



Dear Amnesty International Victoria member,

Over the last year, you have taken action for human rights and I want to **thank you** for everything that you've done. Together with millions of Amnesty supporters and activists in Victoria and around the world, **a growing community of people just like you**, you continue to save lives, get people out of jail, get unjust laws repealed and deliver positive human rights change. [Here you have some of the successes](#) we've celebrated recently. Thank you!

Today I am writing to invite you to our next **Social Change Lab on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> May, which will include our 2018 Annual General Meeting**. You can find the formal notice of meeting and RSVP details below.

Those of you who have joined us before know that it is going to be an exciting day. There will be campaign updates, skill sharing, elections of the Victorian branch committee members and national AGM delegates, a key note speaker, speed dating and a lot more. We will also be building on the work that we did at the **Rethinking Governance** roadshow earlier this month with so many of you. More than anything else, the day will be a great opportunity to **meet and spend time with Amnesty friends**. Tea, coffee and lunch will be provided.

I look forward to seeing you all on Saturday 19 May. Thank you once again for your ongoing support and for believing in our vision of human rights for all.

With gratitude

Mario Santos  
Victorian Branch President

# SOCIAL CHANGE LAB

inc Branch Annual General Meeting of Amnesty International Australia (ACN 002 806 233)



Notice is hereby given that the Victorian Branch of Amnesty International Australia's **Social Change Lab including Annual General Meeting** is happening on

**19 May 2018**

**CITY OF MELBOURNE BOWLS CLUB**

Flagstaff Gardens, Dudley Street, Melbourne

You are invited to come and meet fellow members, activists and volunteers, to network and discuss key matters our organisation is working on locally and abroad.

## AGENDA

**9:00AM**

Registration and meet fellow Amnesty members, activists and volunteers (including your candidates for the Vic Branch Committee and National AGM positions)

Acknowledgement of Country

Adoption of standing orders and 2017 AGM minutes

National and regional reports and updates

Debate and voting on resolutions

**MORNING TEA (15 minutes)**

Elections for Vic Branch Committee and National AGM positions

Rethinking Governance update and consultation

Announcement of election results

**1:00PM**

**LUNCH (45 minutes)**

Campaigns update

Workshops

**AFTERNOON TEA (15 minutes)**

Keynote speaker

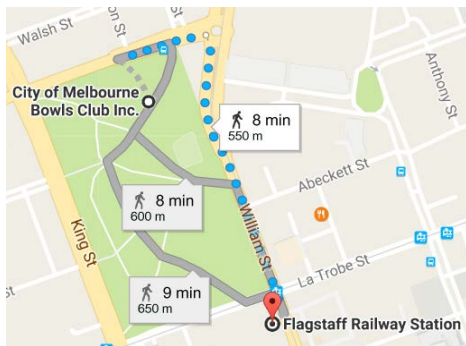
Speed dating

**5:00PM**

**CLOSE followed by drinks**

## HOW TO GET THERE

How to get there – get off at Flagstaff Station and walk 10 minutes. There will be volunteers to direct you at the station.



Parking is available:

- Secure- The Mint Parking. 383 La Trobe St  
Saturday flat rate \$8, undercover
- Wilson parking- 200 Queen St  
Saturday flat rate \$9, undercover
- Queen Victoria Market carpark- Peel St  
Saturday \$20 all day, not undercover
- Cobb and Co carpark- 380 Lonsdale St  
Saturday flat rate \$12, undercover

## WHAT IS AN ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING?

Most organisations have Annual General Meetings. This is an opportunity for us to meet, celebrate our progress over the past year, discuss key issues affecting our organisation and hold elections.

## RSVP

For further details, or to advise that you will be attending, please **RSVP** at [bit.ly/AmnestyBAGM-SCL2018](http://bit.ly/AmnestyBAGM-SCL2018) or contact Suzan Gencay at [vicbranchsecretary@amnesty.org.au](mailto:vicbranchsecretary@amnesty.org.au) or call 03 9412 0700 by 12 May 2018. For catering purposes please let us know if you have any particular dietary requirements.

All members, activists, volunteers and supporters are encouraged to come along.

## WHO CAN SPEAK AND PARTICIPATE IN THE MEETING?

We encourage members and supporters to be involved in the process of the Victorian Branch Annual General Meeting and ask questions, make points or offer further information.

We do ask that you participate in a respectful and polite way to make sure everyone attending feels as safe and comfortable as possible. If you would like to speak, please raise your hand and keep your hand raised until addressed by the Chair.

Branch Annual General Meetings are a safe space. If anyone is consistently rude or disruptive, they may be asked to leave.

If someone has upset you or said something you feel is rude, please approach the Branch Secretary, Suzan Gencay.

## VOTING RIGHTS

Subject to the Constitution, each branch member is entitled to vote at the General Branch 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 person/s 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 Victoria have the opportunity to put forward resolutions and vote.

This is a rule that comes from the Amnesty International Australia Constitution. Copies are available at [www.amnesty.org.au](http://www.amnesty.org.au).

You can join online or check your membership status on 1300 300 920. Individuals who are not on the membership list as of **12 May 2018** will not be entitled to vote.

## PROXY VOTING RIGHTS

Proxy voting is when a member attending the meeting has been asked by a member or members not attending to vote on their behalf. Each member entitled to vote at a Branch Annual General Meeting may vote by proxy. Both the principal (the person with voting power but not attending) and proxy (the person voting for the principal) must be financial members of Amnesty. You can join at [www.amnesty.org.au/membership](http://www.amnesty.org.au/membership) or check your membership status with Supporter Relations on 1300 300 920. To appoint someone to be your proxy, please provide the Branch Secretary with a proxy form. Proxy nominations must be received by 16 May 2018 to [vicbranchsecretary@amnesty.org.au](mailto:vicbranchsecretary@amnesty.org.au).

## NOMINATIONS

Nominations for the Branch Committee and/or for the 2018 representatives for the National Annual General Meeting (NAGM) should be submitted in writing to the Branch Secretary, Suzan Gencay at [vicbranchsecretary@amnesty.org.au](mailto:vicbranchsecretary@amnesty.org.au) by 12 May 2018. Voting Amnesty International Australia members at the Branch Annual General Meeting elect three voting delegates to NAGM and two (non-voting) observers.

NAGM voting delegates and two observers will be required to attend the National AGM on 27-28 October 2018. The voting delegates will also need to attend a special resolutions meeting for voting delegates, Branch Presidents and board members on 28 -29 July in Sydney.

Positions on the Branch Committee are: Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer and up to seven other members. All members of the Branch Committee and the NAGM delegates must be financial members of Amnesty International Australia.

We CANNOT accept late nominations or incomplete forms. Please note, due to the volume of correspondence the Secretary receives prior to the meeting, you will not be contacted if your form is improperly completed.

It MUST contain every person's membership number and personal information. You can check your membership status with Supporter Relations on 1300 300 920.

## AWARDS

The Victorian Branch has two annual awards for meritorious service:

1. The Clare Wositzky Award (for members who have shown outstanding and long-term service to the region).
2. The Young Human Rights Defender Award (for members aged 25 years or under).

Nominations for these awards must be mailed to the Victorian Action Centre at 134 Cambridge Street, Collingwood VIC 3066 by close of business on 12 May 2018.

## QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Any action group, network, team or individual member can put forward a question on notice to the National Board. These questions can be on any matter relevant to Amnesty. Questions should be put in writing and sent to the Branch Secretary, Suzan Gencay at [vicbranchsecretary@amnesty.org.au](mailto:vicbranchsecretary@amnesty.org.au) or at the Action Centre at 134 Cambridge Street, Collingwood VIC 3066 by close of business, 12 May 2018. Contact the Action Centre if you have any queries.

## RESOLUTIONS

Any proposed resolutions for consideration by the Branch Annual General Meeting from action groups, networks, teams or individual members should be put in writing and sent to the Branch Secretary Suzan Gencay at [vicbranchsecretary@amnesty.org.au](mailto:vicbranchsecretary@amnesty.org.au) or at the Victorian Action Centre at 134 Cambridge Street, Collingwood VIC 3066 by close of business on 12 May 2018. Contact your local Action Centre if you have any queries.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Send all RSVPs, Resolutions, Nominations and Proxy forms to:

### Post:

Victorian Branch Secretary  
C/O Victorian Action Centre  
Locked Bag 7  
Collingwood, Vic, 3066  
(please allow time for postal delivery)

### Email:

[vicbranchsecretary@amnesty.org.au](mailto:vicbranchsecretary@amnesty.org.au)

### Tel:

03 9412 0700

### In Person:

Victorian Action Centre  
Suite 8, 134 Cambridge St  
Collingwood VIC