

Sample Letter of Support for the Buddhist Council of Queensland..... Please reproduce on your own letter head and forward to the Council..... thank you.....

To Who It May Concern,

The Buddhist Council of Queensland, incorporated in 2000, has been representing Buddhism in Queensland as the umbrella body for all Centres and Buddhists.

Buddhism has traditionally been the pursuit of the individual seeking ultimate enlightenment through following the teachings of Lord Shakyamuni Buddha, given more than 2500 years ago.

Love, compassion, mutual respect and kindness are the hallmarks of these teachings.

The Buddhist Council of Queensland Inc. has, as one its aims, to unite the diversity of traditions that have evolved from Lord Buddha's multitude of teachings, given over more than forty years to many thousands of people. His teachings spread from India throughout Asia, and now can be found in almost every country of the world. As with Christianity, there are many subtle variations of practicing the Buddha's teachings while sustaining the pure message at its core. There therefore exists a strong Inter-faith bond in Buddhism.

The Council recognizes the Multi-faith and Multicultural diversity that exists in this state and supports mutual respect for the individual while encouraging Australian values and the integration of the respective merits of all constituent parts.

The Council is directly involved in formalizing Buddhist education programs for Queensland Schools, facilitating established Buddhist centres by developing a unified syllabus and resources to the whole of Queensland, that can then be delivered by local centres to their community.

The Council actively represents the Buddhist philosophy at Community events and festivals including the Qld. Multicultural Festival, and is working with the organizer of the inaugural National Inter-Faith Festival to be staged at Maleny in 2007.

The Council is committed to on-going works to bring the various Buddhist centres and temples together and their communities, to share the teachings of the Buddha with the broader community and to help facilitate individual centres and groups in their dealings with governments and the corporate sectors.

The Council is a participating member of the Federation of Australian Buddhist Councils Inc. that liaises on federal matters with the Australian Government and contributes to international forums on behalf of the Australian Buddhist community, of which there are an estimated 500,000 and suggesting that Buddhism is only second to Christianity in Australia in terms of followers.

I/We support the Buddhist Council of Queensland Inc. in their continuing efforts to further represent and promote Buddhism in this state.

Signed