciences) up until 2018.

Karen joined the ATC Board in November 2022.

BOARD RESIGNATIONS IN 2022

Tenzin Lhamo joined the ATC Board on 20 June 2021. She is Director in KPMG's Management Consulting practice, and also entrepreneurial in establishing a Women in Tech community in Melbourne and has also served in leadership roles in the Tibetan Community in Australia. Tenzin Lhamo joined the board in 2021 and resigned from the board at the 2022 AGM, we thank her for her contribution.

Annie Wale has been a long-time Tibet supporter, witnessing the lead-up to the 1987 uprising while in Lhasa. She regularly taught in Dharamsala with the Dalai Lama's Science and Monastics initiative. She joined the Board in 2018 and resigned from the board at the 2022 AGM, we thank her for her contribution.

Mark Openshaw has been an active ATC member for over twenty-five years. He joined the board in 2021 following several years serving as ATC's Secretary. He resigned from the board at the 2022 AGM, we thank him for his contribution both the work of the board and as ATC Secretary.



ATC STAFF



Dr Zoë Bedford is ATC's 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.



Sonam Gyeltshen joined ATC in February 2022 as ATC's Digital Campaigner. Sonam was born and raised in a Tibetan settlement in Bhutan and has worked in Non-Profit Organisations and various multi-media roles. Sonam has a Bachelor's degree in Media Studies and English literature and an Advanced Diploma in Telecommunications.



Harvey Purse, Campaigns Officer has a background in labour rights and human rights campaigning and organising. A life-long activist, Harvey has been involved in 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



Cameron Rowland was appointed ATC Company Secretary in March 2022. He has a Bachelor of Secondary Education/ Arts and Humanities and a Master of Education Research from the University of Sydney.

He has taught English for over seven years in both government and non-government schools and continues to dedicate his time to helping young Tibetans learn English in Melbourne.

Melissa Blackley took up the role of ATC Company Secretary on 24 November 2021. She has been a professional executive with 20 years in human resources, corporate planning and regulation compliance and has had a strong interest in the Tibet cause over many years.

She resigned as Company Secretary in February 2022.

Fundraising & financial reports

SUMMARY OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

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

STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Notes	2022 \$	2021 \$
Income			
Appeals		27,999	15,089
Donations and Bequests		2,672	327
Interest		14	5
Events Income		-	961
Membership Fees		76,740	76,219
Grants		33,464	-
Raffles		29,857	23,768
Auction revenue		-	
Merchandise		13,076	9,469
Government COVID stimulus		-	34,404
Total Trading and Other Income		183,822	160,242
Expenses			
Advocacy Expenses		21,146	14,397
Audit Review Fee		1,000	1,000
Bank Fees and Charges		2,031	1,794
Communications		2,804	6,221
Internet		2,163	
Fundraising Expenses		9,495	3,782
Merchandise Expenses		1,090	4,991
Payroll Expenses		141,405	174,331
Operational & Administration expenses		9,151	9,453
Total expenses		190,285	215,969
Net Profit / (Loss) Before Income Tax		(6,463)	(55,727)
Income Tax Expenses	1©	-	-
Net Profit / (Loss) after Income Tax		(6,463)	(55,727)
Total Comprehensive Income / (Loss)		(6,463)	(55,727)

BALANCE SHEET

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

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Notes	2022 \$	2021 \$
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents		36,902	51,248
Receivable		10,100	-
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		<u>47,002</u>	<u>51,248</u>
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, Plant and Equipment		-	-
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>47,002</u>	<u>51,248</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and other payables		8,589	3,620
Current tax liabilities			6,056
Provisions		10,226	6,922
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>18,815</u>	<u>16,598</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>28,187</u>	<u>34,650</u>
MEMBERS' FUNDS			
Accumulated Profits		28,187	34,650
TOTAL MEMBERS' FUNDS		<u>28,187</u>	<u>34,650</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

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AUDITOR'S REPORT

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 2022, 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 2022 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.

AUDITOR'S REPORT

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

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

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, except for 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 2022 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 26 day of 05 2023

How can you help?

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 membership program is called Voice For Tibet. This is a monthly giving program that 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.

At Australia Tibet Council, 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 to support ATC throughout the year.

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 the Australia Tibet Council can make a profound difference, allowing us to continue working for Tibet far into the future.

After taking care of your nearest and dearest loved ones, we hope you will consider leaving a legacy for Tibet. Your support will help provide us with critical resources to continue our work until the Tibetans win genuine freedom.

Any gift, large or small, will be a lasting legacy of your compassion and support for the Tibetan people.

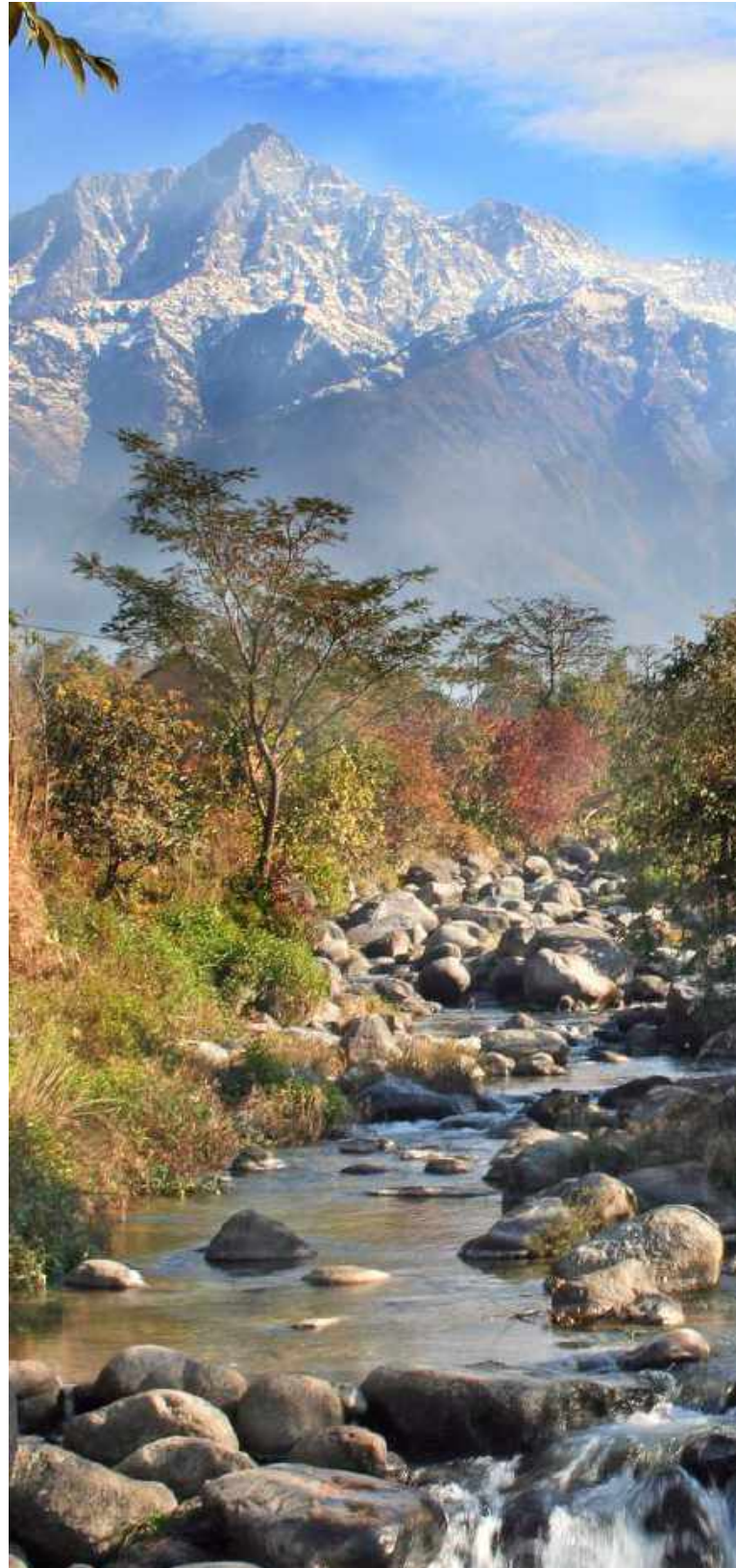
Please email tibet.council@atc.org.au for a Bequest information pack.

Join ATC's Little Tibet Tour

This 12-day [Little Tibet Tour](#), allows you to experience all this and more. From the teeming streets of Delhi, you will travel north to the Himalayan foothills. Spending 11 days in the spiritual and political capital of Tibet in exile, you will immerse yourself in all facets of Tibetan culture and learn firsthand about the current plight of the Tibetan people and their inspiring resilience.

Key highlights include meeting Tibetans and hearing their personal stories, experiencing the delights of Tibetan and Indian cuisines, hiking in the mountains, visiting Tibetan NGOs, political institutions and cultural centres and learning about all things Tibet. And also taking time out for yourself to meditate, read, spend time in nature and make meaningful friendships.

Specially designed and led by Australia Tibet Council, [the Little Tibet Tour](#) is a unique opportunity to experience the Tibetan world with a group of travellers from Australia and worldwide, united by their shared passion and love for Tibet.



Thank you



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