

Australia Tibet Council

Annual Report 2024



JUNE 2025

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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,

It is a great privilege to be working side by side with you in support of Tibet and Tibetans. It's important as we reflect on the busy year that 2024 was to remember how significant ATC's work is. We have kept Tibet on the public agenda in Australia and continued to pressure the Australian Government and Members of Parliament to take action for justice for Tibet. Without the ATC most Australians would know far less about Tibet, and the Australian government would have been much less likely to speak up. And it is your support that makes this work possible.

In 2024 we worked to achieve action globally and locally. Globally, we successfully pressured the Australian Government to raise Tibet when the UN was reviewing China's human rights record in January and then in October we were successful in getting Australia to join 14 other countries to raise Tibet at the UN's General Assembly in New York.

We had a big schedule of advocacy and campaigning locally throughout the year. We took to the streets in March and June, protesting the visits of Chinese officials Wang Yi and Li Qiang when they came to Australia.

In July we campaigned to ensure that Dr Gyal Lo's urgent message of distress about China's colonial boarding schools in Tibet was heard.

Then we had a big month in September in Canberra with both Tibet Lobby Day and supporting a private members motion about Tibet to pass through the House of Representatives.

Both of us and other members of the ATC Board joined young Tibetan's in Australia to lobby Parliamentarians on Tibet Lobby Day, including speaking directly to Foreign Minister Penny Wong.

Additionally, the Tibet Lobby Day delegation was able to be in the gallery at Parliament House when Andrew Wallace's private members motion was supported unilaterally in the House of Representatives.

Other campaigns we continued to be active on during the year included urging the Australian Government to issue Magnitsky Sanctions to CCP officials responsible for this policy of cultural genocide in Tibet and for the Australian governments to clearly state to the Chinese government that we will only recognise a reincarnate Dalai Lama who has been chosen in accordance with Tibetan Buddhist culture and practice.

His Holiness the Dalai Lama is turning 90 years old soon and his message of peace and loving compassion is even more relevant in today's selfish chaotic world. We warmly welcome all of you as Tibet supporters to join ATC's 90th birthday celebrations for His Holiness the Dalai Lama in Melbourne, Brisbane, Sydney and Canberra.

Personally, I wanted to state that it has been a privilege for me, Janet, to join ATC after resigning from the Australian Senate. I have a great passion for Tibet and am keen to continue to push for change and positive outcomes for Tibet in my new role as ATC's Co-Chair.

As Co-Chairs of the ATC Board of Directors, we want to thank you for your commitment to Tibetan and Tibetans . There are so many injustices that the world is facing today, so it is heartening and important that in the face of these that we have kept up such action on Tibet. We want to particularly thank our extraordinary staff, Zoe and Sonam, who work miracles everyday, and to our fellow board members, with special thanks to Katie Camerana who handed over the reins as co-chair at the end of the year. And thanks to you, our members and supporters. Thanks to everyone who signed a petition, wrote to their members of parliament about Tibet and who attended rallies and protest actions. And particular thanks to our members and generous donors – we could not gain these meaningful outcomes for Tibet without you!

In solidarity,

**Janet Rice &
Tenzin Lobsang Khangsar**
Co-Chairs of ATC Board



From the Executive Officer

Dear Friends and Supporters,

As we reflect on the past year, I am both humbled and energised by the strength, courage, and resilience of the Tibetan people—and by your steadfast support in standing with them.

In a world increasingly shaped by political complexity and shifting priorities, our mission remains unwavering: to advocate for the rights and freedoms of the Tibetan people, amplify Tibetan voices, and challenge the ongoing occupation and repression in Tibet.

In 2024 we were able to push the Australian Government to raise Tibet at the UN on several occasions, at the January Human Rights Council's Universal Periodic Review of China and then in October at the United Nations General Assembly in unity with 14 other nations. Each of these representations takes sustained advocacy from Australia Tibet Council for months in advance.

This past year, Australia Tibet Council continued to lobby the Australian Government about China's colonial boarding schools in Tibet, ensuring they heard the testimony and eyewitness accounts of Dr Gyal Lo in July.

We ensured that Chinese leaders who visited Australia were met with protest, we mobilised thousands to face Li Qiang, the Premier of China, and Wang Yi, the Chinese Foreign Minister, when they visited Australia in March and June. Protesters on the lawn at Australia's Parliament House, as well as at the Chinese Embassy in Canberra, stood for Tibet and joined with Uyghurs, Hong Kongers, Falun Gong and Chinese Democracy Activists to call for the release of political prisoners, resist cultural erasure, and demand a Free Tibet!

In September 2024 at Tibet Lobby Day, we saw growing youth engagement, and legislative action — milestones made possible only through collective effort.

It was wonderful to have more Tibetan youth than ever before engage with ATC and being trained in advocacy skills in the months leading up to Tibet Lobby Day by experienced campaigners from the ATC team – and then for the day itself to have such energy and results. In 2024, the Tibet Lobby Day delegates met with over 30 Australian Senators and MPs including Foreign Minister Penny Wong.

It was on Tibet Lobby Day that Andrew Wallace MP put forward his Private Members motion on Tibet. The motion was co-authored by Susan Templeman MP and, when presented to the House of Representatives on Tibet Lobby Day, members from the Liberal Party, the Labor Party and the National Party spoke in support of the motion. For such a comprehensive motion on Tibet to have multi-party support in the House of Representatives and none opposed to it is meaningful and an important step in legislation for Tibet in Australia.

The Tibetan cause is not just about Tibet — it is about justice, human dignity, and the right of all people to live free from fear and oppression. As an organization, we are proud to stand shoulder to shoulder with Tibetans in exile and inside Tibet, and with the global movement for freedom and human rights.

We are deeply grateful for the solidarity and generosity of our community. Every signature, donation, protest, and shared story fuels this movement. With your continued support, we will keep pushing until the day Tibet is free.

With loving kindness (Metta) and solidarity,



Dr. Zoë Bedford

ATC Executive Officer



Campaigns 2024

Introduction

The ongoing struggle for human rights in Tibet remains one of the most critical and enduring human rights challenges in the world. For decades, the people of Tibet have faced systemic repression under Chinese rule, including restrictions on religious freedom, arbitrary detention, cultural assimilation, and the denial of civil and political rights.

This annual report provides an overview of the key campaigns carried out in the past year (or specified period), highlighting their objectives, activities, outcomes, and impact. These campaigns have spanned grassroots mobilisation, government lobbying, digital advocacy, and solidarity actions, reflecting the diverse strategies employed to amplify the Tibetan cause.

Amid increasing surveillance and suppression within Tibet, these campaigns not only draw global attention to the realities faced by Tibetans, but also reaffirm the international community's commitment to justice, human rights, and the preservation of Tibetan identity and culture.



Protest against Chinese Premier Li Qiang in front of Parliament House.

UN and Multilateral Action on Tibet

It is important for Australia to raise human rights abuses in Tibet at the UN in conjunction with other countries to keep the pressure on China and push UN bodies to hold China to account for their human rights abuses in Tibet.

Campaign goal: The Australian Government to speak out about Tibet at the UN.

Actions: Australia Tibet Council members and supporters emailed the Foreign Minister in 2024 asking the Government to raise Tibet at China's UPR in January. ATC members and supporters also participated in petitions targeting the UN. ATC raised this with the Foreign Minister and DFAT officials at every meeting in 2024, as well as working with our international partners, International Tibet Network, Tibet Justice Centre, International Campaign for Tibet.



Campaign highlights and outcomes:

UN Human Rights Committee, Universal Periodic Review of China, 23 January 2024

Statement by Australia:

"Australia recommends China:

Consistent with the OHCHR and other treaty body reports on Xinjiang and Tibet, repeal legislation and cease practices which discriminate against Tibetans and Uyghurs on the basis of race or religion; cease arbitrary detention, coercive labour transfer and family separation programs; and end restrictions on movement and on rights to enjoy their own culture and language".

Statement on Tibet delivered by Australia at Third Committee, 24th plenary meeting, 79th session of UN General Assembly – 22 Oct 2024.

"... as with our concerns for the situation in Xinjiang, we are also seriously concerned about credible reports detailing human rights abuses in Tibet.

United Nations human rights treaty bodies and United Nations Special Procedures have detailed the detention of Tibetans for the peaceful expression of political views; restrictions on travel; coercive labour arrangements; separation of children from families in boarding schools; and erosion of linguistic, cultural, educational and religious rights and freedoms in Tibet".

End the cultural genocide in Tibet

China's colonial occupation of Tibet has entered an alarming new phase, leaving Tibet's unique cultural identity, and future, hanging in the balance. Reminiscent of Australia's Stolen Generations, nearly one million children — some as young as four — have been reportedly separated from their families and forced into a vast network of Chinese boarding schools and pre-schools, which UN rights experts have warned is an effort to assimilate Tibetans into the majority Han culture. Tibetans call it a “cultural genocide”.

As a country grappling with the legacy of a similar policy against Indigenous peoples, it is incumbent upon Australia to ensure that it is not repeated in Tibet in the 21st century.

Campaign goal: The closure of China's colonial boarding schools in Tibet and a return to localised schooling for Tibetan Children that allows them to live with their families and learn in Tibetan language.

Actions: Dr Gyal Lo and colleagues from Tibet Action Institute collaborated with the Australia Tibet Council in a visit to Australia in July 2024.

This visit allowed Dr Gyal Lo to speak directly to Australian Parliamentarians and DFAT about his personal eyewitness accounts of China's colonial boarding schools in Tibet.

He spoke of the cruelty of the system that denies Tibetan parents their right to raise their children within their Tibetan culture and language and within their loving homes.

Dr Gyal Lo also spoke at public events about the impact of this CCP education policy on Tibetan children and the alarming speed in which they are losing their language and identity – he described this as a deliberate act of cultural genocide aimed to wipe Tibetan culture off the globe.

ATC members and supporters met with Dr Gyal Lo and wrote targeted emails to the Foreign Minister demanding that Australia raise this issue with China, to pressure China to end the cultural genocide in Tibet and the policy of forced separation of Tibetan children from their families.



Campaign highlights and outcomes:

On Tibet Lobby Day, Tibetan youth and activist Yangkyi met directly with Foreign Minister Penny Wong to speak to her of her harrowing experiences inside a Chinese colonial boarding school while growing up in Tibet.



Protecting the future succession of the Dalai Lama

Controlling the Dalai Lama is central to China's colonial project of 'sinicising' Tibetan Buddhism. The selection of the next Dalai Lama will be the next major flashpoint between Tibet and China.

A primary hindrance to the CCP's legitimacy is the unwavering loyalty of Tibetans towards their spiritual leader, despite relentless attempts to undermine the Dalai Lama's influence among Tibetans in Tibet and exile over the seven decades of China's occupation of Tibet.

Campaign goal:

ATC's campaign work to protect the future succession of the Dalai Lama centres around ensuring that the Australian Government is fully aware of the CPP plans to hijack the selection and appointment process for the next Dalai Lama, and to lobby the government to adopt a policy statement that:

"The Australian Government commits to recognising 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."

Campaign highlights and outcomes:

The Andrew Wallace MP Private members motion – which was supported by Labor's Susan Templeman MP, Daniel Mulino MP and David Gillespie MP was put to the House of Representatives on Tibet Lobby Day, 9th September 2024 states:

"Tibetans should be empowered to freely choose their economic, social, cultural, and religious policies without interference; and religious and spiritual communities should be empowered to choose their own religious and spiritual leaders without government interference, and this should include the eventual successor of His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama"

It also calls on *"the Chinese Government to reengage with the representatives of the 14th Dalai Lama to establish genuine autonomy for Tibetans within China, and urges the Chinese authorities to release the Panchen Lama"*.

Don't Trade away human rights!

With the 'normalisation' of trade relations between Australia and China, the Australian government needs to do more to ensure that the very real and urgent human rights issues in Tibet have an official avenue to be recognised, raised with China and acted on by the Australian Government.

Campaign goal:

ATC is pushing the the Australian Parliament to establish a transparent mechanism to keep abreast of the numerous and compounding human rights abuses and threats to the people of Tibet, which is inclusive of the views of Australian civil society, has specific time-bound demands of China designed to effectively impact human rights, is backed by the threat of sanctions, and is accountable to the Australian people and upholds Australian values.

Actions:

Australia Tibet Council, the Tibetan Community Associations of Australia, as well as cross-movement groups such as the Uyghur organisations, Falon Gong, Hong Kong and Taiwan organisations and The Alliance for the Victims of the Chinese-

Government Regime all worked together to ensure that the visits to Australia of CCP official Wang Yi and Chinese Premier Li Qiang were interrupted with protest.

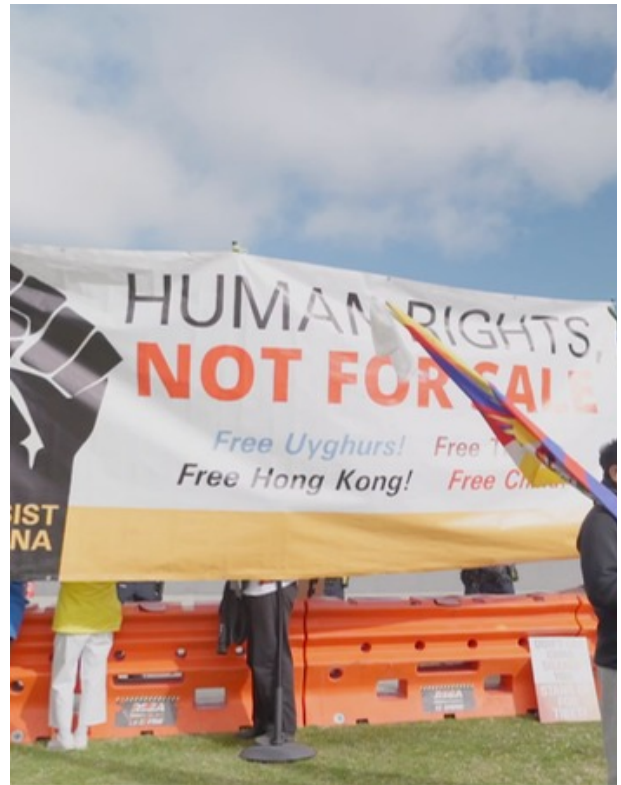


ATC presented the above poster, with names of CCP officials responsible for human rights abuses in Tibet, to Australian Parliamentarians who then recommended the names for Magnitsky sanctions to the Australian Government.

Campaign highlights and outcomes:

Australia Tibet Council organised massive protests for both the visit to Australia by Wang Yi and Chinese Premier Li Qiang – we ensured that these high ranking CCP officials heard our message for a Free Tibet!

The protests also ensured that the Prime Minister, Foreign Minister and Trade Minister of Australia understood that Australian people do not want to see Australia's trade relationship with China become an excuse not to hold China to account for their human rights violations. We continued our call for Australia to issue Magnitsky Sanctions on CCP officials.



Australia Tibet Council's Parliamentary lobbying

Australian Parliamentary delegation to Dharamsala

In partnership with the Tibet Information Office, ATC assisted to take Senator Dean Smith, Senator Debora O'Neill, David Smith MP and Michael McCormack MP to Dharamsala in March 2024. The delegation met with His Holiness the Dalai Lama, Sikyong Penpa Tsering, the CTA, Kashag, Speakers of the house and Kalon Norzin Dolma and of course Tibetan Civil society and NGOs.

Australian All-Party Parliamentary Group for Tibet (AAPGT)

In 2024, the Australian All-Party Parliamentary Group for Tibet co-chairs were Susan Templeman MP, Senator Dean Smith and Senator Janet Rice, and upon the retirement of Senator Janet Rice, Senator Barbara Pocock stepped into the role. ATC worked closely with this group to provide regular briefings and information for their advocacy which includes speaking out about Tibet in the Australian House of Representatives and the Senate. In 2024, twenty-five MPs and Senators regularly attended AAPGT meetings and events.



His Holiness the Dalai Lama with Australian Parliamentary delegation in Dharamsala, India.

Tibet Lobby Day

Tibet Lobby Day is now an annual event for Australia Tibet Council in partnership with the Tibetan Community Associations of Australia. Tibet Lobby Day enables Australian Tibetans to directly lobby Australian Parliamentarians on our core advocacy issues.

ATC trained Tibetan delegates from Melbourne, Sydney, Canberra, and Brisbane, who travelled to Canberra in September 2024 and represented Tibet to 30 MPs and Senators, including Shadow Foreign Affairs Minister Simon Birmingham, and Foreign Affairs Minister Penny Wong.

The 2024 Tibetan delegates were young and enthusiastic and a wonderful outcome of the day was seeing so many Tibetan youths empowered to speak directly to Australia's parliamentarians about the human rights abuses in Tibet.



Private Member's Motion on Tibet

On 9 September 2024, coinciding with the Tibet Lobby Day 2024, Australian Federal Member of Parliament for Fischer, Mr Andrew Wallace moved a Private Member's Motion on Tibet. The Motion had bipartisan support from both the major parties. The motion was supported by Member for Macquarie Susan Templeman MP, Member for Lyne Dr David Gillespie MP, Member for Fraser Dr Daniel Mulino MP and several other members who were unable to participate on the night.

The motion affirmed the many recent pieces of legislation on Tibet passed in like-minded countries around the world. It also noted that the Australian Federal Parliament's House of Representatives stands in solidarity with the Tibetan people and condemns China's many human rights violations against Tibetans inside Tibet.



PARLIAMENT of AUSTRALIA

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Chamber: Federation Chamber 9/09/2024

Item: Federation Chamber - PRIVATE MEMBER'S BUSINESS - **TIBET**

.....

TIBET

Mr Andrew WALLACE MP (Member for Fisher): I move:

That this House:

(1) notes that:

(a) on 6 February 2023, United Nations independent experts identified that approximately one million Tibetan children were being affected by Chinese government policies aimed at assimilating Tibetan people culturally, religiously and linguistically through a residential school system;

(b) on 14 December 2023, the European Union Parliament adopted a resolution on the abduction of Tibetan children and forced assimilation practices through Chinese boarding schools in Tibet;

(c) on 10 June 2024, the Canadian House of Commons unanimously passed a resolution in support of Tibet and the Tibetan people; and

(d) on 12 June 2024, the United States Congress passed the 'Promoting a Resolution to Tibet-China Act';

(2) stands in solidarity with the people of Tibet;

(3) recognises Australia is deeply concerned about reports detailing China's assimilationist policies, including:

(a) forced labour transfer programs and the coerced separation of Tibetan children from their families through state-run boarding schools;

(b) the detention of Tibetans for peaceful expression of political views;

(c) the suppression of Tibetan religious expression; and

- (d) the use of excessive security measures against Tibetans;
- (4) reiterates that the Tibetan people are entitled to their fundamental human rights and freedoms, including their right to self-determination;
- (5) further recognises that:
 - (a) Tibetans should be empowered to freely choose their economic, social, cultural, and religious policies without interference; and
 - (b) religious and spiritual communities should be empowered to choose their own religious and spiritual leaders without government interference, and this should include the eventual successor of His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama;
- (6) calls on:
 - (a) the Chinese Government to reengage with the representatives of the 14th Dalai Lama to establish genuine autonomy for Tibetans within China, and urges the Chinese authorities to release the Panchen Lama; and
 - (b) China to:
 - (i) repeal legislation and cease practices which discriminate against Tibetans on the basis of race or religion;
 - (ii) cease arbitrary detention, coercive labour transfer, and family separation programs;
 - (iii) end restrictions on movement and on the rights of Tibetans to enjoy their own culture and language; and
 - (iv) allow meaningful and unfettered access to Tibet for independent human rights observers; and
- (7) further notes successive Australian Governments have and should continue to raise the issue of human rights violations in China, through political dialogues with the Chinese authorities at the highest levels.



Andrew Wallace MP moving the Private Member's Motion on Tibet.



Dr Zoe Bedford and Tibet Lobby Day delegates in the Federation Chamber.

Meeting directly with Australia's Foreign Minister Penny Wong

Australia Tibet Council has been in direct dialogue with the Foreign Minister and her office to raise Tibet and press for Australia to do more in meetings with China and international forums.

In 2024, we managed to meet directly with the Foreign Minister on Tibet Lobby Day to ensure she met with members of the Tibetan community of Australia who have been personally impacted by China's human rights abuses as former political prisoners, or those with first hand experience in one of China's colonial boarding schools in Tibet.

Australia Tibet Council contributed to the following Parliamentary Inquiries:

The Criminal Code Amendment (Genocide, Crimes Against Humanity and War Crimes) Bill 2024 – otherwise known as **the Genocide Inquiry**, initiated by Senator Lidia Thorpe. ATC's submission can be [found here](#).

Australia Tibet Council also made a submission to the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Committee's **Inquiry into Australia's Sanction's regime**. The Australia Tibet Council Submission can be [found here](#).

The inquiry final report can be [found here](#).

In our submission we argued that Australia's sanction's regime is currently inconsistently applied in Australia, fails to be in alignment with Australia's overseas allies, and fails to be applied to CCP officials responsible for human rights abuses in Tibet.

Campaign Partnerships and Coordination of the Movement

Sometimes Australia can feel very far away from places like Geneva and New York – where the UN is headquartered. It is essential that Australia Tibet Council coordinates and collaborates with our vast network of Tibet Support Groups internationally. Australia Tibet Council Executive Office, Dr Zoë Bedford, is on the Steering Committee for the International Tibet Network (ITN) to ensure our campaigns are aligned internationally which strengthens both our work and the work of the movement.

Additionally, Australia Tibet Council works in collaboration with Tibet Support Groups internationally, such as International Campaign for Tibet in the USA, Free Tibet in the UK, Students for a Free Tibet in India, and Tibet Action Institute in the USA.

Collaboration amplifies our work and strengthens the movement in Australia. ATC regularly collaborates across Australia with the Tibet Information Office in Canberra, Tibetan Community organisations, and increasingly the Tibetan Voluntary Tibet Advocacy Group (V-TAG).

ATC also works with the ‘cross-movement’ groups also impacted by China’s human rights abuses — Uyghurs, Hong Kongers, Chinese Democracy activists in Australia — as we can see that our movement is stronger together. This involves finding unifying campaigns, such as the push to see CCP officials sanctioned under Australia’s Magnitsky-style sanction laws.





Governance

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.

Snowlion Certificate of Appreciation

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

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 Lovelock award can include a significant contribution, including financial contribution, to the success of ATC's campaigns and organisational capacity.

The Snowlion Certificate of Appreciation is awarded to the Honourable Warren Entsch

Hon. Warren Entsch, was Federal Member for Leichhardt, until retiring at the 2025 Federal Election. Mr Entsch had been a Member of the Australian Parliament since 1996. Throughout his career, Warren has been a powerful and outspoken advocate for positive policy reforms, both from within Government and Opposition.

During his time in the House of Representatives, Warren was the Co-Chair of the Australian All-Party Parliamentary Group for Tibet. In this role he helped facilitate the passing of Australia's Magnitsky Sanctions laws that will allow for individuals to be sanctioned for their role in human rights violations in Tibet. Warren was also influential in achieving Australia's diplomatic boycott of the 2022 Beijing Winter Olympics. He met with the Sikyong and other Tibetan Central Authority (Tibetan Government in Exile) officials in Australia, raised several private motions on Tibet and made speeches about cases of individual Tibetan political prisoners and the destruction of Tibet's environment.

Mr Entsch attended the 6th World Parliamentarians Convention on Tibet in Ottawa, Canada, and worked closely with Australia Tibet Council while in office.

He was very honoured to meet His Holiness the Dalai Lama in person in 2012. Warren continues to be a great supporter of the people of Tibet, and Australia Tibet Council thanks him for his support.



The Damien Lovelock Award for Meritorious Service is awarded to Tenzin Choegyal

Tenzin Choegyal was born into a family of Tibetan nomads in the region known as Mustang on the Tibetan/Nepalese border.

In the 1970s they were forced out of Tibet into Nepal. Tenzin was eventually raised in exile in Dharamsala, in northern India and now lives in Australia.



An outstanding singer and musician, he is a master of traditional instruments such as the dranyen (long-necked lute) and lingbu (transverse bamboo flute). His repertoire includes folksongs, flute offerings, Buddhist mantras, and songs inspired by his nomadic heritage.

Using his talents for song-making Tenzin Choegyal has drawn people into the Tibet movement and has both educated them about Tibet and inspired them to take action. Tenzin Choegyal has collaborated with Australia Tibet Council for online and live in-person events on too many occasions to list. He has also been instrumental in raising funds for ATC with his 'Tibetan Concerts at Home' series which saw him travel around Australia and bring his beautiful music into the lounge rooms of Tibet supporters for intimate concerts.

Australia Tibet Council recognises with this award the powerful effect that Tenzin Choegyal's music has had on raising awareness about Tibet in Australia and internationally, we thank him for his ongoing support of Tibet and Australia Tibet Council.



ATC Volunteers

We would like to take this opportunity to call out for volunteers, as ATC continues 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.

Board resignations and appointments during 2024

Management of the business and affairs of Australia Tibet Council Ltd is vested in the board of directors. Among other things, the board of directors is responsible for policy decisions, setting long and short term goals, and ensuring that ATC's influence and resources are used as effectively as possible to achieve its aims.

The Board, pursuant to clause 40.5 of ATC's Constitution, held an election at the 2024 AGM on 22 June 2024.

Prior to the 2024 AGM, all financial members were asked to nominate candidates for the board and, since there were 10 nominees for the 9 board positions, an election was held.

The successful candidates were: Tenzin Lobsang Khangsar, Janet Rice, Sonam Paljor, Sonam Choeden, Kalsang Tsering, Yama Choezom, Katie Camarena, Karen Collier and Jonathan Cebon.

Yujian (Dylan) Zhang left the board in June 2024 at the AGM. We thank Dylan for his contributions during his time as a board member.

In December 2024, ATC directors Tenzin Lobsang Khangsar and Janet Rice were appointed as Co-chairs, under clause 41.2 of ATC's constitution.

Board Members



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.



Janet Rice joined the board in June 2024. Janet has been a passionate campaigner for justice, people and the planet for more than thirty years. She took her seat as a Greens Senator for Victoria in 2014 and served as a Senator for 10 years before retiring in 2024, she is a founding member of the Australian Greens party and was well known for her support of Tibet while in Parliament. Janet was elected Co-chair in December 2024.



Katie Camarena has been a volunteer with Australia Tibet Council since 2000 and worked in the national office between 2003 and 2007. In 2005, Katie helped organise and lead the first Little Tibet Tour ('Trek for Tibet'). She joined the Board in 2014 and was elected as Co-chair in Dec 2020.

Katie holds a Bachelor of International Studies from the University of New South Wales and worked in international aid and development for many years. Katie specialises in digital communications and now works as a digital journalist and campaigner in the union movement.



Sonam Paljor recommenced his position as Board member in 2021 after a leave of absence. Sonam works in 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.



Karen Collier is an interdisciplinary communications specialist and health professional currently working in the trauma field with a passion for working with underserved communities. She holds a Masters of Peace and Conflict studies from the University of Sydney, and most recently served as head of communications within Australia's peak body providing psychosocial support and specialist services to refugee torture and trauma survivors from over 170 countries of origin.

Karen's connection with the Tibetan community dates back to the early 2000's. Since 2004 she has provided support in various capacities to the Tibet Information Office Australia and the Tibetan Community of NSW. Inspired by the Dalai Lama's visionary dialogues between Tibetan Buddhism and Western Science, Karen is currently undertaking postgraduate studies in Psychotherapy, with special interest in the wisdom traditions of ancient civilizations and mind-body practices for the treatment of traumatic stress. As a human rights defender, she is firmly committed to increasing trauma literacy in the global media and supporting the Tibetan people to realise their right to self-determination.



Professor Jonathan Cebon was a foundation executive member of ATC in 1990. During ATC's early years he was a contributor to and editor of *ATC News*; a member of the organising committee for the Dalai Lama's 1991 Australian visit; and actively participated in the lobbying activities of ATC, including seeking the humanitarian immigration intake of Tibetans into Australia, and hosting the Australian visits of Kalon Tash Wangdi and Representative Pema Gyalpo, and Lhasang Tsering of Tibetan Youth Congress.

He participated in the meeting between the 10th Panchen Lama and community members in Melbourne in 1986, and was previously a medical officer at Delek Hospital in Dharamsala and Sonam Ling Tibetan Refugee Settlement in Leh, Ladakh.



Yama Choezom was born in Tibet and grew up in India, attending the Tibetan Children's Village School. She has a BA, LLB from India and has worked at a Tibetan Law firm in India as an Associate. Yama moved to Australia in 2017 to complete a Master of Laws (LLM) at the University of Melbourne. She is an admitted solicitor and currently practising as a litigation lawyer at the NSW Department of Planning and Environment. Yama previously worked in private practice in the areas of immigration, construction and not-for-profit law in boutique to top-tier law firms in Sydney.



Kalsang Tsering - was elected onto the board in June 2024. Kalsang was born in Tibet and at a young age left for India. He has worked for the Central Tibetan Administration (CTA) in Dharamsala as a public servant before immigrating to Australia under the program of Australian Humanitarian Settlement Program just ahead of the pandemic. Kalsang has also served as the President of the ACT Tibetan Community and Chair of the Tibetan Communities of Australia.

Kalsang has a wealth of experience as he was a member of the Tibetan negotiation team led by the Special Envoy of His Holiness the Dalai Lama, the late Mr. Lodi G. Gyari, and participated in the Eighth Round of Talks with the Chinese leadership.



Sonam Choedon was elected onto the board in June 2024. Sonam is a community leader and a Certified Practising Accountant (CPA) with over 17 years of experience in different areas of financial management, including financial governance. Born in a Tibetan refugee community in South India, Sonam was raised and educated at the Tibetan Children's Village school. Sonam is committed to and is passionate about empowering the community. She sits on the Boards of both Tibet Information Office and Tibet Culture Centre, Australia.

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.

Company Secretary



Cameron Rowland is a qualified secondary school teacher who has worked in both government and non-government schools across Sydney and Melbourne. He has been a passionate and avid supporter of the Tibetan cause, supporting many newly arrived Tibetan students in their secondary schooling context and volunteering to help many young primary school Tibetans with reading. Born and raised in Sydney, Cameron has previously run his own tutoring business. He has a Bachelor of Secondary Education/Arts and Humanities and a Master of Education Research degree from the University of Sydney. He now works as an English teacher in Melbourne and continues to dedicate his time helping young Tibetans integrate into society through volunteer tutoring.

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 2024

			2024	2023
		Notes	\$	\$
Income				
Appeals			18,599	42,924
Donations and Bequests			6,340	1,443
Interest			1	-
Events Income			60,948	29,372
Membership Fees			73,193	77,972
Grants			-	2600
Raffles			20,191	24,540
Auction revenue			4,720	-
Merchandise			9,596	10,117
Government COVID stimulus			-	-
Total Trading and Other Income			193,588	188,968
Expenses				
Advocacy Expenses			13,343	26,047
Audit Review Fee			3,567	1,000
Bank Fees and Charges			4,750	1,905
Communications			2,229	2,347
Internet			2,566	3,460
Fundraising & Events Expenses			43,219	11,129
Merchandise Expenses			3,468	7,254
Payroll Expenses			120,944	130,188
Operational & Administration expenses			1514	8,564
GU CHU Contracts			-	25,018
Total expenses			195,601	216,912
Net Profit / (Loss) Before Income Tax			(2,013)	(27,944)
Income Tax Expenses		10	-	-
Net Profit / (Loss) after Income Tax			(2,013)	(27,944)
Total Comprehensive Income / (Loss)			(2,013)	(27,944)

Summary of Income and Expenditure

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

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

				2024	2023
			Notes	\$	\$
CURRENT ASSETS					
Cash and cash equivalents				18,675	23,545
Receivable				-	-
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS				18,675	23,545
NON-CURRENT ASSETS					
Property, Plant and Equipment				-	-
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS					-
TOTAL ASSETS				18,675	23,545
CURRENT LIABILITIES					
Trade and other payables				7,275	3,096
Current tax liabilities				5,550	4,828
Provisions				7,620	15,378
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES				20,445	23,302
NET ASSETS				(1,770)	243
MEMBERS' FUNDS					
Accumulated Profits				(1,770)	243
TOTAL MEMBERS' FUNDS				(1,770)	243

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 2024, 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 2024 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

4

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 2024 and of its performance for the year ended on that date; and

a. 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
32 Wigram Street
Harris Park NSW 2150

Dated this 27 day of June 2025

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.



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.

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.



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

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.

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.

Our 12-day Little Tibet Tour, allows you to experience all this and more.

Key highlights include meeting Tibetans and hearing their personal stories, experiencing the delights of Tibetan and Indian cuisine, completing the holy Kora walk around Dharamsala, 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.

Make next year the year you experience Dharamsala with ATC!



Thank you



**AUSTRALIA
TIBET
COUNCIL**

www.atc.org.au



Sydney Tibetan Community member performing a Tibetan masked dance at the National Multicultural Festival in Canberra.