



The leading voice in Indigenous drug and alcohol policy advice

National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Committee

AUGUST MEETING COMMUNIQUÉ 2014

As part of its commitment to provide high level advice to government, the Australian National Council on Drugs (ANCD), with the support of the Australian Government, established the National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Committee (NIDAC).

NIDAC comprises of members from non-government and government organisations with specialist expertise and knowledge from around Australia to provide advice to government on ways to address harmful alcohol and other drug (AOD) use among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Information about NIDAC and its Members can be accessed at: [NIDAC](#).

Committee meetings are held in a different State or Territory every four months.

In August 2014, NIDAC conducted its regular Executive and Member's meetings at Glenelg, SA. Matters discussed included:

- An update on the draft National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples Drug Strategy.
- The report on the NIDAC/NACCHO consultation survey on Amphetamine-Type Stimulants (ATS) use by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples that was conducted earlier in the year. This survey was developed to obtain information about ATS use from front-line workers who may come into contact with Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander people. This report is to be released on Tuesday 26 August and will be available on the NIDAC website.
- NIDAC's involvement in the next stage of the Indigenous adaptation to the mainstream clinical care packages developed under the IGCD's National Drug and Alcohol Clinical Care & Prevention (DA-CCP). Representatives from NIDAC participated in a two day workshop in July to inform this work being undertaken by DPMP. This stage of the work is due to be completed by the end of 2014.
- An update on the work being undertaken to establish a professional body for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander AOD workers. A small group of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander AOD workers, including the Deputy Chair of NIDAC were nominated at the meeting held at the 3rd National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Conference held in June 2014 to sit on a working group responsible for progressing the establishment of the body. An inaugural AGM of the professional body is anticipated to be held in 2015.
- A discussion on the 3rd National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Conference that was held in Melbourne from 4 - 6 June 2014. Feedback received from delegates attending the Conference has been very positive. Information, including presentations, photos and resolutions from the Conference can be accessed at: <http://www.nidac.org.au/> The next Conference is due to be held in June 2016.
- NIDAC's presentation to the NT Select Committee on Action to Prevent FASD.
- An update on NIDAC's involvement on the National Health Leadership Forum, the Close the Gap Steering Committee, National Justice Coalition and Justice Reinvest NSW.

Next Meeting – TBA

For information on Indigenous specific alcohol and other drug issues, NIDAC priorities and activities – visit www.nidac.org.au

To contact the NIDAC Secretariat (02) 6166 9600 or email nidac@ancd.org.au