



Professor Ann Roche
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Re: State and Territory Alcohol and Other Drug Peaks and the National Workforce Development Strategy

Dear Professor Roche,

The State and Territory alcohol and other drug (AOD) peak bodies reiterate support for the development of the National Workforce Development Strategy. Many of us have made jurisdictional contributions to the consultation processes, including written submissions; however, we wish to draw your attention to some shared issues and opportunities.

As you would be aware, **the peaks are funded to play a significant role in workforce development** by supporting the capacity and quality of the AOD sector to effectively meet the needs of people who use alcohol and other drugs, their families and the community. We have been doing this for many years and these efforts have been welcomed and accepted by agencies in the sector. Improved engagement across the jurisdictional AOD peaks has been a significant area of improvement over the past several years. This has included participation and co-chairing of networking and working groups (on a fortnightly and monthly basis) with a focus on capacity building, policy and strategic planning. The groups facilitate collaboration, knowledge and information sharing on an ongoing basis with the view to strengthening the sector's capacity, minimising duplication and furthering common strategic interests.

We welcome and invite your continued engagement and collaboration with the peaks. We collectively have significant structures, collaborations and expertise to progress AOD workforce development in Australia.

Additionally, we acknowledge the essential role of collaborating to meet the demand arising from the increasing complexity faced by services, a stretching of resources to do more with less and the significant reforms at both a national and jurisdictional level. For many years as peaks we have been concerned with a range of viability issues for our workforce including barriers to recruitment and retention of valuable knowledge capital. As such, we suggest that the **unique needs of the specialist AOD workforce warrant a focused and considered workforce development approach**. We encourage the Strategy and any associating resources to be focused in this area.

Finally, the **range of national projects underway with the AOD sector have significant intersections** including the National Review; the Quality Framework, Building Funding Applications Skills Project and the Workforce Development Strategy. None of these projects can be looked at in isolation and ideally the findings / recommendations from each should be harmonised. For example:

Issue	<i>National Review</i>	<i>Quality Framework</i>	<i>WFD Strategy</i>	<i>Funding Applications</i>
Clinical supervision	Sufficient funding of clinical supervision as a core component of funding agreements	Clinical supervision reflected as a core component with the framework (including acknowledgement of the jurisdictional limitations that may exist)	Need to develop clinical supervision expertise across the country; have / develop the resources available to workers across the country.	Services need to appropriately cost and articulate the requirements of clinical supervision on services.

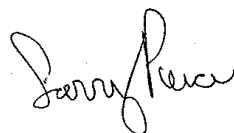
Thank you again for the opportunity for input and we restate our ongoing commitment to work strategically at a national level on future workforce development initiatives.

For further information on jurisdictional developments please contact each peak separately (a table is provided at the end of this letter).

Yours sincerely,



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QNADA



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Contact Details for Jurisdictional AOD Peak Bodies

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