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Alcohol, Tobacco & other  
Drugs Council Tas Inc.

## Latest news from the ATDC

November Bulletin

8 November 2013

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### From the CEO's Desk

#### November 2013

**If, like me, you feel that we are in the midst of a consultation whirlpool then you may also be wondering about the level of impact or influence our input really makes? Are we engaging in genuine consultative processes or has community consultation become the necessary "tick a box" for governments wanting to implement system reform?**

In this past month we have been visited by consultants tasked with developing a national Workforce Development Strategy for the AOD sector. Next week we will embark upon the rapid assessment

associated with the national review of AOD funding which will quickly be followed by the first phase of information gathering linked to the development of a national AOD Quality Framework.

All of these consultations are of significance to the future of the sector, and yet I am both surprised and concerned at the relatively low level of engagement and participation in some of these national projects.

Whilst it is easy to be cynical about consultation, we are being given the chance to have our say and to put forward our views. Even if you have only one or two issues you would like to raise or have raised on your behalf, I would encourage you to provide them to the ATDC so we can make the most of every opportunity.

In contrast, gaining input to setting the priorities for the ATDC Budget Submission is never an issue.

Members have been very clear about what needs to be addressed in Tasmania and in response the ATDC Budget Priority Statement makes 12 recommendations against the following areas:

- The social determinants of health
- Promotion, prevention and early intervention
- DHHS health reform and governance
- Consumer and drug-user engagement
- Overdose prevention
- Tackling stigma and discrimination
- Improved Needle and Syringe Program (NSP) delivery
- Residential Rehabilitation and withdrawal management
- Working in, and with communities.

To view the full submission please [click here to visit our website](#).

Over the coming months we will meet with all key stakeholders to put forward the recommendations we have made and I trust we will gain support from those in our community who truly value the work of the community ATOD sector and want to achieve our goal of reducing alcohol and drug related harm.

Til next time,

Jann

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## Consumer Engagement

### Australian National Council on Drugs (ANCD) Community Consultation

**Consumer participation was a major focus of the Australian National Council on Drugs (ANCD) Community Consultation held in Hobart on 29 October 2013.**

A consumer representative voiced the need to fund a Drug User Organisation in Tasmania and was met with much support from attendees. Another topic was the need for consumer input into the current development of Government strategies such as "Everybody's Business": a Promotion, Prevention and Early Intervention and the Tasmanian Illicit Drug Action Plan.

Other issues raised from a consumer perspective included the restrictive nature of the Tasmanian Opiate Pharmacotherapy Program (TOPP) and Inpatient Withdrawal Unit policies which are not responsive to consumer need.

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## Sector Update

## ATDC receives conference funding from the Foundation for Alcohol, Research and Education

The ATDC would like to thank the Foundation for Alcohol, Research and Education (FARE) for providing funding for the 2014 ATDC conference to be held in May 2014. Funded by the Australian Government Department of Health and managed by FARE, the Conference Funding Program provides conference sponsorship funding up to the value of \$10,000 to support conferences and events.

Amanda Street, Sector Capacity Building Project Officer at the ATDC was also successful in receiving a scholarship to attend the 2013 Australasian Professional Society on Alcohol & other Drugs (APSAD) Conference in Brisbane in November, where she will be presenting a poster.

Thanks go to FARE and the Department of Health for these opportunities. For more information about the grants and for a list of recipients [download the FARE media release here](#).

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## Australian National Council on Drugs Position Paper on NSPs

The Australian National Council on Drugs (ANCD) Position Paper on Needle and Syringe Programs has been released. The paper is calling on all Australian governments to significantly increase both their commitment and funding to these vital public health programs.

The position paper is based primarily on recognition of the long standing success of NSPs in preventing and limiting the spread of HIV and other blood borne viruses (BBVs), and the ability of these services to engage people in the health system in a way that no other service is able to do.

To view the paper please [click here](#)

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## NDARC key findings for 2013 available now!

The UNSW National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre (NDARC) recently released key findings for 2013 from the Ecstasy and Related Drugs Reporting System (EDRS) and Illicit Drug Reporting System (IDRS).

Visit the [NDARC website](#) to view the EDRS and IDRS handouts from the 2013 National Drug Trends Conference.

[Click here](#) to download the EDRS Key Findings handout as a PDF.

[Click here](#) to download the IDRS Key Findings handout as a PDF.

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## 2013 Employer of Choice Awards - entries open!

Entries for the 2013 Employer of Choice Awards are open until 12 December 2013.

Mentors from Employers of Choice available to assist with entries.

For more information visit [www.skills.tas.gov.au/eocawards](http://www.skills.tas.gov.au/eocawards)

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## National Drug and Alcohol Mapping Project (NDAMP) Update

Monash University, together with Turning Point Alcohol and Drug Centre, are collaborating on a comprehensive national project funded by the Commonwealth Department of Health. The project will result in a detailed user friendly website and SmartPhone Application for accessing information about the Alcohol and Other Drug service sector nationally.

The website will be an important resource for all primary health care providers and potentially a useful tool for emergency service staff. Likewise community members can source AOD specialist service information simply and effectively.

When complete, the NDAMP website will allow users to match consumer needs with services based on patient location, age, treatment(s) required and payment options and also offer other search options. Individuals seeking information on services beyond their location can access details quickly by entering their required town or suburb or clicking on a map location.

A prototype of the website, incorporating Victorian mapping data was released in August 2013 and is now live. The website is <http://www.ndasd.com.au>

Data from other States and Territories will be incorporated once collated and confirmed. All service providers will be asked to check the details of their entry prior to the website going live.

The project will be completed in its entirety by June 2014.

Further Information: [juliew@turningpoint.org.au](mailto:juliew@turningpoint.org.au) or [belinda.graham@monash.edu](mailto:belinda.graham@monash.edu) or Alyse Miller, Acting Project Manager [alyse.miller@monash.edu](mailto:alyse.miller@monash.edu)

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## Launch Invitation: Human Rights Week 2013

The Human Rights Week Organising Committee invites you to the launch of Human Rights Week 2013 & announcement of Tasmanian Human Rights Awards.

Guest Speaker: Sharon Jones Advocate, Activist & Campaigner Sexuality & Gender Identity Rights  
12:30 pm - 1:30 pm, Monday 2 December, Reception Room, Parliament House (Refreshments will be served at the conclusion of the formalities).

RSVP by: Tuesday, 26 November 2013 to Leica on: [leica.wagner@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:leica.wagner@justice.tas.gov.au)

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## Upcoming Training, Events & Conferences

### LAST CHANCE: Translating ATOD Research into Practice

Nationally recognised Training and Assessment opportunity with trainer, Louise Dewis MPsych (Clinical), MAPS CClin.

Why attend?

- Build your skills in identifying the need to change current practice
- Expand your ability to identify and evaluate the available literature
- Learn to better plan, implement and sustain practice changes
- Achieve one unit towards the Diploma of Community Services (Alcohol, Other Drugs and Mental Health)

**Who:** Experienced ATOD workers and team leaders  
**Where:** Hobart  
**When:** 10 December 2013  
**Time:** 9:00am - 4:30pm  
**Cost:** \$43.10 (payable to the TasTAFE upon receipt of invoice)

For more details and to register [click here](#)

**FORMAL ENROLMENT MUST BE COMPLETED WITH TasTAFE BEFORE 30 NOVEMBER**

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## Free TasCOSS Seminar: Measuring Social Outcomes

**Measuring Social Outcomes: Free TasCOSS seminar, Hobart 26 November, 1:30pm - 5:00pm, at the Baha'i Centre, Hobart.**

In a time of increasingly complex social need, do you have the tools to be confident your community, organisation or program is creating real change in people's lives? Do you have the information to improve your program's performance or convince stakeholders and funders that you are making a difference?

Social outcome measurement is relevant to planning, evaluation, service improvement and reporting. It can also form a linchpin in successful cross-sector collaborations, providing a yardstick to measure progress and motivate action. The 26 November seminar will launch a three-year TasCOSS project to build knowledge and skills in the use of social outcomes measures.

Participants are invited to join the Tasmanian chapter of the Social Impact Measurement Network Australia which will also be launched at the seminar.

For more information about the seminar [click here to download a flyer](#) or contact Tim Tabart on 6231 0755, [tim@tascoss.org.au](mailto:tim@tascoss.org.au)

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## No More Butts- Moving forward to a smoke-free lifestyle

**Counsellor/facilitator free training day.**

**Where:** Mersey Community Hospital

**Time:** 9:00m - 4:00pm

**Date:** 5 December 2013

For more information and registration please contact [lynne.wickham@dhhs.tas.gov.au](mailto:lynne.wickham@dhhs.tas.gov.au)

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## Domestic and Family Violence & CALD Communities: Webinar Invitation

**Date:** Thursday, 14 November 2013

**Time:** 1:00pm - 1:45pm AEDT.

[Click here to register](#)

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## NWA Drug and Alcohol 2014 Symposium - Call for Abstracts Open

## The Road Ahead: Challenges, Change and Consolidation

23 - 25 June 2014

Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle.

[www.aod2014.com.au](http://www.aod2014.com.au)

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## Did You See That Report?

### October Update

'*Did you see that report?*' is a monthly listing of recently released Australian reports, research and other items of interest to the AOD sector which are available online. This is a service provided by the Alcohol and other Drugs Council of Australia (ADCA).

To view June reports you may have missed please [click here](#) to go to the reports.

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