

Email from the Rigpa Boards and Vision Board to the Rigpa Sangha

1 November, 2018

Hello,

All over the world at our centres and groups our communities continue to meet, to share with each other, and to practice together.

Many of us are still trying to come to terms with Rinpoche's retirement and the investigation report. Many have also spoken of the support and strength that is being shown through genuine friendship and the dharma. At the same time, it's important to acknowledge that there are many who feel they need much more support and to really let you know we are here for you.

It has been almost two months since we have been in contact about the publication of the Lewis Silken investigation report. Much has been happening in that time for all of us, and we are writing to give you an update and ask for your input.

On 5 September 2018, the boards of each national Rigpa and the Vision Board committed to acting on the recommendations of the independent investigation report. The boards also committed to moving forward in consultation with all of us the sangha, and we are proposing to do so on six areas:

- Clarifying and embodying Rigpa's Vision
- Communicating the relationship between Rigpa and Sogyal Rinpoche
- Pledging to a safe environment in Rigpa
- Taking responsibility for healing and past hurts
- Deepening our culture of listening, non-judgement and communication
- Strengthening our governance, transparency and financial practices

You can [find out more about each area here](#). Progress will be communicated on this webpage over the coming months.

Many of these areas are making good progress, others will take time, in some cases, years. A major process we wish to begin now is reflecting on Rigpa's vision, and what it means for us as a sangha to hold Rigpa.

We will reflect on how Rigpa's vision took shape over 40 years with the advice from so many masters led by Sogyal Rinpoche, and explore all the aspects of this vision, our lineage and what the vision means for us individually on the path. We will also bring together everything we have learned from these last 18 months. This process will be led by the Vision Board and begin in December at the Sangha Day. Your national team will give you further information about how we can all shape Rigpa's vision as we go along.

For now, we need your input on this process for moving forward, the ways in which you would like to participate, and the draft Vision Board charter, by responding to [this short survey](#) by 20 November.

Members of the Vision Board and the Moving Forward team will also offer regular open dialogue sessions online. Dates will be shared in the next Sangha Connection newsletter.

We're looking forward to receiving your feedback and to seeing you at the December Sangha Day.

With warmest wishes,

The Vision Board and the Rigpa Boards