

Policy and Advocacy Update

December 2020

Policy and submissions

- NADA provided submissions to:
 - o the Development of the National Preventive Health Strategy: Consultation Paper
 - SafeWork NSW's Draft Code of Practice on managing risks to psychological health in the workplace
- NADA supported two submissions from a coalition of Australian AOD peaks and treatments providers to a range of ministers and the Department of Health on 'Supporting digital access, tele-mentoring and telehealth in the AOD sector and Supporting investment in alcohol and other drug services across regional, rural and remote Australia in response to COVID-19'.
- NADA sent a letter to NSW Ministers regarding the draft Liquor Amendment (24-hour Economy) Bill 2020 to express concerns regarding increased access to alcohol in the community. We also supported a FARE media release on the issue
- NADA wrote to the NSW Treasurer supporting the establishment of a new AOD facility in Dubbo and calling
 on the NSW Government to respond to the Special Commission of Inquiry into the Drug 'Ice'
 recommendation to establish a whole of government AOD policy that includes a plan for an incremental
 increase in AOD treatment funding over 10 years.

Advocacy and representation

- NADA staff and board representatives participated in a consultation with representatives from the NSW
 Ministry of Health and NSW Premier and Cabinet regarding the NSW Government response to the Special
 Commission of Inquiry into the Drug 'Ice'
- NADA CEO and President met with the NSW Health Minister's AOD Advisor to discuss the NADA Member Needs Assessment, impact of COVID-19 and the NSW Governments response to the Special Commission of Inquiry into the Drug 'Ice' Report
- NADA continues to represent members on a range of COVID-19 meeting structures: NSW Ministry of COVID-19 Clinical Council; NGO Community of Practice; AOD Community of Practice.
- Key meetings: Australian Government Department of Health, Department of Social Services, National Indigenous Australians Agency, NSW Ministry of Health, NSW Department of Communities and Justice, Mental Health Commission of NSW, NSW Council of Social Services, AOD Peaks Network and Australian Alcohol and other Drugs Council (AADC)
- NADA continued to take part in the steering committee and working group tasked with informing the
 development and delivery of a workforce development package and implementation strategy for the NSW
 Clinical Care Standards: Alcohol and Other Drug Treatment
- NADA staff and members are represented on a range of working groups related to the NSW Ministry of Health's Strategic Research and Evaluation Plan
- NADA attended the online launch for the <u>National Policy Blueprint to support self-care [PDF]</u>
- NADA engaged in a Project Reference Group to inform the development of a new resource being developed by NCETA, Flinders University that aims to bridge the gap between research and practice with regard to workforce development assessments and activities in AOD organisations
- NADA members from specialist AOD women's services were consulted by UNSW regarding a proposed study into substance use during pregnancy and early childhood

Information on NADA's policy and advocacy work, including Sector Watch and the meetings that NADA represents it members, is available on the NADA website here.

The Network of Alcohol and other Drugs Agencies (NADA) is the peak organisation for the non government alcohol and other drugs sector in NSW. We represent close to 100 organisational members that provide a broad range of alcohol and other drugs services including health promotion and harm reduction, early intervention, treatment and continuing care programs. Together, we work to reduce the harms related to alcohol and other drugs use across the NSW community.