



SOPHIE COTSIS MP

MEMBER FOR CANTERBURY



20 April 2018

The Organising Committee
Buddhist Federation of Australia
323 Castlereagh Street
HAYMARKET NSW 2000

Dear Committee Members

Celebrating Vesak Day 2018

I write to offer my most sincere congratulations and best wishes for Australia's Buddhist community who will celebrate the traditional holy day of Vesak.

This is an important occasion that celebrates the birth, enlightenment and death of the Lord Buddha and I acknowledge its important significance to the Buddhist community.

I also take this opportunity to recognise the significance of the teachings of Buddha and echo the sentiment of the United Nations Secretary-General, Antonio Guterres, who said "let us celebrate the wisdom of Lord Buddha by taking action for others with a strong spirit of solidarity."

While Buddhists celebrate this occasion I ask that we use the opportunity to come together, in love and peace, with all our neighbours that we may build on the success of Australia's multicultural record.

It is important that we work together to continue to promote our strengths and our achievements, as it is our diversity that unites and strengthens our wonderful communities.

Enjoy this wonderful day with your communities and families, and I look forward to continuing to work with you all in the future.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Sophie Cotsis'.

SOPHIE COTSIS MP
MEMBER FOR CANTERBURY

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