

ASA Directors Annual Report 2022-23



ANNUAL REPORT 2022-23

**Australian Sikh Association Limited
Annual General Meeting 26/11/23**

Board of Directors since 6 March 2022

Director Name	Director Portfolio
Dr. Albel Singh Kang	Company Secretary
Mr. Dilbagh Singh Bharaj	Assistant Company Secretary
Mr. Gurpreet Singh	Charity, Welfare & Social Responsibility Director
Mr. Gurvinder Singh	Education Director
Mr. Harkamaljit Singh Saini	Senior Citizens Director
Mr. Jagdish Singh Kalsi	Infrastructure & Maintenance Director (Deputy Chairperson)
Mr. Jaspal Singh	Gurudwara Treasurer
Dr. Karanjeet Singh Sandhu	Chief Financial Officer (Chairperson)
Mr. Kulwinder Singh	Sports & Culture Director
Mr. Manjit Singh Saini	Gurdwara Assistant Treasurer
Mrs. Paramjit Kaur Kaloti	Gurdwara Secretary
Mrs. Ravinder Kaur Singh	Women's & Children's Affairs Director
Mr. Sarjinder Singh Sandhu	Gurdwara Assistant Secretary (Resigned)
Mr. Sukhbir Singh	Youth Affairs Director (Resigned)
Mrs. Surinder Kaur	Media & Publications Director

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Executive Summary

Though the previous Annual General Meeting (AGM) of The Australian Sikh Association Limited (ASA) was held on 19 March 2023 and reconvened on 2nd April 2023, Board has decided to conduct ASA elections on 19 Nov. 2023 followed by an AGM on 26th Nov. 2023. Last time ASA elections were delayed and now Board has taken a bold decision to conduct elections and AGM well in time that budget & finances can be streamlined according to the financial year.

Despite many challenges, Board has conducted 35 meetings since 6 March 2022 and 19 meetings during the FY 2022-23, to plan and execute different tasks. Throughout, our focus has been in mitigating any potential risks and ensuring the safety/hygiene and well-being of the Sangat coming to attend Gurdwara Sahib. We have improved the overall safety and functional efficiency at the ASA premises. Increased number of the Sangat attending Gurdwara Sahib resulted in \$2,263,012 as the Golak offerings in the FY 2023, whereas it was \$1,721,016 during in FY 2022.

We successfully applied and received \$343319.96 in Govt. grants which helped us in improving the infrastructure like renovation of ASA properties, technology upgrades, land scapings and drainages, upgrading of amenities, athletics tournaments, facilities for the seniors and covering allowances of teachers and trainers etc. We have updated the daily "Hukamnaama" and other information display units. Pergola of GNPS has been fitted with curtains, ceiling fans and audio & video system for the seminars etc. In addition, \$2.5 millions for the Master Plan Phase 1 (parking, multipurpose hall, and school classrooms) and \$280,000 for bathrooms upgrade have been committed by the NSW Govt. We have progressed well on the kitchen extension project and expecting to open on the "Guru Nanak Dev Ji's Gurpurab" on 27th Nov. 2023. We are hoping to launch the revamped website including online booking system, on the "Bandi Chor Diwas" on 12th Nov. 2023.

We have made significant financial savings, including \$5,000 of interest payment saved per month by paying of the mortgage on 21 Meurants Ln Glenwood property, we are paying 40% less for the accounting and audit services, savings on the cleaning services by employing students on casual basis etc. ASA's charitable grocery shop (Sacha Sauda) opened for the convenience of the Community has resulted in \$75,344 donations from grocery sales in the FY 2023, in comparison to the sales of \$34,049 during FY in 2022. We are providing free Kakaars (Kanghas & Karas) at Sacha Sauda, and Kashehras and Kirpans (Small Sri Sahib) are available at very nominal charges. We have achieved milestones in the education, for example more than 900 students were enrolled at the Guru Nanak Punjabi School (GNPS) in 2023 and record per capita grant of \$136,884.98 received in the current year. An annual function of GNPS was held where teachers, students and volunteers were honoured. Teachers of GNPS and SRE classes attended refresher training courses and new resources for Punjabi teaching have been provided.

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Our team has successfully conducted athletics tournaments which were of great interest to the Sangat and thousands of members attended the sports carnivals. We have organised regular Gatka classes for the youngsters on every Sunday. Gatka training classes of children and adults are conducted by the experienced trainers, and there are regular exercise training classes for the seniors.

We were able to provide relief to the flood victims using ASA Ltd. Charitable Trust Funds. \$60,000 has been donated for Punjab floods relief and \$20,000 donated for Pakistan floods relief. Our flood relief was held in high regard which significantly enhanced our community's public profile. Our seniors participated in the ANZAC Parade, and Blacktown City Festival Street Parade.

The Board of Directors is very much humbled and privileged to acknowledge and thank the community for their contributions and help. Our special thanks go to our Kaafla Members and Seniors for their support and guidance. At last, but not least, we are highly thankful to Late Er. Dalbir Singh Gill for donating his estate to ASA, as a cheque of \$550,000 has been received and more donation is coming in the form of shares etc., as per his will. We are also thankful to Late Dr. Gurcharan Singh Sidhu as a cheque of \$20,000 has been received as per his will. ASA will remain indebted to both Gill and Sidhu family for their enormous donations for the Sikh Community.

Table: Meetings of the ASA Board of Directors held during the FY ended 30 June 2023

Director Name	Meetings held	Meetings attended
Dr. Albel Singh Kang	19	19
Mr. Dilbagh Singh Bharaj	19	17
Mr. Gurpreet Singh	19	11
Mr. Gurvinder Singh	19	13
Mr. Harkamaljit Singh Saini	19	16
Mr. Jagdish Singh Kalsi	19	10
Mr. Jaspal Singh	19	14
Dr. Karanjeet Singh Sandhu	19	18
Mr. Kulwinder Singh	19	14
Mr. Manjit Singh Saini	19	16
Ms. Paramjit Kaur Kaloti	19	16
Ms. Ravinder Kaur Singh	19	11
Mr. Sarjinder Singh Sandhu (Resigned)	19	18
Mr. Sukhbir Singh (Resigned)	19	1
Ms. Surinder Kaur	19	15

In keeping with our objective of being fully transparent in all our work, decisions and actions we would like to give you a brief update. The following is a list of some of the work undertaken and achievements since assuming seva from March 2022:

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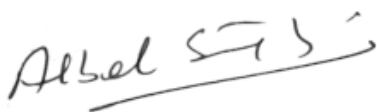
- ◇ Renowned Kirtan Jathas like Bhai Gurdev Singh Koharka, Bhai Karnail Singh etc. were invited
- ◇ Renowned Parcharaks like Prof. Sarabjeet Singh Dhunda , Bhai Harpal Singh etc. were invited
- ◇ **\$2,263,012** Golak offerings in the FY 2023, in comparison to \$1,721,016 during in FY 2022
- ◇ **\$75,344** grocery donations in the FY 2023, in comparison to \$34,049 during FY in 2022
- ◇ **\$5000** savings per month on the paid off loan
- ◇ **\$41,800** Grant CBP22 - 2502 received for bathrooms upgrade
- ◇ **\$35,750** Grant CBP22 - 1547 received for Guru Nanak Punjabi School (GNPS) landscaping
- ◇ **\$11,000** Grant received for seniors' outdoor gym
- ◇ **\$15,000** Grant received for Athletics Carnival
- ◇ **\$15,400** Grant received for GNPS Technology upgrade
- ◇ **\$80,884.98** GNPS Per Capita Grant received for 2022
- ◇ **\$136,884.98 (Record)** GNPS Per Capita Grant received for 2023
- ◇ **\$6,600.00** for GNPS/Library Technology/Printer
- ◇ **\$30,000** committed by NSW Govt., GNPS classrooms smart screens
- ◇ **\$250,000** committed by NSW Govt., bathroom renovation
- ◇ **\$2.5 Million** committed by NSW Govt., Master Plan Project (Multipurpose Hall & Classrooms)
- ◇ **\$500,000** grant applied for CCTV upgrade and security guards
- ◇ **\$60,000** Charity for Punjab floods relief
- ◇ **\$20,000** Charity for Pakistan floods relief
- ◇ Charity for Windsor & Richmond flood relief
- ◇ Charity for NSW Rural Fire Services
- ◇ Assistance for funeral services when requested by a needy
- ◇ Charity run CPR & First Aid training, 15 people got certificates
- ◇ **Volunteers** and senior ASA figures from the past were honoured on a special day
- ◇ Streamlined financials including audits, insurances and pays of employees
- ◇ More than 40% cost savings on **accounting** and **audit** services
- ◇ Donated gold has been audited and recorded for the first time in ASA history
- ◇ Electronic donation points and new eftpos machines installed
- ◇ Recovered outstanding bills, in thousands, from the ex-manager
- ◇ Opened "Sacha Sauda" to serve groceries at very nominal price and free ration for needy
- ◇ Cost savings in rubbish bins and pest control services
- ◇ Successfully conducted Athletics Carnivals for two years
- ◇ Regular Gatka classes by the experienced trainers and fully compliant
- ◇ ASA to start free boxing classes for the kids, to be managed by fully qualified trainers
- ◇ Seniors exercise classes and other activities – increased manifold since March 2022
- ◇ Commencement of Punjabi Sahitik Darbar on a monthly basis
- ◇ ASA properties renovated and security cameras installed
- ◇ GNPS building painted, pergola fitted with blinds and play areas upgraded for kids
- ◇ Big TV installed in the GNPS pergola for students learning and for showing documentaries
- ◇ New LED lights in the Darbar Hall and Langar Hall
- ◇ Network upgraded for better broadcast on the YouTube
- ◇ Cost saving through consolidated NBN Internet for all the buildings of ASA
- ◇ New displays for daily "Hukamnama"
- ◇ New displays in Darbar Sahib entrance, foyer and in the Langar Hall
- ◇ ASA Newsletters for the Sangat on regular basis

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- ◇ GNPS brought to digital stage, including admissions, tests and reporting
- ◇ GNPS catering to students from other states and countryside as well
- ◇ GNPS annual functions and other activities
- ◇ GNPS Teachers trainings & seminars
- ◇ New books for library and extended library opening hours
- ◇ Open Day conducted on 2023 “Khalsa Sajna Diwas” / “Vaisakhi”
- ◇ CCTV upgrade for Langar Hall, new Darbar Hall & Kitchen and other properties of ASA
- ◇ Work Health & Safety upgraded with additional first aid kits and signages for compliance
- ◇ Fire safety compliance with fire panels installed for the first time
- ◇ New equipment in the Kitchen and Langar Hall
- ◇ Storage containers moved close to the kitchen and new concreted areas for the rubbish bins
- ◇ ASA land/lots consolidated under one title
- ◇ Grand opening of new Kitchen anticipated on “Guru Nanak Dev Ji’s Gurburab” (27 Nov. 2023)
- ◇ Revamped ASA website with online bookings may be launched on “Bandi Chorr Diwas”
- ◇ Bathrooms renovation and other extensions project started and completion by Dec. 2024
- ◇ Master Plan Project Phase 1 (Multipurpose Hall & Classrooms) concept designs ready
- ◇ Management liaised with the politicians and with the Govt. Officials to enhance the profile of Sikhs and to make them aware of the community needs
- ◇ ASA Board of Directors issued joint statement with other organisations
- ◇ Board constituted Political Affairs Committee and Master Plan Committee
- ◇ Lead taken on the formation of NSW Gurdwaras Council for common Sikh issues
- ◇ Successfully nominated a Sikh as a founder member of the “NSW Faith Affairs Council”
- ◇ Active participation in interfaith forums and other activities to raise the profile of Sikhs

In addition to the above we have been continuously streamlining procedures and processes in the Gurdwara Sahib. In this process we are also learning and finding ways to do the things in a better way. With your support and input we pledge to continue serving ASA with professionalism, transparency, respect and humility.

For and on behalf of the Board of Directors of the Australian Sikh Association Limited, Glenwood NSW



Dr. Albel Singh Kang
Company Secretary
Australian Sikh Association Ltd



Dr. Karanjeet Singh Sandhu
Chief Financial Officer and Chairperson
Australian Sikh Association Ltd