



## Buddhist Council of Victoria

Representing and serving the Buddhist community in Victoria

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HM King Charles III  
Clarence House  
London, SW1A 1BA  
United Kingdom

16 April 2023

Your Majesty,

We would like to express our congratulations on your accession to the throne, while at the same time recognising the sad loss of the passing of Her Majesty the Queen. We look forward to your upcoming coronation and hope this will mark the beginning of a great new era.

We are inspired by some of your past comments regarding the diversity of religions that make up the Commonwealth and your commitment to supporting religious diversity. We take heart from your comment that while being the defender of the Anglican faith, you will also be a protector of all faiths.

We represent Buddhist temples in the Australian state of Victoria and advocate for the interests of our community to government and for recognition and inclusion. We are also actively engaged in interfaith dialogue and seek to find common ground with all faiths, in that place where differences dissolve. We would like to support your message in last year's Christmas Day address, where you spoke about, 'the extraordinary ability of each person to touch, with goodness and compassion, the lives of others, and to shine a light in the world around them'.

We wish you long life and success in your new role.

Yours sincerely,

Dinesh Weerakkody, LLB; PDLP  
President, Buddhist Council of Victoria  
on behalf of the BCV Committee