

Amnesty ACT and Southern NSW Branch AGM Notice

Dear Amnesty International ACT/SNSW member

I'd like to invite you to our Branch Annual General Meeting on **Saturday 19 May**. It is going to be a fulfilling day, with an opportunity to share skills, hear updates and take part in our regional stewardship of Amnesty International in ACT/SNSW.

Over the past year Amnesty has continued to progress in the face of changing world leaders, great adversity and challenging events. As with each year's progress, that would not have been possible without your **commitment, persistence, integrity and courage** in shining a light on human rights abuses.

In the past year we have had great success and reasons to celebrate. Our ANU group, letter writing groups, and School Network Outreach Team continue to thrive, and we have re-established a group at the University of Canberra. Thanks to a small group of very dedicated activists, we now have an Eminent Speakers Program, which has brought David Manne to Wagga, and Gillian Triggs and Gareth Evans to Canberra.

We continue to do great things together, and we plan to do more of the same in 2018 and 2019. I look forward to standing together to defend more lives, be an unstoppable movement and inspire outstanding passion and commitment.

Ronnie Gori
Branch President
Amnesty International ACT/SNSW



ACN 002 806 233

**NOTICE OF BRANCH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the ACT and Southern NSW Branch of Amnesty International Australia will be held at **Friends Meeting House**, 17 Bent Street, Turner ACT **on 19 May 2018 from 9:00 am**

Agenda

- 9.00 am **Registration**
- 9.30am **Welcome and Introductions**
Welcome to Country
Branch President's Welcome
Meet the Branch Committee
Adoption of Standing Orders and 2017 BAGM Minutes
Election of Returning Officer
Branch President's Report
Update from Action Groups
- 10.00am **National AIA Updates**
National President's video (2017 against the vision)
National Treasurer's video (Annual Financial Report and consideration of previous year's financial statement)
National Director's video (Successes in 2017)
- 10.30am **Activism Report**
- 11.00am **Morning Tea & Certificates of Appreciation**
- 11.30am **Elections and Resolutions**
Discussion of resolutions and voting
Election of members of the Branch Committee
Election of National Annual General Meeting (NAGM) representatives and observers
- 12:00pm **Activity**
- 1:00pm **Lunch**
- 1:45pm **Announcement of Election Results by Returning Officer**
- 1:50pm **Awards**
June Fassina Award
- 2.00 pm **AIA Rethinking Governance**
An opportunity to contribute to the discussion shaping AIA's Governance to achieve our best human rights impact.
- 3.30 pm **Afternoon Tea and Close of BAGM**

Each year, the ACT and SNSW Branch awards the June Fassina award, a meritorious service award for contributions to Amnesty International Australia in the ACT and SNSW region. This award recognises members and groups who have shown outstanding and long-term service to the organisation. All nominations must include a brief description of why the nominee is deserving of such an award (no more than 500 words) and must be submitted in writing to the Branch President, by **5pm 4 May 2018**. The full award policy is available at www.amnesty.org.au/branch-agm-2018/.

Nominations

Nominations are invited for the Branch Committee, and/or for the 2018 representatives for the National Annual General Meeting (NAGM) to be held 27-28 October.

Nominations should be submitted in writing to the Branch Secretary. Nominations close at **10am on 19 May 2018**. Please submit nominations early if possible for preparation purposes, preferably by **5pm 4 May 2018**.

Positions available for election on the 2018 Branch Committee are: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and general members. Amnesty International Australia members at the BAGM will also elect two voting delegates to NAGM and one (non-voting) observer.

All Branch Committee members and NAGM delegates must be financial members of Amnesty International Australia. New and renewed memberships will be accepted up until **11 May 2018**.

Regional members are invited to nominate for a Branch Committee position and participate in meetings by teleconference.

Resolutions

Any proposed resolutions should be put in writing and sent to the Branch Secretary. Proposed resolutions must be received by **5pm 11 May 2018**.

Voting rights

Subject to the Constitution, each branch member is entitled to vote at the Branch Annual General Meeting. You will not be entitled to vote if:

- a) You were a non-financial member (i.e. a human rights supporter) for a period exceeding three months prior to the meeting; and
- b) In the opinion of the persons chairing the Branch General Meeting, the member of the Branch intended to be a non-financial member for that period.

Only financial members living in the ACT/SNSW have the opportunity to put forward resolutions and vote. This is a rule that comes from the Amnesty International Australia Constitution. You can join at www.amnesty.org.au/membership or check your membership status with Supporter Relations on 1300 300 920. Individuals who are not on the membership list as of **11 May 2018** will not be entitled to vote.

Proxy voting rights

Subject to the Constitution each branch member entitled to a vote at a BAGM, may vote in person or by proxy. A proxy must be a member of Amnesty International Australia.

An instrument appointing a proxy need not be in any particular form, provided it is in writing, legally valid, signed and deposited at the Action Centre at Lower Ground Floor, 33-35 Ainslie Place (Avenue) Canberra ACT 2601 by **5pm 18 May 2018**. A sample proxy form can be found at www.amnesty.org.au/branch-agm-2018/.

RSVP

For all resolutions, nominations and to advise that you will be attending, please contact Angela Gullace at actbranchsecretary@amnesty.org.au. For catering purposes please let us know if you have any particular dietary requirements.

Contact information

For the June Fassina Award and Proxy forms or for any other queries please email: actbranchpresident@amnesty.org.au

Post or in person:

Ronnie Gori, Branch President
Amnesty International Australia,
Lower Ground Floor, 33-35 Ainslie Place (Avenue)
Canberra ACT 2601.

Call:

All members and supporters are most welcome. We look forward to seeing you on 19 May.

Ronnie Gori

*Branch President
April 2018*