

MEDIA RELEASE

12 May 2016

EMBARGOED UNTIL 8PM 12 May 2016



SECTOR WORKERS RECOGNISED FOR HARD WORK

The Alcohol, Tobacco and other Drugs Council (ATDC) is hosting an awards presentation for workers in the alcohol, tobacco and other drugs sector in recognition of their achievements.

ATDC Acting CEO Wendy Groot will present the prizes for this year's Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs Awards recipients at the ATDC 2016 Conference Dinner at Hotel Grand Chancellor.

ATDC President of the board Stuart Smith said the awards recognise exceptional people working in the sector and acknowledge and celebrate their professionalism.

"The awards also promote the sector in a positive manner to the broader community," he said.

"We will be presenting two awards this year. This is the first year we have decided to include an award for a program or organisation in the sector. The nominees come from very diverse professional backgrounds.

"Award nominations can come from members of the public, colleagues and managers. This year all nominees were nominated by work colleagues. The recipients will each receive a trophy and \$500 that can be spent on professional development during the next financial year.

"The awards have been running for five years and in future years, we hope to grow interest in the awards and see the number of nominations increase."

Excellence in Alcohol, Tobacco and other Drugs Work for a program or organisation goes to the Consumer Reference Group Advocacy Tasmania and Excellence in Alcohol, Tobacco and other Drugs Work for an individual goes to Dr Anna Dimsey of the Hobart Clinic.

The Consumer Reference Group is a state-wide group consisting of consumers with 'lived' experience in alcohol, tobacco and other drugs. Advocacy Tasmania has developed a platform where both consumers and professionals can work together with the common goal of systemic change, whether it be in the workplace, community or the homes of everyday people in Tasmania.

Dr Anna Dimsey's early career saw her working with gambling and betting addictions providing group counselling programs and providing training for service providers. For six years, she worked with DHHS Alcohol and Drug Service as a Clinical Pyschologist providing assessment and treatment for clients with complex alcohol and drug and mental health disorders. She was also involved in a leadership role and research activities.



She joined Hobart Clinic in 2011 as a Clinical Psychologist and has been the principle clinician in developing the clinic's Addictive Behaviour programs. During the last 12 months, she has developed a specific Alcohol and Drug Treatment eight week program at the Hobart Clinic.

ENDS

MEDIA OPPORTUNITY

- 12 May 2016
- Second award is not presented until 8.20pm
- **Hotel Grand Chancellor Hobart TASMANIA**

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