

# **STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN REPORT FROM THE ASSOCIATION OF BHUTANESE IN PERTH INCORPORATED (ABPI)**

*Bhutanese in Perth Covid-19 Response Group  
(BIPCRG)*

<https://www.abpiperth.com/covid-19-response-group/>

**1 MAY 2020**

**Strategic Action Plan Report from the Bhutanese in Perth Covid-19  
Response Group (BIPCRG)  
Association of Bhutanese in Perth Incorporated (ABPI)**

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of country throughout Australia and recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and culture. We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.

Answering to the call of the nation and the Government, the Bhutanese community in Perth, in particular under the flagship of Association of Bhutanese in Perth Incorporated (ABPI) formed a task group known as **Bhutanese in Perth Covid-19 Response Group (BIPCRG)**. The formation of this Group was felt necessary to assess the challenges and needs faced during this pandemic. It would be pivotal to know that following the regulations and advices released by the Government, the ABPI immediately started to work on precautionary measures and to explore on how best we can overcome this situation. To this, we have immediately acted upon and has achieved these 2 very important milestones: 1) Working in close collaboration with other community organisations, educational institutions, state and federal government, and multicultural communities in Western Australia and devising suggestions and recommendations on impact COVID-19 is having on each of the community members and the way forward; and 2) To the extent possible, this Group has committed to help ease **fearmongering, misinformation** and provide necessary support to realistically contain the COVID-19 situation in Perth (such as counselling and e-engagement). Needless to mention that the Group has assisted to prepare and produce numerous documents, advocacy and timely information which is being shared via our community news and community social media platform.

From a recent survey carried out to assess the situation of covid-19 among our community members, we have found that almost 40% of our community members were affected directly by the situation. Remaining of the members affected indirectly through their partners job loss, inability to reunite with family members, among others. This included the loss of job, psychological trauma, tenancy issues, and educational challenges. To this, the Group immediately formulated action plan in the form of financial relief assistance, rental relief plan to the genuinely affected members. While there remain a larger number of people affected, the Group is continuously exploring ways to abridge this gap. While this remains for the ones affected, to further enable community vitality, we have devised online and e-social culture to connect our youths through art competition, musical talent hunt, among others. Our academic group is also undergoing a research to produce a Report on how our community has been affected from covid-19. Since then, we have also reached upon to the concerned agencies and presented the situation in a holistic manner. We approached representatives of the local, state and federal government to abridge such gaps. It must be mentioned that the response and assistance has been positive and our sincere appreciation to Senator Dean Smith for his constant feedback and advices.

In mentioning all this, the Bhutanese community doesn't intend to make our submission the only case. We acknowledge that such scenario has been similar across the board. And the Report submitted here is a holistic approach on how we have fought the challenges faced and the measures planned ahead.

Karma Choden  
**General Secretary  
(Interim President, ABPI)**

Dr. Khandu Nakhap  
**(Chairperson)  
(COVID-19 Response Group)**

## **1. Milestone of ABPI in Western Australia**

The Association of Bhutanese in Perth Incorporated (ABPI) was officially established on 14<sup>th</sup> April 2014 as a not-for-profit community organisation for the welfare of Bhutanese in Perth and enhancing multiculturalism in Western Australia. ABPI has since played a vital role in mobilising support and welfare within the Bhutanese community in Western Australia. Expanding on the multi-cultural values of Australia, ABPI has developed key skills and professional ethics of human management, promoted peace, happiness and contributed to the ongoing socio-economic development of Western Australia. On a large scale, we have also assisted to strengthen the diplomatic relations between Bhutan and Australia. Fast forward today, we have our community members engaging in different sectors of the work force (health, real estate, retail, hospitality and home developments, among others). As of date, we have over 4000-5000 Bhutanese living, working and studying in Western Australia and many Bhutanese increasingly choose to come to Perth for the simple reason of greater affordability and socio-economic stability.

ABPI's key milestones include our successful cooperation with Red Cross Australia, enhanced collaboration with different community organisations in WA, taking an active role in the WA Health Council, contribution to human resource development under the City of Stirling (Kaleidoscope Initiative), establishing a sense of safe community and place for newly arrived Bhutanese in Perth. And continue to carry the message of the State and Federal governments in advocating for an enjoyable, safer, and peaceful Western Australia. On a particular note, we are very glad to share our happy collaboration with the WA Police, youths, and seniors alike in promoting a harmonious society. Bhutanese, in general, live a peaceful life and are very law-abiding people. We also work in close collaboration with the Royal Government of Bhutan on matters requiring support and advice from Bhutan but in line with the existing Australian rules and regulations. Above all, we thank the community of Western Australia and the visionary leadership for enabling us to share this space.

## **2. Programmes and activities of ABPI since 2019 and proposed activities for 2020**

Our community activities are catered primarily through sports, culture, and development of human resource to cut the skill gaps in the West Australia workforce. In doing so, we prioritise it to level maximum community involvement such as culture and sports, multi-cultural participation, and enable a conducive environment for human resource development through support of City Councils and Government initiatives.

This year, ABPI has a new Management team elected by the Bhutanese community and the team is composed of varied skills and experiences in community leadership. Continuing on the significant achievements of the previous leadership group, the new team has further prioritised on skills and professional development in the community and has plans to include the local community. This, we intend to do it through educational partnerships, cross-cultural initiatives and continuing on the path of strengthening the ties between Bhutan and Australia. We have career counselling, professional job networking, multicultural programmes, innovation programmes in arts and science, programmes enabling native dialects among youth and children born and/studying in Australia in order to bridge cultural gaps, and programmes to help new arrivals safely settle in various parts of Western Australia.

Having mentioned that, the recent and ongoing COVID-19 global health crisis has very much affected our community both in terms of stress, anxiety, and panic and economic opportunities. As majority of our members are students, the level of anxiety and stress has significantly increased and students are facing hardship in keeping their existing academic and professional work balance. On a deeper scale, we share the same issues and problems faced by the West Australians. And ABPI, as a community organisation for Bhutanese in Perth is liable for the welfare of its members and beyond. **ABPI executives are obliged to share the community concerns with the Australian Government.**

In keeping to your advice, our community is strictly adhering to the social distancing rules and avoid public and family gatherings to avoid any further escalation of coronavirus spread. And we will continue to do so as required and until the ban is lifted by your Government. In order to comply with the **Western Australia Pandemic Plan 2020** and for the benefit of our society, the ABPI executives have immediately constituted a **Covid-19 Response Group**. The Response Group works in close collaboration with the ABPI executives to prepare strategic community level pandemic plans suitable for our Bhutanese community in Western Australia and share the people's concern and perspectives with the State and Federal Governments and educational institutions in WA. Since forming the group on 28 March 2020, the Response Group has quickly meet through Zoom online platform to strategize the immediate and long-terms concerns of the Bhutanese community members. This include easing anxiety and stress, liaising with the Government of Bhutan in arranging the flights to lift Bhutanese wishing to leave Australia, seeking financial and other supports to help the community, if bad comes to worse.

### **3. Budget for the past years and budget forecasted for 2020**

ABPI's financial position has always been modest and conservative. Without being a major liability to both the governments of Australia and Bhutan, we have always worked our plans through voluntary donations from the members and other sponsorships. All proceeds are prioritised towards funding various spiritual and cultural programmes and sports/academic activities. The executive members managing the Association are always unpaid but has become ever demanding of their service with increase in Bhutanese in Perth. The Association is now planning to work out some financial incentives to the volunteers who have lost their time managing the Association.

**Since 2014, ABPI has spent over \$800,000 on community related activities with all of the money invested back into the West Australian economy in the form community investment.** Needless to mention the intangible values shared through human resource skills, enhancing the bilateral relations between Bhutan and Australia and assisting in the tourism for WA. Bhutan as a nation has mere population of 700,000 but close to 2% of its people have come to various parts of Australia and 80% of them have become a part of West Australian migrants. We Bhutanese in Perth are proud to call ourselves equally West Australians and share the same Aussie spirit.

The coronavirus crisis has hit very hard on the Association and its finances. With many of our members losing their part-time works, they are now longer able to pay the contributions. Our membership fees have decreased and contribution from public events have come to minimum as we are not able to organise any public events. It seems like we are now moving closer to a fragmented community and increased risk of augmenting domestic problems. It is with this challenge that we approach your government for some financial aid to keep our community engaged and also help the

most affected members. **We propose for a financial support of \$334,000 (Three hundred thirty four thousand AUD) .**

We hope that your leadership will take our proposal with much interest and share our concern with your colleagues. Considering your time, we have kept this document as succinct and brief as possible and we would like to express it further, if there is some avenue for consideration.

On this unprecedented time, we seek your cooperation and assistance, wherever necessary.

## COVID-19 ACTION PLAN PROPOSED BY BIPCRG

April 2020
May 2020
June 2020
July 2020
August 2020
September 2020
October 2020
November 2020
December 2020

- From May – October 2020, ABPI will offer ABPI Home Centre for 200 Bhutanese families affected by the covid-19 situation. Since this is an immediate and necessary scheme, the home centre is not included on the programmes and activities proposed and it will start from May until October 2020.
- Total of \$294,000 is proposed for **Accommodation and Living Support Schemes**.
- Total \$40,000 proposed for **programmes and activities**.
- **TOTAL BUDGET OF \$334,000 proposed to assist our community affected by covid-19 through accommodation support, one-time family expense, covid-19 events and activities. Financial workout is provided in the next page.**

Financial layout for BIPCRG Home Centre and Programmes					
Deliverables	Financial layout	Number of people expected to cover/participation	Eligibility	Duration	Scheme support
<b>A. Accommodation and Living Support</b>	\$144,000.00 (At an average of \$200 per week rental)	100	At risk groups, families and criterion passed. Immediate assistance needed.	6 months	ABPI will rent 30 homes or pay for weekly rental of the immediate affected families up to 30 homes and will cover the rental expenses for the occupants.
<b>B. Rental Relief</b>	\$96,000.00 (At an average of \$200 per week rental)	100		3 months	ABPI will pay 40% of the rental per week occupied by the tenants or offer 40% equivalent rental money to affected members.
<b>B. One-off financial family support for food and expenses</b>	\$54,000.00	100		3 months	ABPI will offer one-off financial support of \$90 per fortnight for a period of 3 months.
<b>Sub-total A+B+C</b>	<b>\$294,000.00</b>	<b>IMMEDIATE SUPPORT REQUIRED</b>			
<b>D. Programmes and Activities</b>					
April Art story and Literature entries	\$5,000.00	4000	Criteria's set up	1 month	
May e-musical talent hunt for youths	\$5,000.00	4000		1 month	
June e-musical talent hunt for adults	\$5,000.00	4000		1 month	
July multi-cultural e-musical talent hunt	\$5,000.00	50,000		1 month	
August documentary making	\$5,000.00	4000		1 month	
September multi-cultural documentary making	\$5,000.00	50,000		1 month	
April - October Research Support	\$10,000.00	4000		7 months	
November AGM and Research presentation		4000			
December 113 <sup>th</sup> Bhutan National Day and Community Services Group		4000			
<b>Sub-total D</b>	<b>\$40,000.00</b>				
<b>TOTAL (A+B+C+D)</b>	<b>\$334,000.00</b>				

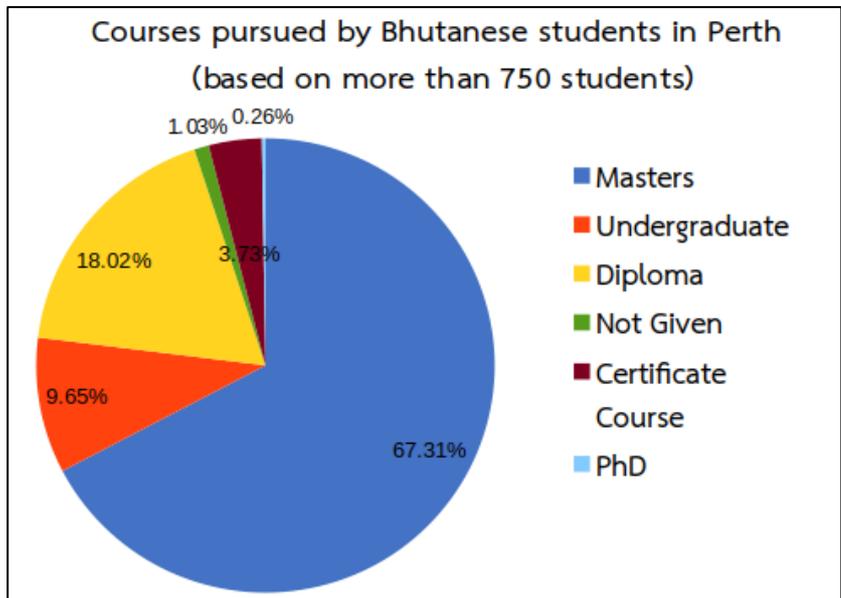
## Accommodation and Living Support Schemes

- We propose to provide accommodation assistance in the form of tenancy, and living expense support for eligible members who are genuinely affected.
- Priority will be given to those with family members of 3 or more than 3 and those who are **genuine and at at-risk group**.
- We would like to prioritise in 3 different categories: category A for families with 3 or more members and under 12 months stay in WA; Category B for families with 3 or more members and 12 – 24 months stay in WA; Category for C for families with 3 or more members and 24 months or more stay in WA. Such category would include genuine members who are at risk. At risk are the following:
  - *Pregnant women or those expecting a child in next 30 days;*
  - *Students with limited access to jobs;*
  - *Differently abled members who are physically challenged;*
  - *Individuals who are vulnerable to emotional challenges;*
  - *Individuals who have recently lost their job and are in genuine need of assistance.*
- Eligible members will be laid off with weekly rental support for 180 days. Total of 100 families will have access to this scheme. This is referred to as **Accommodation and Living Support (ALS)**.
- Those who don't have access to this service will receive a 40% rental support in the tenancy they are currently occupying for a period of 3 months. This is referred to as **Rental Relief Plan (RRP)**. Total of 100 families will receive this benefit.
- Those not receiving **RRP will be eligible for one-off financial support of \$90 per fortnight for a period of 3 months**. Total of 100 families will receive this benefit.
- ABPI will seek a total of **30 Home Centre** with maximum of 3 each in identified suburbs and each home centre able to accommodate given within the existing tenancy rules.
- We hope that through this, we are also able to assist the real estate market and help home owners in return.
- **A criterion is developed on who among the members can access this service and how the schemes are being extended.**

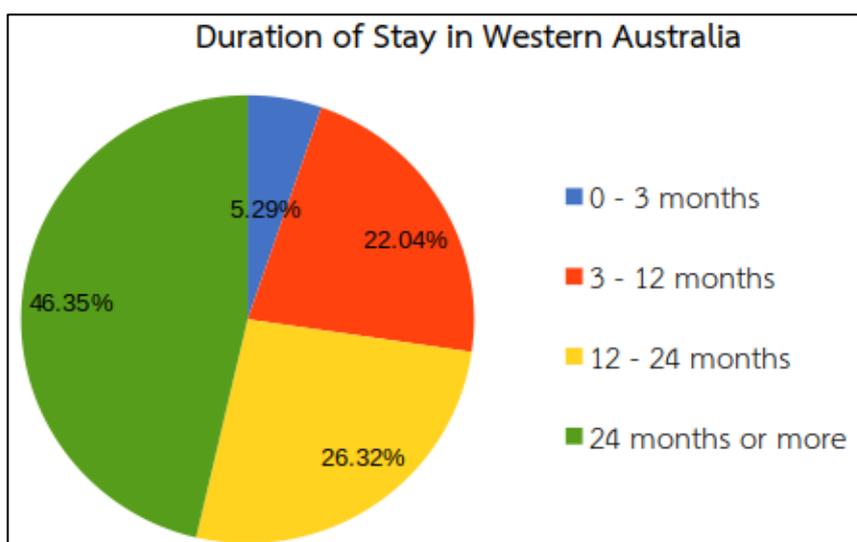
**ABPI will offer its trust, and extend Public Liability Insurance as assurance for taking care of the property.**

## Community COVID-19 impact survey results

In order to study and understand the community reaction to this rare COVID-19 pandemic, and its physical affects at the individual level, a community survey was conducted immediately after the formation of the response group, using the online Google Form from 30 March to 02 April 2020. The questions being asked include, basic household information, types of visas held, study related information & COVID-19 affects, job security, immediate concerns, and possible resolutions to mitigating public safety and panic.

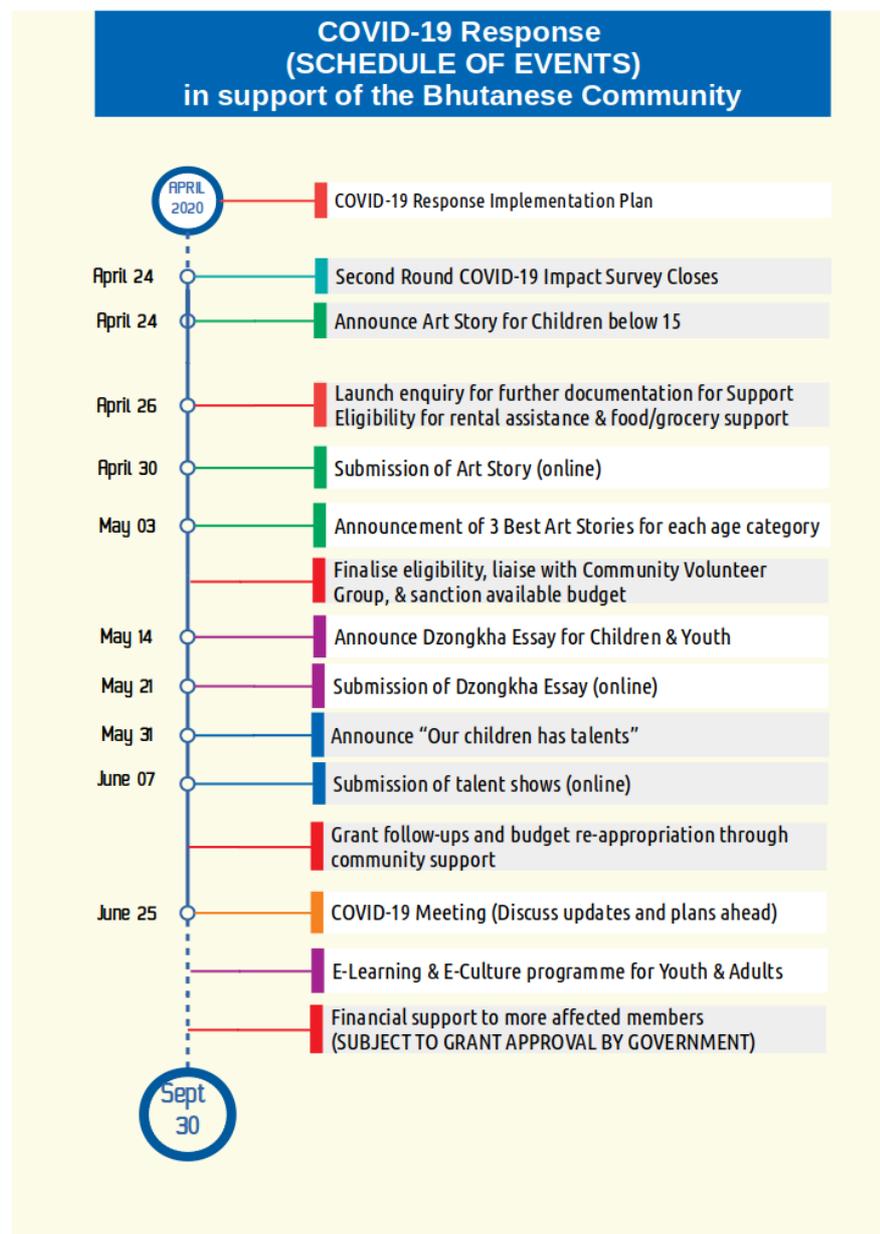
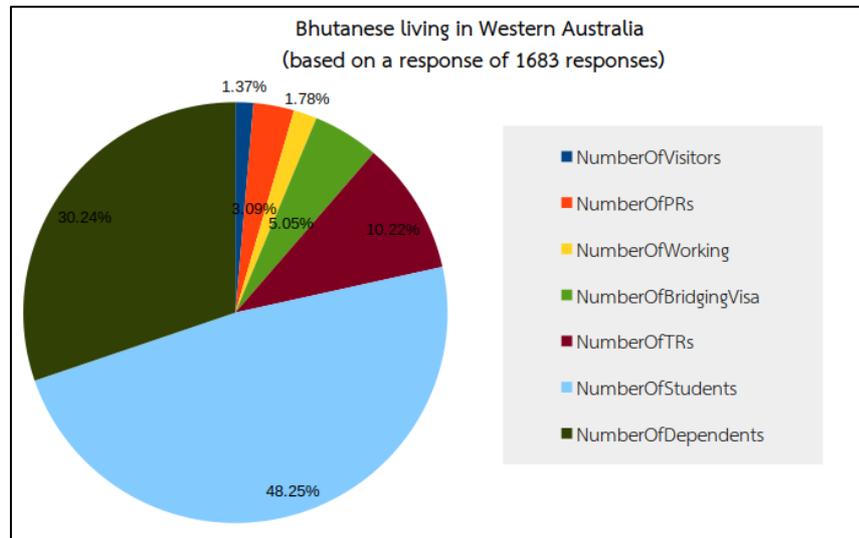


There was an overwhelming response to the survey – a total of 1683 Bhutanese living in Western Australia (above 18 years old) participated in the survey. The survey results showed that more than 78% of Bhutanese in Western Australia are students and their spouses and there are approximately 400 children supporting their families. The impact of COVID-19 pandemic has cut deep into the community and it has particularly hit hard to those community members who work in the cleaning industry, and restaurant & hospitality businesses as a



result of government measures imposed on businesses & society and fear of widespread

transmission of COVID-19 among the public. A graphical summary of the survey result is presented as follows.



## TELECOUNSELLING SERVICE

In response to these issues from the survey, we have also initiated **Alongside You**. **Alongside You** is a free and a safe telephone-counselling service developed by a group of Bhutanese to reach out to the Bhutanese, a culturally attuned service to connect and to listen. The recent survey conducted by the BIPCRG (COVID-19 response team) led by ABPI amongst the Bhutanese community in Perth indicated a high level of **stress, worry and anxiety** reported by the participants. Many respondents articulated a strong sense of **loss, loss of a sense of stability, fear of the unknown and questions of survival, fear of being outcasted and loss of sense of belonging**. At the same time, many **voices of dismay, hurt and loss loom in silence**.

This Group works on the foundation of love and care. This is a small team of volunteers with experience, training and tertiary qualifications in counselling. There are many competent online therapeutic services in Australia for anyone who wishes to seek otherwise. Whilst, **Alongside You** specifically emerged in response to the COVID- 19 Response Team's recommendations based on the increasing number of anxious Bhutanese callers and their requests, and the concerns validated by the survey.

### What can our members expect from Alongside You:

1. Free, safe and confidential Telephone counselling service;
2. A phone session can be about 30 minutes to an hour;
3. Facilitate virtual/phone support groups where necessary; and
4. Relevant co-develop self-care plans

**Alongside You**, a Tele counselling service in support of the Bhutanese in Perth Volunteer counsellors are available from Monday – Sunday at the following times:

*Monday: 9AM- 8PM Tuesday: 1PM – 8PM Wednesday: 1PM – 8 PM Thursday: 10AM- 10PM Friday: 2PM – 7PM Saturday: 2PM-10PM Sunday:10AM – 7PM*

*Text: 0410971986/0497377792 (9AM-10PM, 7 days) with your preferred times mentioned above and one of the volunteer counsellors will get back to you within 24 hours.*

Since this is not a Crisis service, we urge our members to call Lifeline at 131114 for crisis support or call 000 for Emergency.

**Project Proposal seeking financial assistance for AUD 334,000 (Three hundred thirty forty thousand AUD)**

**BHUTANESE IN PERTH COVID-19 RESPONSE GROUP**

In view of the escalating rate of covid-19 in Perth and the effect it has on the situation on Bhutanese in Perth, this response group from within the Bhutanese community in Perth was formed with immediate effect. The response group works in close collaboration with the ABPI Executive Committee. ABPI in its efforts to reach out to the Community members at a time like this has initiated this response group. This response group hopes to strategize plans to ensure our Bhutanese in Perth are safe, calm and happy.

The main task of the group will be to come up with a strategy plan to address the issues from the effect of covid-19 mainly job losses, difficulty in paying tuition fees, study deferment, tenancy issues, among others.

Following are the brief strategies to address the issues:

1. Forming a response group to gather first-hand information on Bhutanese in Perth's perception and situation towards the novel Coronavirus (covid-19);
2. Liaise with ABPI Executive Team about the situation of covid-19 in Perth. And provide necessary support in terms of reviews, suggestions and recommendations for the welfare of Bhutanese in Perth;
3. Devise suggestions and recommendations to Australian Government and institutions in Western Australia on impact covid-19 is having on the community members; and
4. Devise suggestions and recommendations to Bhutanese Government through ABPI on impact covid-19 is having on the community members.
5. To the extent possible, this Group shall endeavour to help ease fear mongering and provide necessary support to realistically contain the covid-19 situation.

The primary goal of this Response Group has been to help the ABPI Committee in its continuing efforts for today's situation. While there are various stakes at hand and more expectation to fulfil, the Response Group has first prepared everyone to "not panic, create rumours, and hope that things will settle with time". We call this as the ground zero phase and we have been successful in achieving this. In addition to this, the Response Group has been relentlessly requesting the kind cooperation and patience to reduce fear mongering and instead encourage our community to be as constructive as possible. This we felt would ensure we remain helping hand and that the community in Western Australia (WA) receive extra support morally, emotionally and psychologically. This would also ensure that families back in Bhutan feel proud and confident of having their immediate family members in WA – safe and sound.

At this stage, the only proven remedy to slow this pandemic has been social distancing. Numerous documents, advocacy and information are being shared via social media and we are requesting and advising everyone to follow these guidelines strictly and also to ensure that they delegate this information to their loved ones regularly. The Response Group has also urged families and individuals to be smart, careful and bring out new ways of redoing (within their circle) activities within social distancing rules in place. We are proud to see that the WA Government is working hard and helping its citizens. While we may not be directly a citizen, we play an important role in the ongoing economic development of WA, assisting in making WA as a destination for foreign migration, sharing human resource for capacity development, giving a new life to our family and our loved ones, enjoying modern infrastructure and resources and above all, an ease of life through everyday work and family time.

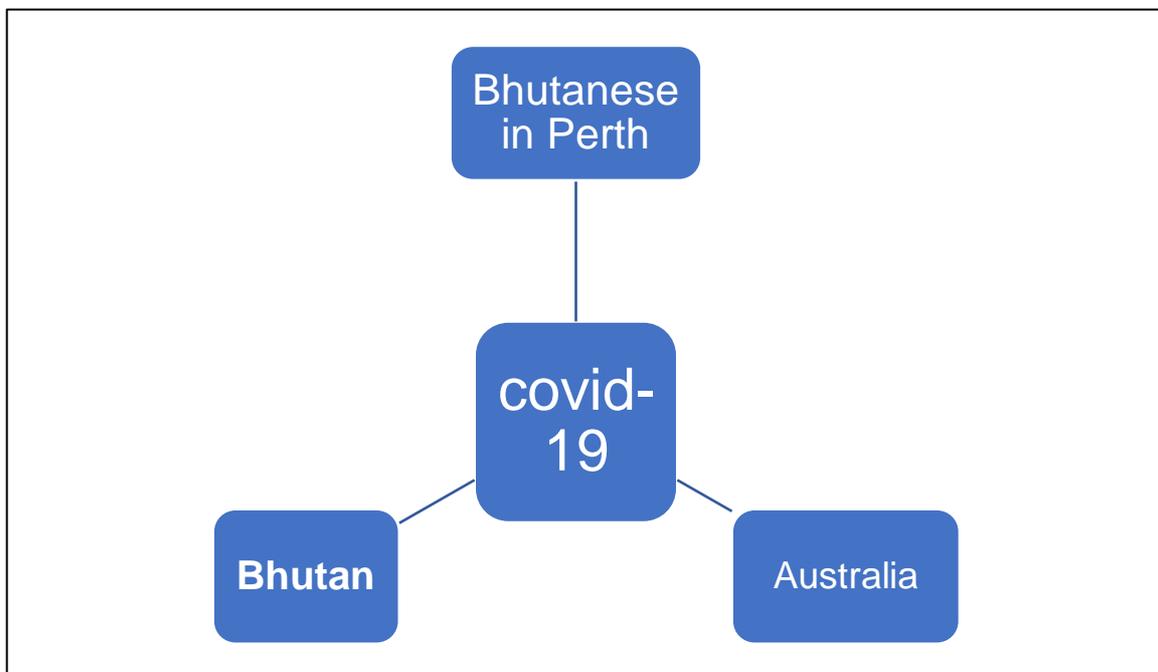
Together, we can all win this, not with arrogance or discrimination, not with fear mongering, but with creativity and a good mindset.

**ii STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN FRAMEWORK**

For the purpose of a proper direction towards the work we are endured to embark on, we would like to categorise the current situation as follows:

DIRECT IMPACT OF COVID-19	INDIRECT IMPACT OF COVID-19
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Health hazard</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Economic crisis</li> <li>Job losses</li> <li>Fear</li> <li>Active media</li> <li>Social life</li> </ul>
DIRECT SOLUTION	INDIRECT SOLUTION
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vaccine or medical solution (full wipe off or contain the virus)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Follow health experts' guidelines</li> <li>Government assistance</li> <li>Special venture with private institutions and corporates / home owners</li> <li>Reduce hostility</li> <li>Government to <i>securitize</i> loans of those directly affected by the situation</li> </ul>

**iii 3-TIER RESPONSE PLAN APPROACH**



## THE FRAMEWORK

Strategies and action plans have been formed in accordance with the Western Australia (WA) Government Pandemic Plan 2020. Following are the immediate plan and framework the Response Group would like to recommend and advise accordingly:

- A. We have created a uniform platform (a dedicated body through which information for within the community will be shared) so that information for Bhutanese in Perth will have a correct source to rely on. The rationale for this being to reduce fear mongering, ensure there is calmness within our community. We have created the website link on our official forum at <https://www.abpiperth.com/covid-19-response-group/>;
- B. We are regularly following WA Government's information on safe prevention and adhere to all guidelines in place. ABPI must ensure to only update and share information on covid-19 facts released via the Department of Health. This will ensure there's minimal confusion and members receive factual information on the situation at hand.
- C. We are promoting the ideals of Gross National Happiness (GNH) and implementing them in the form of e-learning, e-counselling, e-emotional support, and e-cultural development, among others. This can be done by investing in social media advocacy and coming up with educational videos, counselling videos or radio news in its own language Dzongkha including in English. We have initiated tele counselling service which is ran under the programme called **Alongside You**;
- D. We are ensuring that Bhutanese families with children and others in the at-risk category are consulted, provided emotional support during this time;
- E. The ABPI Committee is working in very close collaboration with Bhutanese Communities across Australia, Multicultural Association of Western Australia, National Union of Students, and Kaleidoscope Initiative (KI) Group to work out a way forward strategy affecting community members. This approach is very important since all community members of these organisations are comprised of international students and migrants and we feel, most of them maybe affected in similar ways. However, this must be ensured that such benefits are only extended to those who are directly and immediately affected by the situation at hand. Such collaborative efforts are being explored through the following ways:
  - i. Forming a **national master plan** by working in close collaboration with Bhutanese Communities' across Australia concerning all the immediate affected families, this includes pooling financial resources, human resources and job support for those immediately affected by the situation at hand. Through this reach, it is expected that each community organisation can properly ground their own community members and sharing of such ideas and resources can help extend more ideas, and ease fear mongering;
  - ii. Forming a **regional master plan** by working in close collaboration with Community Organisations in Western Australia concerning all the immediate affected families. The parties concerned to seek ideas and options to explore pooling of human resources and job support for those immediately affected by the situation. Through this reach, it is expected that each community organisation can properly ground their own community members and sharing of such ideas and resources can help extend more ideas, and ease fear mongering;
  - iii. We have also approached the Universities and educational institutions. In so doing, we have assisted in reviewing university fee and deferment of census dates.

- iv. If in case there isn't enough support on tuition fees, we are exploring options on credit line. We feel that assistance on university fee can be made through the following approaches:
  - a. ABPI in collaboration with other community organisation to seek student **credit line** with the banking institutions in WA. The respective employers for such students could guarantee the student tuition fee provided that the job is guaranteed and secured for the duration of study period;
  - b. The student must during this course of study period commit to work for this employer;
  - c. The employer at all cost to avoid exploitation of such vulnerability;
  - d. ABPI to keep track of these student's educational performance and in a timely manner, liaise with the employer of the progress;
- v. We have developed schemes and assistance plans on rental fee and financial support for those immediately affected by the situation at hand;
- F. We have initiated survey (online) to collect first-hand information of Bhutanese residing in Perth.
- G. In addition to ABPI's extension of service to its members, we are also calling for voluntary sponsorship from individuals and institutions to support this initiative whose businesses are minimally affected or whose lives are more comfortable at this stage than the ones directly affected;
- H. We are regularly liaising with the Royal Government of Bhutan in a timely manner apprising the situation of Bhutanese in Perth and providing first-hand information on Bhutanese in Perth. Such information shall not be emotional or personal based but rather factual, rational and ground realities;
- I. We are also regularly liaising with the Australian Government in a timely manner apprising the situation of Bhutanese in Perth and providing first-hand information on Bhutanese in Perth. Such information shall not be emotional or personal based but rather factual, rational and ground realities;
- J. We are in the process of seeking budgetary support and other support from the Public Sector Organisation in Australia towards ABPI to help ease these strategies;
- K. We are liaising with the DIBP on the visa extension or any visa related assistance of those gravely impacted by the situation
- L. A **STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN FRAMEWORK REPORTING** structure has been developed so that action plan advised here gets clear indication of its allocation and how to achieve and modalities to achieve it. See table 1 below (sample reporting):

Action plan	Strategy	Modality	Methods	Progress	Remarks
<i>Sensitization on covid-19</i>	<i>Advocacy through posters Sharing first-hand information</i>	<i>Group delegation</i>	<i>Create videos or use existing resources</i>	<i>Sensitized every week.</i>	<i>Needs more human resource to fine tune such advocacy on our community level via Dzongkha</i>

**April 2020**

*Art story*

*Literature entries*

- We propose 2 events for the month of April 2020 – art story and literature entries.
- Art story is a visual form of e-culture where youths will have an opportunity to produce community based social stories relating to covid-19.
- Under the online literature competition, youths aged 12-17 will compete in Category A and 18-25 under Category B. It can be any form of literature – a blog, poem, short story or story. Best literature will be judged on their portray of human values, community values, covid-19 situation, love, harmony and peace.
- There will be total of 20 grants (10 each) for the 2 events and will be capped to a maximum of \$5,000. Unlimited entries.

**May 2020**

*e-musical event for youths*

*Talent hunt as part of e-musical event*

- For May 2020, there will be 1 major programme – e-musical event.
- Under e-musical event, we propose to organise talent hunt where ABPI will start a YouTube account and will accept entries for singing, dancing, stand-up comedy, musical instrument playing.
- This will be a month long event and we will encourage as many participants to keep them engaged and provide them a value of their time.
- Grant award capped to \$5,000 for top 20 entries awarded based on story presented.

**June 2020**

*e-musical event for adults*

*Talent hunt as part of e-musical event*

- For June 2020, we propose adults e-musical event.
- Under e-musical event, we propose to organise talent hunt where ABPI will start a YouTube account and will accept entries for singing, dancing, stand-up comedy, musical instrument playing.
- This will be a month long event and we will encourage as many participants to keep them engaged and provide them a value of their time.
- Grant award capped to \$5,000 for top 20 entries awarded based on story presented.

**July 2020**

*Multi-cultural e-musical event*

*Talent hunt as part of e-musical event*

- For July 2020, we propose multicultural e-musical event.
- Under e-musical event, we propose to organise talent hunt where ABPI will start a YouTube account and will accept entries for singing, dancing, stand-up comedy, musical instrument playing from multicultural societies.
- This will be a month long event and we will encourage as many participants to keep them engaged and provide them a value of their time.
- Grant award capped to \$5,000 for top 20 entries awarded based on story presented.

**August 2020**

*Documentary communication*

*Proposed for Bhutanese community*

- For August 2020, we propose documentary making event.
- Under this programme, we plan to produce documentary on human values and migration. And how migration is an important part in a nation's socio-economic development.
- The documentary will be selected based on the relevance to human values, relevance to the current situation, professionalism, among others.
- This will be a month long project and we will encourage as many participants to keep them engaged and provide them a value of their time.
- A final documentary selected will be uploaded on ABPI YouTube and social media channel.
- Grant award capped to \$5,000 for top 10 entries awarded based on story presented and for covering operational expenses for the organisers.

**September 2020**

*Multi-cultural documentary communication*

*For multicultural society*

- For September 2020, we propose documentary making event for multicultural society.
- Under this programme, we plan to produce documentary on multicultural values.
- The documentary will be selected based on the relevance to human values, relevance to the current situation, professionalism, among others.
- This will be a month long project and we will encourage as many participants to keep them engaged and provide them a value of their time.
- A final documentary selected will be uploaded on ABPI YouTube and social media channel.
- Grant award capped to \$5,000 for top 10 entries awarded based on story presented and for paying operational expenses to the organisers.

**October 2020**

*Research support*

*Open to academicians, and professionals to contribute for research and advocacy on covid-19 and its socio-economic effect on the ethnic community*

- For October 2020, we propose to advocate research support within our community.
- Under this programme, we plan to invite academicians and professionals to contribute for research and advocacy on covid-19 and its socio-economic effects on the ethnic community.
- Announcement will be made as early as end of April 2020 and October as date line for submission of papers.
- The paper will be presented on November 2020.
- The paper will be selected based on the relevance to human values, relevance to the current situation, professionalism, among others.
- Grant award capped to \$10,000 for 3 papers and independent reviewer.
- Independent review will be sought from external academicians who shall be awarded a grant of \$1500 under this scheme.

**November 2020**

*ABPI 7th Annual General Meeting*

*Presentation of research paper*

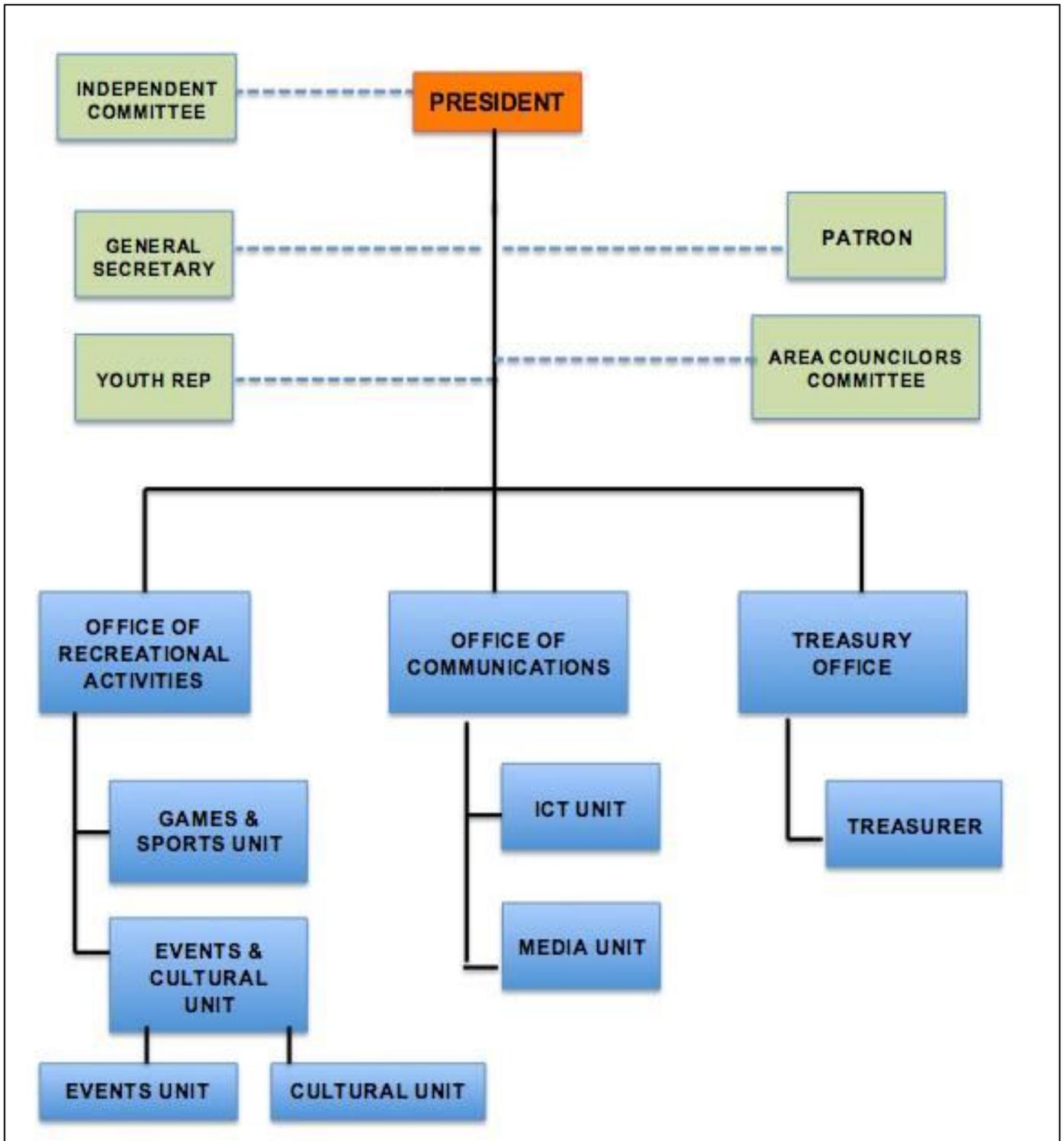
- On November 2020, the research paper will be presented to our community and the WA Government along with the institutions.
- ABPI AGM is scheduled on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2020 annually and would like to compile and present the Year's activities.

**December 2020**

*113th Bhutan National Day*

- Finally, we would like to end the Year with a celebration for Bhutan's National Day.
- If group activities are still not allowed, we propose to organise online celebration. Minimal budget required in this case.
- In addition to this, the Community members proposes to offer a remuneration of \$5,000 to the active volunteers and helpers who have assisted to help the affected families during the covid-19 and sharing their time and resources for the Year. The active volunteers and helpers are those who serve the ABPI as its representatives, covid-19 Group members and other community support group (CSG) who have actively supported to liaise covid-19 situation among the Bhutanese in Perth.

Existing organisational structure of ABPI  
(Adopted vide 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting of ABPI held on 21 April 2018)



**A. Organisation details (legal name, entity type, details of public liability insurance, GST registration if applicable, ABN if applicable)**

**Legal name:** Association of Bhutanese in Perth Incorporated (ABPI)

**Entity type:** Not-for-profit community organisation. Bhutanese Community Organisation in Perth.

GST not applicable. ABN exempted.

**Public Liability Insurance:**

- GIO Not for Profit Protect Policy number GPM004145447
- Public liability \$5,000,000
- Products liability \$5,000,000

**B. Bank details (BSB, account number, banking institution)**

Account name: Society Cheque Account

BSB: 066 140

A/C: 1039 7984

Commonwealth Bank of Australia

**C. Organisation address (and postal address)**

123 Balga Avenue, Balga, WA

[perthabpi@gmail.com](mailto:perthabpi@gmail.com)

**D. Details of Legal Signatory (As endorsed during the 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Bhutanese in Perth covid-19 Response Group)**

Karma Choden

**(Interim President)**

**General Secretary, ABPI**

Dophu

**(Treasurer, ABPI)**

Dr. Khandu Nakhap

**(Chairperson, Bhutanese in Perth covid-19 Response Group)**

## E. Details of organisation capacity (paid staff, volunteers, beneficiaries)

- 11 ABPI Executive Committee formed as per the Constitution of ABPI.
- All executive committee members are volunteers and unpaid. However, their work load and service delivery is similar to full time work.
- We have close to 700 registered members on our database. Each member is registered on our online membership system and is allocated a membership number. Members then avail services and benefits by linking up their membership number.
- To combat the covid-19 and its effects on the Bhutanese community, the ABPI has formed a special Bhutanese in Perth covid-19 Response Group. This Group is solely dedicated to manage the administration and affairs of Bhutanese affected by covid-19 situation in Western Australia.

### I. The ABPI Executive Committee members are as follows:

- a. Namgay Wangchuk, President
- b. Karma Choden, General Secretary (Interim President)
- c. Dophu, Treasurer
- d. Chagey Drukpa, Web Administrator
- e. Nima Dorji, Internal Auditor
- f. Tandin Lham, Events Coordinator
- g. Sonam Tenzin, Youth Coordinator
- h. Sangay Dorji, Area Councillor
- i. Chimi Tshewang, Area Councillor
- j. Tenzin Lhaden, Area Councillor
- k. Karma Wangdi, Area Councillor
- l. Tshering Yangdon Lee, Area Councillor

### II. Bhutanese in Perth Covid-19 Response Group (BIPCRG)

- a. Dr. Khandu Nakhap, Chairperson, BIPCRG
- b. Karma Wangchuk, Member Secretary, BIPCRG
- c. Kuenzang Wangdi, BIPCRG
- d. Ugyen Choda, Member, BIPCRG
- e. Ms. Deki Choden, Member, BIPCRG
- f. Tshering Samdrup, BIPCRG
- g. Pema Namgay, BIPCRG
- h. Namgay Namgay, BIPCRG

### *Members from ABPI in BIPCRG:*

- a. Ms. Karma Choden, General Secretary, ABPI (Interim President)
- b. Dophu, Treasurer, ABPI
- c. Sangay Dorji, Area Councillor, ABPI
- d. Chimi Tshewang, Area Councillor, ABPI

**F. Recent bank statement for main operating account**

Please find enclosed the recent bank statement for main operating account of ABPI. This data is as at 31 March 2020.

Particulars	Monthly expenses		Remaks
	Monthly expenses	Amount	
Current Account Balance			\$25,371.95 This amount includes Membership fees, Donations, Grants, revenues generated from party, Raffle draw and Donations from religious Associations.
ABPI Administrative expenses	46.50	418.5	The expenses is forecasted for 9 months from April 2020. The basis of cost is the march 2020 expenses
ABPI Centre expense: Electricity, Gas, Internet	34.92	314.28	
ABPI Centre expenses: Repairs and Maintenance co	450.00	4050	
Bank Fees	60.00	540	
Centre Rent Expense	1,200.00	10800	
Consulting & Accounting	195.35	1758.15	
Hospitality and entertainment	100.00	900	
Insurance	156.73	1410.57	
Subscriptions	50.00	450	
<b>Total forecasted cost</b>		<b>20641.5</b>	
<b>Balance Available after forecasted cost</b>			<b>\$4,730.45</b>
Contribution from Membership	6505	Included in over all balance	
Covid 19 fund contribution received	113243.96		
Covid 19 fund remitted	111567.86		
<b>Balance with ABPI</b>	<b>1676.1</b>	Included in over all balance	

Prepared by

**Dophu, Treasurer**  
**Mobile # 0420642263**

**G. Recent annual financial statements**  
**(For Calendar Year ending 31 December 2019)**

The Accounts Statement was presented and adopted during the 6<sup>th</sup> AGM of the ABPI as held on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2019.

<b>Balance Sheet</b>	
Association of Bhutanese in Perth Inc As at 31 December 2019	
<b>Account</b>	<b>31 Dec 2019</b>
<b>Assets</b>	
<b>Bank</b>	
Society Cheque Acct	7,112.84
<b>Total Bank</b>	<b>7,112.84</b>
<b>Current Assets</b>	
Prepayments	2,200.00
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>2,200.00</b>
<b>Fixed Assets</b>	
Centre Asset Account	4,196.21
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>	<b>4,196.21</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>13,509.05</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>13,509.05</b>
<b>Equity</b>	
Current Year Earnings	(414.62)
Retained Earnings	13,923.67
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>13,509.05</b>
<b>(Karma Wangchuk)</b>	<b>(Tenzing Chopel)</b>
<b>President, 2019</b>	<b>Treasurer, 2019</b>

# Profit and Loss

Association of Bhutanese in Perth Inc (ABPI)  
For the 12 months ended 31 December 2019

<b>Account</b>	<b>Jan-Dec 2019</b>
<b>Trading Income</b>	
ABPI RETREAT	450.00
Donations: Annual Rimdro	25,168.07
DONATIONS: GYALYONG DUECHEN	5,000.00
Dzongkha Class fees	480.00
Govt. Grants	29,218.00
Membership fees	6,200.00
Movie screening Revenue	2,700.00
National Day Other Revenue - Raffle and Party	1,415.23
Party Revenue	11,853.42
Refundable inflows	23,430.14
Revenue from Centre usage	4,866.00
RGOB Sponsorship	8,307.60
SECURITY DEPOSITS	10,500.00
SEMSO- CD	12,513.50
SEMSO PB	16,322.00
SEMSO TD	20,044.10
<b>Total Trading Income</b>	<b>178,468.06</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>178,468.06</b>
<b>Other Income</b>	
Other Revenue	3,263.14
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>3,263.14</b>
<b>Operating Expenses</b>	
ABPI Centre expense: Electricity, Gas, Internet	1,104.64
ABPI Centre expenses: Repairs and Maintenance cost	1,340.00
AUDIO VISUAL HIRE CHARGES	555.00
Bank Fees	578.98
Centre Rent Expense	13,400.39
Consulting & Accounting	374.00
Donations Pay Out	4,809.87
Dzongkha Class Expense	2,440.00
Event 1 Overheads- HM Birth Anniversary	9,150.46
Event 2 Overheads - Annual Rimdro	17,666.48
Event 3 Overheads : ABPI Soccer Tournament	13,873.69
Event 4 Overheads: National Day Celebration	6,765.63
Executive members Incentives	511.00
General Expenses	135.26
Hall Hire charges	1,784.67
Insurance	1,880.76
Interest Expense	0.11
Management Expenses	6,444.85
Office Expenses	263.73
Outgoings in interim periods	2,020.39
Parking	107.91
Party Expenses	5,373.67
Printing & Stationery	180.42
Refund of 2018	340.00
Refunds of Security Deposits	1,870.01
Refunds outgoing	19,792.85
SEMSO Pay Out	52,180.60
Subscriptions	303.79
Transportation expense	695.99
Refreshment fees	499.63
Volunteers Expenses (for all volunteers)	1,735.24
Asset Purchases by ABPI	<u>4,196.21</u>
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>172,376.23</b>
<b>Net Profit</b>	<b>9,354.97</b>