This annual report was prepared by the ANCD Secretariat. Copies of this report can be obtained by contacting the Secretariat or downloading it from the ANCD’s web site.

Australian National Council on Drugs
PO Box 1552
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Phone: 02 6279 1650
Fax: 02 6279 1610
Email: ancd@ancd.org.au
Web site: www.ancd.org.au
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The Australian National Council on Drugs (ANCD) is to be congratulated on its achievements over the past 12 months. I warmly thank the ANCD for continuing to provide government with sound and practical advice to inform the development and implementation of drug policy in Australia.

It is with great pleasure that I welcome the Hon Dr John Herron as the new Chairman of the ANCD. Dr Herron’s distinguished career in the medical profession and public life, his demonstrated commitment to delivering beneficial outcomes for communities in need, as well as his keen personal interest in combating the scourge of illicit drugs, will serve him well in his leadership of the ANCD.

I have always appreciated the ANCD’s expertise and practical, objective recommendations in relation to Australia’s Tough on Drugs strategy. The ANCD has continued to collaborate actively with all levels of government and the business sector. By identifying pertinent issues within the non-government sector, the ANCD is also an effective bridge to government. Cultivating relationships, particularly with community organisations, enables the ANCD to offer the essential ‘on the ground’ perspective which is vital to the ongoing development of comprehensive illicit drugs policies and programs.

In last year’s annual report I noted that since the inception of the Tough on Drugs strategy in 1997, Australian law enforcement agencies have prevented over 11 tonnes of the most serious illicit drugs from reaching our streets — this figure has now risen to more than 14 tonnes. Furthermore, the decline in illicit drug use over the past several years clearly demonstrates the value and effectiveness of the partnership between the ANCD and the Australian Government.

Over this past year, the ANCD has been influential in sharpening the policy focus on the problem of cannabis use in Australia and its relationship to mental illness. I congratulate the ANCD on the release of its public information booklet, Cannabis — answers to your questions, which deals with the social and health effects of this drug. The Australian Government is concerned about cannabis use, particularly amongst young people, and has committed $14 million over five years to the funding of a National Cannabis Control and Prevention Centre. Its establishment will help to improve community understanding of the dangers of cannabis use, as well as preventing and responding to the use of cannabis and associated problems.

As part of its recently announced $1.9 billion mental health package, the Australian Government will provide $73.9 million over five years to the non-government sector for improved services for people with drug and alcohol problems and mental illness. This will include additional training for the drug and alcohol workforce to meet the needs of clients with mental illness. A related initiative, with funding of $21.6 million over five years, will involve the development of an information campaign to raise community awareness of the links between drug use and mental illness and to encourage people to seek treatment and early intervention.

The ANCD will undoubtedly play an instrumental role in providing advice to assist government in forming policy to further support the increasing number of Australians with both mental health and substance abuse problems.

I congratulate the ANCD once again on its achievements and wish its members well for the forthcoming year. I look forward to working with Dr Herron and the ANCD in addressing the many complex and challenging issues in our fight against drugs. It is a fight that must be won.

John Howard

John Howard
It is with great pleasure that I present my first Chairman’s report for the ANCD.

Although it has only been a few months since I was appointed Chairman of the ANCD I have already found the experience incredibly rewarding and positive. There is an impressive breadth of experience and knowledge across the membership of the ANCD which allows us to provide high-level advice to senior government members and officials. The fact that this advice is listened to by governments demonstrates the esteem and respect in which the ANCD is held.

Australia, like most countries in the world, has to address a range of complex problems with both illicit and licit drugs. From international syndicates seeking to traffic in drugs to exploit the misery of others; the development of new and dangerous synthetic drugs; to young people binge drinking and placing their ongoing health in danger; there are many issues that governments, communities and families must deal with every day. I can assure you that the ANCD remains committed to providing the best possible advice on how to attend to these many issues.

I have no illusions about this task. Drug and alcohol problems have been with us for a long time and are often interlinked to a number of other social, health and economic issues. However, I also have a great confidence in the ability of Australia to overcome problems. There are already a number of positive stories that can be told and the ANCD will work to develop innovative, effective and evidence-based solutions for drug and alcohol problems in Australia.

It is a privilege to be Chairman of the ANCD and I hope to continue its significant contribution to improving life for many Australians and others in the region.

I wish to thank all the ANCD members for their welcome to me and for their kind support. I also wish to thank Gino Vumbaca and the staff of the ANCD Secretariat for their continual support and hard work. I must also provide a special thanks to the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet, the Department of Health and Ageing and to the Australian Federal Police for their generous support.

Finally I would like to acknowledge the constant interest, support and encouragement of Prime Minister John Howard and his staff, the Health Minister Tony Abbott, the Justice Minister Chris Ellison, the Education Minister Julie Bishop, and the Parliamentary Secretary for Health Christopher Pyne.

Dr John Herron
Chairman
Australian National Council on Drugs
The Prime Minister’s appointment of Dr John Herron as the new Chairman of the ANCD in 2006 was greeted very warmly by the ANCD and the wider drug and alcohol sector. Dr Herron’s long and distinguished career in medicine and then in politics, most notably as one of Australia’s longest serving Ministers for Indigenous Affairs, provides him and the ANCD with a real opportunity to take the success of drug and alcohol initiatives in Australia to a higher level.

The past year has again seen the release of some very informative reports by the ANCD, and the continuation of the Rural and Regional AOD Workforce Development Grants Initiative. With the assistance of the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing, the national magazine — Of Substance — became a free publication.

Some other significant initiatives this year included the National Drug and Alcohol Awards which were again presented in 2006. These awards are supported by the Prime Minister and the ANCD works in collaboration with the Ted Noffs Foundation, the Australian Drug Foundation and the Alcohol and other Drugs Council of Australia (ADCA) to recognise the important and high-quality work being undertaken each year in the sector. The sponsorship of the Alcohol Education and Rehabilitation Foundation, the Department of Health and Ageing and the NSW and SA Governments was also integral to the success of what are now, annual awards. The launching of the plain language questions and answers booklet on cannabis was also marked by a phenomenal public and media response.

The ANCD also continues to undertake consultations with the sectors involved in addressing drug and alcohol issues. These consultations allow ANCD members to be informed of developments and concerns in the sector, as well as informing those working in the frontline of the developments and work at the policy and planning levels.

The work undertaken by the ANCD National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Committee continued to expand this year. The Committee, which includes members from a range of individuals and organisations working with Indigenous communities, also continues to be very active in consulting with a range of stakeholders and decision makers in an effort to strengthen and improve our responses to Indigenous drug and alcohol issues.

This year the ANCD Asia–Pacific Drug Issues Committee prepared for the release of a major monograph it commissioned on the drug situation across the region. It is expected to draw a significant amount of political, media and public attention when it is released.

To reiterate a message from previous annual reports, the ANCD works closely with governments and has undertaken a commitment to work with and keep all political parties informed of developments in this area. This cross-party support, as reflected in the letters throughout this report continues to be a source of encouragement for the ANCD.

I would also like to thank all the ANCD Secretariat staff and the Of Substance staff for their strong performances this year. I would also like to acknowledge the high level of support provided by our auspicing bodies — previously ADCA and now the Salvation Army (NSW Property Trust).

Over the course of the year, the ANCD has relied on support and advice from many government departments, in particular the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet; the Department of Health and Ageing; the Australian Federal Police; the Department of Family and Community Services and Indigenous Affairs; the Department of Education, Science and Training; the Attorney-General’s Department; the Australian Customs Service; the Office of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander...
Health; AusAID; and many state and territory departments, all of which is very much appreciated by the ANCD.

The continued support of the Prime Minister, the Minister for Health, the Parliamentary Secretary for Health and their respective offices, as well as many federal, state and territory ministers has also been greatly appreciated and instrumental in achieving the goals of the ANCD.

Finally, I would like to thank all the ANCD members for their support, commitment, advice and assistance over the past year; it has undoubtedly made the work of the ANCD of the highest quality. I also wish to personally thank Commissioner Mick Keelty, Professor Margaret Hamilton and Mr Garth Popple for their strong support and work as Acting Chairs of the ANCD, prior to the appointment of Dr Herron.

Gino Vumbaca
Executive Officer

Hon Peter Costello MP
Treasurer

The Australian National Council on Drugs (ANCD) plays a vital role in providing expert advice to the Australian Government on licit and illicit drugs and ensuring a wide range of views are considered in this important area of policy.

I commend the Council on its work this year to educate the public about cannabis. Cannabis is the most widely used illicit drug in Australia, and the Government greatly values the contribution of the Council in developing the National Cannabis Strategy. The strategy, endorsed by the Ministerial Council on Drug Strategy in May 2006, has a strong prevention focus while also looking at ways to reduce production and supply.

Collaboration between the Government and non-government sectors is vital in the fight against drugs. The Australian Government is committed to supporting the non-government sector and I was proud to announce in April this year that $850,000 in infrastructure grants would be provided to upgrade 17 community-based alcohol and drug treatment facilities across the nation.

The Government has also supported the non-government sector through the Council of Australian Government’s Mental Health initiatives. The Australian Government provided funding of $73.9 million over five years to support the non-government sector in their work to assist people with drug and alcohol problems who also experience mental illness, as well as $21.6 million over five years to alert the community to links between illicit drugs and mental illness.

I consider the Council to be an example of the benefits of the partnership between the Government and non-government sectors, and I thank the Council for their efforts to reduce the misuse of drugs in the Australian community.
The Prime Minister is responsible for appointing all members to the Australian National Council on Drugs (ANCD) and each member serves a term of up to three years. The ANCD is currently in its third term of membership. This report lists the current members (2004–2007) as well as those that may have departed since the commencement of the third term. Since the establishment of the ANCD some members have served more than one term of membership. As a result, each member’s term/s of membership is/are indicated after their name.

Membership of the ANCD includes individuals with a wide range of experience and expertise on various aspects of drug policy, such as treatment, rehabilitation, education, family counselling, law enforcement, research and work at the coalface in community organisations. In addition, there is at least one member located in each state/territory, which assists the ANCD to remain informed on jurisdictional alcohol and other drug issues, and integrate them into the national picture, where appropriate.

I am grateful for the expert advice that ANCD has provided to the Australian Government in support of its efforts to educate young people, schools and the community on the harm of drug use.

Hon Julie Bishop
Minister for Education, Science and Training

I congratulate you and the members of the Australian National Council on Drugs (ANCD) for the exceptional work that has been undertaken over the past twelve months. The ANCD is to be commended for its ongoing commitment to preventing the uptake and use of drugs and to reducing the harmful effects of licit and illicit drug use in the Australian community.

The work of the ANCD supports the Australian Government’s National School Drug Education Strategy which provides an overarching framework to guide drug education in schools. I am grateful for the expert advice that ANCD has provided to the Australian Government in support of its efforts to educate young people, schools and the community on the harm of drug use.

I wish to express my appreciation to the ANCD for its invaluable contribution to specific drug prevention and drug education initiatives within my portfolio. During the last twelve months, the ANCD has contributed timely and expert advice to the Targeted Prevention Strategies in Drug Education for School Leaders and Early Years Teachers project, the Leading Education about Drugs resource, the Keeping in Touch resource, Research to identify barriers around providing school based prevention programmes for ecstasy and related drugs (ERDS), and the National School Drug Education Strategy Parent Initiative. These projects and resources have been very well received by the school community, enabling the delivery of effective drug education to students and assisting in the development of young people’s attitudes and knowledge in relation to drug issues.

I look forward to continuing our strong working relationship and to building on effective partnerships across the government, non-government and community sectors to prevent the harmful damage caused by drugs in our society.
Executive members:

Dr John Herron
(2006–present)
Chair of the Australian National Council on Drugs

Dr Herron entered Federal Parliament in 1990 and served as Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs (1996–2001). He was also Chairman of the Senate Community Affairs Committee and Parliamentary Secretary to the Shadow Minister for Health (1994–96).

Most recently Dr Herron was Australia’s Ambassador to Ireland and the Holy See. Dr Herron has also served as President of the Queensland Liberal Party (1980–83 and 2001–02). He was Queensland Branch President of the Australian Medical Association (1989) and served as Queensland Chairman of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons and the Australian Association of Surgeons.

Educated at the University of Queensland, Dr Herron holds a Bachelor of Medicine and a Bachelor of Surgery. After Registrar training at Royal Brisbane and Princess Alexandra Hospitals, Dr Herron obtained his Edinburgh and London Surgical Fellowships.

He was appointed Research Fellow to the Queensland Melanoma Project at Princess Alexandra Hospital and became a Fellow of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons. He was senior surgeon at the Mater Hospital prior to entering the Senate.

Commissioner Michael Joseph Keelty, APM
Police Commissioner, Australian Federal Police;
Deputy-Chairman, Australian National Council on Drugs

Appointed Commissioner in March 2001, Mick Keelty is a career police officer with more than 30 years experience at local, national and international levels. He is the first Commissioner appointed from within the ranks of the Australian Federal Police (AFP).

During his career as a police officer, Commissioner Keelty has worked in a variety of fields, including community policing, national drug operations and intelligence. He also undertook a lengthy secondment to the National Crime Authority to work on investigations into organised crime and corruption.

Since his appointment as Commissioner, he has led the expansion and transformation of the AFP to take on major new responsibilities in the areas of counter-terrorism, protective security, airport security, and peacekeeping and capacity building in the region. The AFP has implemented a range of initiatives — domestically and overseas — to address these responsibilities and combat all types of transnational crime including online child exploitation, cyber crime, child sex tourism, sexual servitude, drug trafficking, money laundering and identity crime.

Commissioner Keelty received the Australian Police Medal for distinguished service in 1996 and the Centenary Medal, for service to the AFP, in 2003. He was awarded the Bintang Bhayangkara Utama Medal by Her Excellency, President of the Republic of Indonesia, Madame Megawati Soekarnoputri, in 2003 in recognition of the AFP’s close cooperation with the Indonesian National Police.

He holds a Master of Public Policy and Administration, a Graduate Certificate in Criminal Justice Education, and is a graduate of the FBI National Academy.

Commissioner Keelty is the Chair of the Board of the Australian Crime Commission. He is also the Deputy Chair of the Australian National Council on Drugs.
Council on Drugs, Chair of the Board of Control of the Australian Institute of Police Management, Co-Chair (with Japan) of the Asia/Pacific Group on Money Laundering and Co-Chair of the Board of the Jakarta Centre for Law Enforcement Cooperation (JCLEC).

As Commissioner of the AFP, he is a member of the NSW Crime Commission, the Business Government Advisory Group on National Security and the Pacific Islands Chiefs of Police Committee. He represents Australian law enforcement at both Interpol and ASEANAPOL.

**Associate Professor Robert Ali**  
Director, Clinical Policy and Research for the Drug and Alcohol Services Council (SA)

Associate Professor Robert Ali is a Public Health and Addiction Medicine physician who has worked in the alcohol and other drug area since 1985. Associate Professor Ali is the director of a WHO Collaborating Centre for the Treatment of Drug and Alcohol Problems based in the School of Medical Sciences at the University of Adelaide. Associate Professor Ali was the Chair of the National Expert Advisory Committee on Illicit Drugs.

**Professor Margaret Hamilton AO**  
Chair, Multiple and Complex Needs Panel (VIC), (University of Melbourne)

Professor Hamilton has over 30 years experience in this field including clinical work, education and research. She has a background in social work and public health and has conducted research in epidemiology, policy, evaluation (prevention and treatment), young people and drugs, women and alcohol, alcohol problems in remote Australia, evaluation of therapeutic communities and self-help, and was the founding Director of Turning Point Alcohol and Drug Centre in Victoria. She now Chairs the Multiple and Complex Needs Panel, a statutory body in Victoria and serves on various alcohol and drug-related boards and policy advisory groups including the Advisory Group to the Drug Policy Modelling Programme.

She is also the Chair of the Cancer Council Victoria Board.

**Mr Garth Popple**  
Co-Deputy Chair and Executive Member of the Australian National Council on Drugs (ANCD); Executive Director, We Help Ourselves (WHOS); Ex Officio President, Australasian Therapeutic Communities Association (ATCA); Treasurer, Executive Board Member, Network of Alcohol and other Drug Agencies (NSW); Board Member, International Council of Alcohol and Addictions (ICAA)

Mr Popple has been working in AOD management roles since 1986 and in honorary committee and board positions since 1981 for the non-profit sector. He has been primarily focused on the Therapeutic Community movement for most of his career to date, and in 1991 became involved in harm minimisation initiatives and he attempts to stay in touch with the needs and feedback from users past and present.

Mr Popple is the Executive Director of We Help Ourselves (WHOS) which operates five Therapeutic Communities within NSW and QLD: WHOS Metro for men, WHOS New Beginnings for women, WHOS MTAR services (Methadone To Abstinence Residential), WHOS Hunter Valley and WHOS Sunshine Coast. WHOS
provides other services such as Aftercare and HIV/Infectious Disease Education Services and supported accommodation services. Mr Popple through his position at WHOS has been a member of NADA and ATCA since 1986. He is a past NADA and ATCA President and holds current Board memberships of both peak associations. Mr Popple is a Board member of the International Council of Alcohol and Addictions (ICAA) and Co-Deputy Chair and Executive Member of the Australian National Council on Drugs (ANCD).

The above honorary appointments have a specific interest to Mr Popple due to their focus on the non-government sector, nationally and internationally. Mr Popple received an Honorary Fellowship of the University of Western Sydney. This award was in recognition of ‘Services to the Community’.

Mr Scott Wilson
State Director, Aboriginal Drug and Alcohol Council (SA) Inc. (ADAC)

ADAC is the only Indigenous organisation of its kind in Australia, and is based in Adelaide. Mr Wilson has presented a number of papers on behalf of ADAC at both national and international conferences on Indigenous drug and alcohol issues. In 1997, Mr Wilson was awarded the Alcohol and other Drugs Council of Australia (ADCA) Australia Day Achievement Medallion, and in 2003, he was awarded a Centenary Medal for ‘Services to the Community’.

Other members:

Mr David Crosbie
Chief Executive Officer, Odyssey House (VIC)

Mr Crosbie manages a staff of over 70 and a broad range of programs including residential rehabilitation, counselling, family support, research and training, youth outreach and early intervention programs for parents of adolescents. Between August 1993 and December 1999, Mr Crosbie was the Chief Executive Officer of the Alcohol and other Drugs Council of Australia (ADCA).

Mr Crosbie is currently an editor of the Drug and Alcohol Review, with responsibility for the ‘News and Views’ section of this publication. Previously, he was Director of Research, Training and Program Development at the Australian Drug Foundation. Mr Crosbie has written and published articles and papers on many issues including: non-government organisational effectiveness, alcohol policy towards the year 2000, the changing role of government and non-government organisations, the role of information...
in the drug and alcohol field, drug education in schools, alcohol in the workplace, drugs and sport, parents and drugs, smart drugs, and the police role in drug education. He has also been a regular guest lecturer at several universities, and attracts regular consulting work facilitating meetings and working with non-government organisations to improve their effectiveness.

For the past 15 years, Mr Crosbie has primarily worked in the non-government health and welfare sectors. He has a strong commitment to the role of non-government agencies in the provision of quality programs and services.

Chair of IGCD
Manager, Drug and Alcohol Coordination, State Crime Command, NSW Police

Superintendent Frank Hansen has been a member of the NSW Police since 1970. He is presently the Manager, Drug and Alcohol Coordination, State Crime Command. He is also currently the Chair of the Intergovernmental Committee on Drugs (IGCD).

From the mid 1980s to the present, he has had responsibility for providing key policy advice on drug and alcohol issues to the NSW Police and Government, particularly legislative issues, policing practices and their interrelationship with the provision of public health services.

Superintendent Hansen has, for a number of years, been a member of the Drug and Alcohol Multicultural Education Centre (DAMEC) management committee, and the Ted Noffs Foundation where he is currently the Deputy Chair.

Mr Keith Evans
Chair of IGCD
Executive Director, Drug and Alcohol Services South Australia

Since January 2005 Keith has been Executive Director of Drug and Alcohol Services, South Australia and Principal Advisor, Drugs Policy to the Government of South Australia. As of 1 January 2006, Keith is Chair of the Intergovernmental Committee on Drugs.

Prior to this appointment, Keith was State Director, Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Services for the Queensland Government’s Health Department from 1994–2001.

From 1984–1994 Keith was Chief Executive of the Alcohol Advisory Council of New Zealand.

Keith has published extensively in the areas of alcohol policy, treatment and prevention and acted as an international consultant on alcohol policy to the World Health Organization.

Keith’s other roles include membership of:

- Board of Directors of the International Council on Alcohol and Addictions (ICAA)
- Board of Directors of the National Drug & Alcohol Research Centre (NDARC)

Ms Kim Gates
(2005–2007)
Director, Council for Aboriginal Alcohol Program Services (CAAPS) (NT)

Ms Gates has worked in the alcohol and other drug sector for a period of nine years. She has been employed
at the Council for Aboriginal Alcohol Program Services in Darwin in the Northern Territory for a period of six years, four of which she has held the position of Chief Executive Officer. Prior to that Ms Gates was the administrator of the Ngnowar Aerwah Aboriginal Corporation in Wyndham in Western Australia. Ms Gates has a particular interest in the area of alcohol and other drug issues for Indigenous families.

Cyrenian House  
Parent Drug Information Service (WA)

Ms Hanbury is the parent of three children aged in their late teens to mid-twenties. She is the Coordinator of HELP, a parent drug education and family support project managed by Local Drug Action Groups Inc. in Perth, Western Australia. Ms Hanbury is a volunteer with the Parent Drug Information Service in Western Australia and is a volunteer addictions counsellor at the Palmerston Centre in Northbridge.

Mr Jeff Linden (2004–2007)  
Circuit Magistrate, Lismore (NSW)

Mr Linden was appointed a Magistrate of the Local Court of NSW in September 1988 and after two years as a relieving Magistrate he was sent to Byron Bay as the first Regional Coordinator for the Far North Coast Region. In 1997 Mr Linden was appointed to Lismore Local Court as the circuit Magistrate. This position included additional roles as Regional Coordinator, Mental Health Magistrate for Lismore Base Hospital, Magistrate in charge of implementation of Centralised Committals and appointment of Mental Health Nurse at Lismore, and Judicial Officer charged with the implementation and trialling of the MERIT Program.

Mr Linden has been a presenter at numerous Magistrates’ and other conferences about the MERIT Program. Mr Linden has also assisted with the final appraisals of the MERIT Program by an independent assessor and he was a recipient of the Silver Service Award from the NSW Government for service delivery based solely on the success of the MERIT Program.

From 2004 he has been circuit Magistrate for the Tweed circuit incorporating Local Courts at Tweed Heads, Murwillumbah, Mullumbimby and Byron Bay. That circuit from January 2006 was appointed as the only country circuit piloting Young Adult conferencing, a diversion program for adults between 18 and 24 years of age.

Professor Richard P Mattick (2004–2007)  
Director, National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre

Professor Mattick (B.Sc. M.Psych. (Clinical) Ph.D.) has over 20 years clinical and research experience in this field. This experience has involved direct clinical work in mental health, psychology, drug and alcohol dependence, as well as extensive research into the causes, nature and the management of problems caused by legal and illicit drugs. He is currently the Professor of Drug and Alcohol Studies at the University of New South Wales, Sydney, within the Faculty of Medicine, where he is the Director of the National
Drug and Alcohol Research Centre. Professor Mattick has authored over 120 scientific articles and books on the assessment, nature and treatment of emotional, cognitive and psychological problems, and drug and alcohol problems. His recent research interests have focused on: the use of naltrexone, buprenorphine and methadone for management of opioid dependence; the nature and treatment of amphetamine and cocaine dependence; the effects of treatment on crime; the societal and structural determinants of drug misuse; the development of guidelines for the management of alcohol misuse; interventions for alcohol-related problems through medical practitioners in rural communities; and the role and cost of interventions for nicotine and alcohol dependence.


Ms Miller has been a registered pharmacist for over 25 years and has held registration and worked in four countries, including both hospital and community pharmacy, at the interface between people and their drug use, both licit and illicit. She has extensive professional experience in provision of pharmacotherapy and also holds counselling qualifications.

Ms Miller was a founding member and State Coordinator for TOUGHLOVE Tasmania Inc., a support group and program for parents experiencing difficulties with their young people’s behaviour. She has been responsible for the establishment of the program in other areas of Tasmania and has worked extensively with families facing difficulties related to illicit drug usage. She is a qualified TOUGHLOVE representative and has counselling qualifications with individuals, families and groups.

Ms Miller was both a board member and employee of Holyoake Tasmania Inc., the Tasmanian Alcohol and Addictions Family Education and Support Program. She has been actively involved in forums and meetings dealing with youth homelessness, youth justice and health-related issues. She has a particular interest in the area of securing services for families affected by a family member’s drug use and the welfare and wellbeing of the rest of the family, and in particular, the needs of children impacted upon by parental drug use.

Ms Miller was the initial State Coordinator of Grandparents Raising Grandchildren and established the funded project in Tasmania.

Ms Miller currently works as Pharmacy Advisor to the Department of Veterans Affairs in Tasmania.

Representation on other committees:

- COAG Illicit Drug Diversion Initiative State Reference Group (TAS)
- National Illicit Drug Training Project for Pharmacy
- Interim Executive committee, Alcohol Tobacco and Other Drugs Council (Tasmania) and currently an advisory role to ATDC
- TOUGHLOVE Representative


Professor of Alcohol and Drug Studies, University of Queensland; Director, Alcohol and Drug Service, Royal Brisbane and Women’s Hospital Health Service District; Honorary Secretary, Australasian Chapter of Addiction Medicine of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians

John B Saunders is professor of alcohol and drug studies at the University of Queensland and Director of the Alcohol and Drug Service of the Royal Brisbane and Women’s Hospital. He qualified in pharmacology and then medicine from the University of Cambridge in the United Kingdom and undertook specialist training in
internal medicine, gastroenterology and liver disease, and addiction medicine. His career as a clinician, researcher, teacher and administrator in alcohol and drug services extends back over 25 years. His research interests include screening and brief intervention, diagnostic instruments, susceptibility to alcohol and drug-related disorders, treatment of alcohol and drug dependence, and medical education techniques. He has worked with the World Health Organisation for many years and was responsible for developing the AUDIT questionnaire. He is Editor-In-Chief of the Drug and Alcohol Review, Co-Director of the WHO collaborating Centre for Mental Health and Substance Abuse, a member of the Australian National Council on Drugs, Secretary of the International Society for Biomedical Research on alcoholism, Hon Secretary of the Australasian Chapter of Addiction Medicine of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians, and Co-Chair of the DSM V Substance Use Disorders Committee. He has published two books and 300 scientific papers and reviews.

Ms Wendy Teasdale-Smith (2004–2007)
Principal, Aberfoyle Park High School

Ms Teasdale-Smith has been a teacher and leader in the South Australian Education system for over 20 years. Her teaching background includes teaching health education in both city and country locations. She is now principal of Aberfoyle Park High School, one of the largest state secondary schools in South Australia. Her qualifications include postgraduate studies in leadership and management. She is currently Vice President of the South Australian Secondary Principals’ Association and in this role represents that state on the Australian Secondary Principals’ Association. She represents principals and secondary schools on a variety of committees and working parties. Both on a state and national level Ms Teasdale-Smith is known for her work on teacher shortage with numerous articles published in educational journals on this topic amongst others. Her diverse background in schools and system positions, both in city and country locations means she has a wealth of experience with young people from diverse backgrounds.

Physician

Professor Ian Webster is a physician and Emeritus Professor of Public Health and Community Medicine of the University of New South Wales, and Patron of the Alcohol and other Drugs Council of Australia. He has held senior appointments in the Faculty of Medicine at the University of New South Wales and appointments at Monash, Sheffield and Sydney Universities. He is Chair of the Alcohol Education and Rehabilitation Foundation, National Advisory Council on Suicide Prevention, the NSW Expert Advisory Group on Drugs and Alcohol, Chair of the Governing Council of the Ted Noffs Foundation, member of the Australian National Council on Drugs, and Chair of the Centres for Primary Health Care and Equity at the University of New South Wales.

He has held appointments as physician at Liverpool Hospital, St George and Royal Prince Alfred Hospitals, as Director of Population Health in the South Western Sydney Area Health Service and as a Board
Director of the Illawarra, Southern Sydney and South Western Sydney Area Health Services. He was a member of the Review of Health Services in NSW in 1999–2000.

Since 1976 he has been honorary visiting physician to St Vincent de Paul Society’s Matthew Talbot Hostel for the Homeless in Woolloomooloo. He is also a consultant physician in the South Western Sydney and Shoalhaven areas.

Associate Professor Ted Wilkes (2004–2007)
Professorial Fellow in Aboriginal Health with the Centre for Developmental Health, Curtin University

Associate Professor Wilkes has enjoyed a lifelong involvement in Aboriginal affairs, his early professional background being spent with the Western Australian Museum. Following that, he became Acting Inaugural Head of the Centre for Aboriginal Studies at Curtin University and then enjoyed 16 years as the Director of the Derbarl Yerrigan Aboriginal Health Service in Perth.

Associate Professor Wilkes serves on a wide range of state, national and international committees, which are working towards improving health outcomes for Aboriginal people. This allows him to work collaboratively across organisations, governments and communities to translate beneficial research findings into sustainable health policy and practice.

DHSM (UNE), MBA (CQU), Grad Dip Teach FET (USQ), B.Bus (DDIAE)

Dr Young is the National Executive Director of DRUG ARM Australasia as well as the Executive Director/Superintendent of the Drug Awareness and Relief Foundation (Australia). Prior to 1988 he served in the Queensland Police Service and the Queensland Legislative Assembly.

Dennis has worked directly in the alcohol and other drug field since 1988. He is a Director of the Mental Health Association Queensland, Chair of the Nyunda Park Cooperative, interim Vice Chair of the Queensland Network of Alcohol and Drug Agencies, a member of the management committee for the Of Substance magazine as well as a member of the COAG Illicit Drug Diversion Initiative State Reference Group (QLD). Dennis also serves on the Queensland Youth Alliance Committee and the Queensland Drug Education Coordinating Committee. He is an Associate Fellow of the Australian College of Road Safety and the Australian Institute of Management.

Advisor to the ANCD:
Ms Allison Rosevear
A/g Assistant Secretary
Drug Strategy Branch
Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing
Mr Gino Vumbaca

Executive Officer, ANCD Secretariat

Mr Vumbaca has extensive experience in the HIV/AIDS and drug and alcohol fields both in Australia and internationally. He is a Churchill Fellow and has completed a Social Work degree and a Masters of Business Administration at the University of Sydney. He has worked as the Manager of HIV/AIDS and related services with the NSW Department of Corrective Services, in a variety of drug and alcohol centres as a counsellor and was responsible for coordinating the establishment of the NSW network of needle and syringe exchange programs for the NSW Health Department. Mr Vumbaca also continues to provide advice on prisons, HIV and drug issues for international organisations such as the UN and WHO.

Ms Denise Gilchrist

Senior Policy and Project Officer, ANCD Secretariat

Ms Denise Gilchrist joined the Secretariat as the Senior Policy and Project Officer in March 2006, replacing Ms Tess McLachlan who is currently on maternity leave. She has worked in the drug and alcohol and mental health sector for the past 25 years and more recently worked as the Director of a non-government drug and alcohol facility in Darwin. She has completed a Bachelor of Nursing Degree, a Masters in Mental Health and a Diploma in Business Management.

Ms Tracey Kristiansen

Policy and Project Officer, ANCD Secretariat

Ms Kristiansen joined the Secretariat in June 2006. Previously she has worked in Project Manager positions within the private sector. Ms Kristiansen has a strong interest in the drug and alcohol sector. She has a Bachelor of Management majoring in Politics.
Ms McLachlan joined the Secretariat in May 2005. She has been working in the sector for the past four years as a Manager in the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing with responsibility for the development of the current National Drug Strategy, the national drug research programs and drug data collections. Prior to that Ms McLachlan worked with the Australian Customs Service on various law enforcement and cargo facilitation projects and programs. She has completed a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Australian Public Policy.

Mr Taylor has been with the ANCD since March 2002. Previously he has worked in the Commonwealth Government’s Youth Affairs Bureau and as a secondary teacher. Mr Taylor holds a Bachelor of Social Science (Human Movement and Recreation), Graduate Diploma of Education (Secondary) (PD/H/PE) and a Graduate Certificate in Public Administration.

Ms Gibbons has been with the ANCD Secretariat since May 2004. Her responsibilities include organisation of meetings and functions, travel arrangements for members and staff, accounts administration and various other office administration tasks.

Ms Crowle joined the ANCD Secretariat in 2000. Ms Crowle’s responsibilities include organisation of meetings, travel arrangements for members and various other office administration tasks.
I am pleased to take this opportunity to acknowledge the contribution of the Australian National Council on Drugs (ANCD) to the Australian Government’s Tough on Drugs Initiative. The ANCD has continued to provide informed and independent advice to the Government on drug policy and program matters.

As Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health and Ageing, I have responsibility for managing policy and programs that aim to reduce the effects of illicit drug use on the health and wellbeing of Australians. I value the input from the ANCD representatives on advisory groups for initiatives such as the Psychostimulants Initiative and the Non-government Organisations Treatment Grants Program.

I especially value projects commissioned by the ANCD. In particular I note the ANCD’s research, looking at the impact of drug use on families and carers. I look forward to seeing the results of this work in the coming year.

Under the guidance of its new Chair, Dr John Herron, I look forward to advice from the ANCD and its sub-committee — the National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Committee — on the very concerning impact of alcohol and other drug use in Indigenous communities.

I extend my sincere thanks to the members of the ANCD for their contribution and support and I look forward to our continued collaboration in the coming year.
Over the past 12 months the ANCD has continued to work effectively in its important role as the government’s principal advisory body on alcohol and other drug issues (AOD). The ANCD regularly provided government with high-quality, independent, evidence-based advice on a range of AOD issues. The ANCD continued to place emphasis on communicating with the alcohol and drug sector, in particular, non-government and community-based organisations. The ANCD remains convinced of the importance of ensuring these groups are well informed and that their views are taken into account in the policy development cycle.

During the last financial year, the ANCD launched its Mapping national drug treatment capacity project, and released the publication Evidence-based answers to cannabis questions and its companion document Cannabis — answers to your questions. The ANCD’s Asia–Pacific Drug Issues Committee also launched its report Situational analysis of illicit drug issues and responses in the Asia–Pacific region. The ANCD anticipates the release of more quality publications in the forthcoming financial year. Further, the ANCD released a number of media releases and communiqués to apprise key stakeholders and the general public of specific AOD issues.

The ANCD, through its Rural and Regional AOD Workforce Development Grants, has given workers in these parts of Australia the opportunity to network with other AOD workers and build on their existing skills. This grant program ensures that rural and regional communities benefit through access to more skilled and knowledgeable workers.

Last year the decision was made by the Australian Government to make the national AOD magazine — Of Substance — a free publication. The first free publication was issued in July 2005 and this year has seen a significant expansion in its distribution. Broadening the magazine’s audience has assisted in achieving the aim of the magazine, which is to bridge the gap between research and practice in the AOD sector.

Throughout the year, the ANCD’s Asia–Pacific Drug Issues Committee continued to provide the Australian Government with advice on the best ways to maximise Australia’s response to leadership and impact on Asia–Pacific regional illicit drug issues. The ANCD’s National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Committee have continued to provide high-quality and culturally appropriate advice to government on a range of alcohol and other drug issues impacting on Indigenous communities.

During the past financial year the ANCD continued to provide substantial input and advice to government about the Non-Government Organisation Treatment Grants Program, the Community Partnerships Initiative, and the Council of Australian Governments Illicit Drug Diversion initiative. The ANCD also provided the government with significant advice for the development of the AOD component of the 2006 Federal Budget.

Over the past 12 months the ANCD maintained networks with key stakeholders within the advisory structures for the National Drug Strategy, such as the Inter-governmental Committee on Drugs (IGCD) and the Ministerial Council on Drug Strategy (MCDS). Further, the ANCD continued to consult with other key stakeholders in the AOD field both nationally and internationally. By working collaboratively with the aforementioned key stakeholders on a number of projects, the ANCD has built excellent working relationships which will continue into the future. The ANCD is appreciative of the high level of support provided by all levels of government and their many departments, and acknowledge the important role of non-government organisations and their role in the AOD sector. The ANCD trusts that these cooperative partnerships will continue in the forthcoming year.

The ANCD recommends its annual report to readers and welcomes those interested in furthering their knowledge about the issues raised herein to visit the website at www.ancd.org.au or contact the Secretariat.
The Australian National Council on Drugs (ANCD) was established by the Prime Minister in 1998 as a part of the Australian Government’s response to reduce the uptake and use of drugs and the harm it causes in our community. Today, an important component of the ANCD’s work is to ensure that policies, strategies and directions in the drug and alcohol field are consistent with the National Drug Strategy 2004–2009.

The National Drug Strategy 2004–2009, which builds on the experience and achievements of the National Drug Strategic Framework 1998–99 to 2003–04, provides a framework for a coordinated, integrated approach to drug issues in the Australian community. It clearly states that the framework’s effectiveness depends on the support and integration of strategies on national, state and territory levels across government and non-government sectors and a high level of cooperation between a very broad range of sectors.

The ANCD works to facilitate this approach by virtue of its unique role in enhancing the partnership between government and the community. It has pivotal advisory, advocacy and representative functions, with a significant role to provide government ministers with independent, expert advice on matters related to licit and illicit drugs.

The ANCD brings to the national effort expertise from volunteer and community organisations, rehabilitation, law enforcement, research, education, health and social welfare fields. The cooperation of these fields is vital to the comprehensiveness of Australia’s policy response to alcohol and other drug issues in our community. The ANCD will continue to strive to work in an honest and transparent manner in the provision of independent, evidence-based advice to government on a range of alcohol and other drug (AOD) matters.

The ANCD seeks to achieve its goals through a wide range of activities including: commissioning a wide range of projects; contributing to public debate on a range of drug-related issues; conducting community consultation and supporting initiatives to strengthen the AOD sector.

This report outlines the work of the ANCD during the 2005–2006 financial year. In particular, it demonstrates how the ANCD’s activities during this period have made progress against the priority areas identified in its three-year work plan.

Kim Beazley
Leader of the Opposition

This Annual Report from the Australian National Council on Drugs (ANCD) highlights the role that the prevention and treatment of drug abuse plays in addressing drug problems in the Australian Community.

It is a tragedy that many Australians die, are injured, become sick or are victims of crime because of drug misuse. Those who are working to address this tragedy are worthy of the support of all Australians. I commend the ANCD for the vital role it plays in educating the community about the treatment and prevention of drug addiction.
2004–2007 ANCD WORK PLAN

Relationship to the 2004–09 National Drug Strategy

The ANCD is committed to making a meaningful contribution to the achievement of the goals and objectives of the 2004–09 National Drug Strategy. This is achieved by:

- Ensuring that the views and aspirations of the non-government sector, families, specific communities and the general community are heard and articulated to governments
- Commissioning a range of research and work projects to better inform policy and service delivery
- Communicating identified and emerging trends and issues in drug use
- Working closely with the structures, institutions, groups and individuals responsible for the planning, implementation and evaluation of Australia’s national drug policies, strategies and frameworks

ANCD principles

The following list represents a set of principles that will underpin the ANCD’s attempts to address the priority areas set by the 2004–2007 ANCD Work Plan:

- Development of drug policy and strategies that are based on evidence
- Encouragement of collaboration within the community to reduce the uptake of drug use and drug-related harm
- Provision of a long-term outlook that provides effective and sustainable responses to issues likely to affect future generations
- Facilitation of resources to engage local communities and service providers in developing and implementing locally relevant activities
- Encouragement for new ideas and innovative approaches to be generated in the wider communities
- Encouragement of an equitable approach to drug policy development and service provision that considers the needs of all groups within our communities, particularly those that are disadvantaged
- Providing continuing support for Australia’s national approach to drugs, which is based on principles of harm minimisation and works to promote partnerships and cooperation between all levels of government, the non-government sector, particularly in health, as well as justice and education
- Contributing to the breadth and depth of understanding of drug issues and problems in Australia by defining and documenting contemporary needs and emerging issues
- Promoting a greater understanding on the nature and extent of drug issues across Australia including between different communities and population groups
- Promoting a balanced viewpoint in the community around issues affecting drug users, their families and friends, and around issues that may involve community concerns regarding safety and amenity
- Increasing the focus on effective and evidence-based preventive strategies, policies and programs, particularly those targeting Indigenous communities, families and young people
- Ensuring the ANCD responsibly uses its position and relationship at the national level to influence the full spectrum of government activity and enterprise aimed at minimising the harm caused by drugs in Australia and internationally
- Maintaining a focus on areas that may be problematic for governments to address while working to make a positive contribution to such areas

ANCD priority areas

Based on a review of Australia’s national target areas and the ANCD Terms of Reference, the ANCD has identified a select number of key issues, or ‘priority areas’, which are the focus of the majority of the
Council’s efforts over the course of the 2004–2007 Work Plan. Whilst the ANCD intends to focus on these priority areas through its activities, the ANCD also recognises that the changing nature of drug use in our society today demands a flexible approach. Accordingly, the priority areas listed are not intended to cover all issues of significance. Rather, they represent a set of areas around which the Council believes it both should and has the capacity to make a positive contribution within the scope of its activities for 2004–2007.

ANCD priority areas for 2004–2007:
1. Emerging issues
2. Vulnerable groups
3. High-risk environments
4. Addressing social inequities
5. Capacity building

(Please note that these are not listed in order of importance.)

1. Emerging issues

The ANCD acknowledges the dynamic and evolving nature of the AOD field and recognises that changes in patterns of drug use and other related issues warrant timely responses from policy and decision makers. The ANCD aims to continue its efforts to ensure that it receives timely evidence-based information about current and emerging drug trends, and to communicate with all relevant institutions, groups and individuals on identified and emerging trends and issues in drug use. Where possible, the ANCD will consider involvement in responding to emerging issues through research and/or other initiatives and, where this is not possible, aims to support national efforts to do so.

Some of the areas identified by the ANCD at this stage include the gathering of accurate and current information on cannabis and its relationship with mental health disorders, the increasing production and use of methamphetamine, the need for an increased awareness of the harms associated with alcohol use, the need for more treatment options, the growing levels of drug use and HIV rates within our region, and dealing with the emergence of a variety of designer and club drugs being used by young people in particular.

Response

In response to the growing concerns regarding cannabis use and its links to mental health problems, the ANCD launched two publications: Evidence-based answers to cannabis questions and its companion document Cannabis: answers to your questions. The ANCD also used media statements and consultations to communicate clear information about some of the more commonly asked questions about cannabis-use findings from recent, high-quality research evidence. In addition the ANCD were actively involved in the development of the National Cannabis Strategy, provided advice to government on issues relating to cannabis cautioning schemes, and attended meetings and conferences to address issues associated with cannabis.

The ANCD will address issues associated with drug use in the homeless population in Australia through its current ‘Working with homeless people who use drugs’ initiative. The ANCD believes that with a better understanding of the issues and needs of homeless people who have alcohol and drug problems, service providers will be able to provide more appropriate and effective responses to their alcohol and drug use.

Through its consultation forums and own networks the ANCD is well aware that youth drug use is a significant concern to the community. Furthermore, the ANCD acknowledges that young people have relatively limited opportunities to express their concern about the impact of AOD issues on their lives. Consequently, the ANCD has identified young people (12–18 years) as a specific community about which it seeks to gain more information. This process will involve a comprehensive literature review and a series of consultations to ascertain the issues young people face in terms of drugs.
The ANCD believes that there is an opportunity to build upon the aforementioned and other research, which in conjunction with direct consultation with young people will better inform ANCD members about the issues young people face in relation to drugs. In addition, it will also allow the ANCD to advocate more effectively in its spheres of influence on behalf of young people.

ANCD members, through their membership with the Asia–Pacific Committee, continued to provide the ANCD and the Australian Government with ways to maximise Australia’s response, leadership and impact on emerging Asia–Pacific regional illicit drug issues. In order to provide a foundation for its work, the Asia–Pacific Drug Issues Committee has identified an urgent need to map the work currently being undertaken in the Asia–Pacific region in order to identify gaps in responses, tailor responses to specific situations, and avoid duplication at the international level.

Drug–related issues and harms are defined broadly and include health and social problems related to drug use as well as crime and law enforcement issues. The Asia–Pacific Drug Issues Committee will focus on providing an audit of Australian involvement in responding to drug issues in the Asia–Pacific region including government, non-government organisations and individual contributions. And importantly a situation analysis and country profile for countries in the Asia–Pacific region. The analysis should include an overview of drug policy, policy processes and partnerships as well as a review of the prevalence, epidemiology and harms of drug use in each country, including an analysis of HIV rates and the methamphetamine production in the region.

The ANCD continues to target the harms associated with alcohol abuse through a range of media releases, communiqués and consultations with relevant stakeholders.

The ANCD members continue to occupy positions on a range of committees, organisations and peak bodies, and engage in open forums to ensure the ANCD is informed of the influence of a broad range of emerging health, social and welfare issues.

2. Vulnerable groups

The ANCD recognises that there are a number of population groups who, for a variety of reasons, experience disproportionate levels of drug-related harm or who are especially at risk of experiencing the harms that may be associated with problematic drug use. The ANCD has identified three major at-risk population groups that will be targeted within the 2004–2007 Work Plan. This list is not intended to encompass all at-risk groups in the community. Rather, the following list represents groups that will be targeted within the scope of the Council’s activities:

- Indigenous communities
- Families
- Young people

**Indigenous communities**

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are more likely to experience disability and reduced quality of life due to ill health and have a lower life expectancy than other Australians. The use of licit drugs such as tobacco and alcohol poses a disproportionate health risk to Indigenous communities as compared to the total Australian population. In particular, the social impact of the use of alcohol is a serious concern. Issues facing Indigenous communities also include the harms associated with petrol sniffing, the use of inhalants, the use of kava, high rates of cannabis use and increasing amphetamine and other illicit drug use. It remains a priority of the ANCD to support national efforts that address drug-related harm and associated issues affecting Indigenous people and, in particular, the ANCD supports the implementation of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples’ Complementary Action Plan 2003–2006.
Response

In late 2004 the ANCD agreed to auspice the newly formed National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Committee (NIDAC). The formation of NIDAC allows the ANCD to provide clear advice to government on a range of alcohol and other drug issues that impact on Indigenous communities. In particular, NIDAC will monitor and evaluate the implementation of the National Drug Strategy Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples’ Complementary Action Plan 2003–2006. NIDAC is comprised of individuals with expertise in a range of areas that relate to Indigenous alcohol and other drug policy.

Petrol sniffing is becoming increasingly endemic in nature in some remote Indigenous communities. It continues to have adverse effects on communities where it is entrenched, including serious disability, crime, cultural degradation, violence and death. The ANCD’s NIDAC, in recognising that petrol sniffing is the result of a myriad of socio-economic factors within communities, has provided substantial advice to government about possible ways of better addressing the issue over the past year. The ANCD has also attended meetings and launches related to petrol sniffing, and provided input into the August 2005 inquest into the deaths of three young petrol sniffers. Further, the issue of petrol sniffing and alternative fuels was discussed in depth in the ANCD’s national magazine, Of Substance.

ANCD members continue to take a proactive approach in acquiring the views, concerns and needs of Indigenous communities by visiting, liaising and consulting with local communities, and developing culturally sensitive programs.

Families

Research indicates that the family represents the single most important risk and protective factor for drug abuse. Of particular significance is the quality of parent/child relationship. Drug use in the family context is also known to have a huge impact on the economic, physical and social wellbeing of the individual and the problems stemming from drug use within a family context are numerous and complex. The ANCD acknowledges the significant hardships that are faced by families with a member or members who have drug problems, and recognises the importance of providing families of drug-using members with support, education and assistance. The ANCD is committed to making a positive contribution to national efforts to address some of the issues around problematic drug use within the family context.

Response

The ANCD has become increasingly aware of the many families who are affected by the problematic drug use of a family member. Research indicates that the family represents the single most important protective factor for drug abuse. Accordingly, the ANCD has developed and commissioned two projects concerning the family. The first project has been developed following concerns for the welfare of children of drug-using parent/s or carer/s. These concerns span pregnancy and infancy, through to early childhood and adolescence. Often, the central concern expressed is the perception that ‘intergenerational’ drug use is becoming more common. To address this issue, the ANCD has commissioned a project entitled ‘Drug Use in the Family: Impacts and Implications’. The project seeks to identify the opportunities and impediments for engaging and supporting families, to reduce the likelihood that children of current, problematic drug users, failing to receive proper care during their formative years, will become drug users themselves. The report is expected to be released next financial year.

The second project aims to identify opportunities to lessen the impact on family members/carers of drug-using young people. This project acknowledges that there are many Australian families who are affected by the problematic
drug use of a family member. Through this project the ANCD has the opportunity to provide quality advice to governments on appropriate interventions that work to support the parent/s or carer/s and other family members of a drug-using family member.

In particular, the ANCD believes that family members often receive inconsistent messages about which services and support options will appropriately address their needs. The ANCD also recognises that there is a lack of information available about the effectiveness of current programs. This project will conduct an exploration of the evidence-based research into the needs of family members of a young person/s who is/are involved in problematic drug use and to make recommendations about which programs or services most effectively address the needs of these family members. This project has commenced and is expected to be finalised next financial year.

By developing these projects, the ANCD has further maintained its commitment to making a positive contribution to national efforts to address some of the issues around problematic drug use within the family context. The ANCD has also worked closely with the Department of Family and Community Services, to ensure a greater level of funding, support and assistance is given to alcohol and drug services working with families.

Young people

Among young people, a number of significant trends in the use of licit and illicit drugs are cause for concern. Among these, the use of alcohol, tobacco, cannabis, and the increasing use of amphetamines and other designer and club drugs are all significant. The ANCD recognises that young people represent an important group in terms of prevention and early intervention, given the greater capacity to avoid later social, health and economic consequences of drug use. The ability to work with young people both in the school environment and the community is an essential component of any plan attempting to address issues for young people. Accordingly, the ANCD aims to strengthen our knowledge on issues affecting young people and to support national efforts to target young people in research and practice at the school and in the community.

Response

Through its consultation forums and own networks the ANCD is well aware that youth drug use is a significant concern to the community. Furthermore, the ANCD acknowledges that young people have relatively limited opportunities to express their concern about the impact of AOD issues on their lives. Consequently, the ANCD has identified young people (12–18 years) as a specific community about which it seeks to gain more information. This process will involve a comprehensive literature review and a series of consultations to ascertain the issues young people face in terms of drugs.

The ANCD recognises that research about young people and drugs is continually evolving and that a considerable body of literature exists within Australia and internationally on issues such as the impact of drugs on young people; statistics about young people’s drug use; influences on young people’s drug-use behaviour; and young people’s views, attitudes and perceptions about a range of drugs.

The ANCD believes that there is an opportunity to build upon the aforementioned and other research, which in conjunction with direct consultation with young people will better inform ANCD members about the issues young people face in relation to drugs. In addition, it will also allow the ANCD to advocate more effectively in its spheres of influence on behalf of young people.

A project entitled ‘Young People and Drugs’ has been commissioned by the ANCD. This project aims to advance understanding of the issues young people aged 12–18 years face. The project will include young people’s views and attitudes about a range of drugs, the influence of peer groups, where they access
information about drugs, and who they view as credible sources of information. A report for this project is expected to be finalised next financial year.

The ANCD has continued to strengthen its knowledge of issues affecting young people by supporting national efforts to target young people in research and practice at school and in the community. ANCD members have attended and presented at conferences and forums, such as the Underage Drinking Forum, maintained memberships with relevant committees and organisations and worked directly with young people.

3. High-risk environments

The ANCD acknowledges that there are several settings that may provide an environment in which individuals are more likely to experience drug-related harm. Given the scope of the ANCD’s activities, the Council aims to have a positive impact on improving knowledge and practice around the problematic drug use and related issues that occur in two settings: prisons, and rural and remote regions of Australia. The ANCD acknowledges the wide range of issues that exist around problematic drug use in these settings and, in accordance with national efforts, aims to make a positive contribution to addressing these issues.

**Prisons**

Research indicates that around 50% of inmates in Australian custodial settings have a history of injecting drug use. A significant proportion of inmates (around 25%) continue to inject while in custody. Furthermore, some research indicates that around 10% of inmates are initiated into drug-injecting practices whilst in custodial settings. In the absence of many harm reduction measures, this group reports extremely high rates of sharing injecting equipment (about 90%) and consequently, high rates of hepatitis C and proportionally higher rates of HIV in comparison to the general community. There are also significantly higher rates of historical and current drug and alcohol use amongst prisoners. This further highlights the need to provide drug education, treatment and care options equivalent to those in the community.

**Response**

The ANCD has continued to liaise and meet with senior members from correctional authorities across Australia. As a result of the recommendations made in the ANCD’s *Supply, demand and harm reduction strategies in Australian prisons* research paper, the ANCD is supporting correctional authorities to produce a national strategy for drug issues in correctional facilities and remand centres.

**Rural and remote areas**

Rural and remote settings are high-risk environments for drug-related harm for a variety of complex reasons. Factors such as isolation, boredom and stress that may be particular to rural and remote areas are often associated with problematic drug use in these settings. There are also many issues that face people living in rural and remote areas who have alcohol and other drug problems. These include the need to travel long distances to receive services, the lack of access and availability of general health services in many communities, a lack of confidentiality in small communities, few residential or specialist programs and less access to information and education. The relationship between alcohol and transport injuries in rural and remote areas, particularly in young men, is also of concern.

**Response**

In the 2003 Budget, the ANCD ensured government had specific funds available for the Rural and Regional Initiative, and are working with them to suggest expenditure. A committee has been established to work with the Department of Health and Ageing to provide advice about investments in AOD programs in rural and regional communities.
During the reporting period the Australian National Council on Drugs awarded grants to 23 rural and regional alcohol and other drug (AOD) workers across the country to enable them to undertake a range of workforce development activities. This is the sixth consecutive year that the ANCD has offered these rural and regional AOD workforce development grants and they continue to be one of the ANCD’s most popular initiatives.

Indigenous communities are often isolated and require specifically targeted programs, and are therefore at risk of not getting the attention they need. The formation of NIDAC in late 2004 allows the ANCD to provide clear advice to government on a range of alcohol and other drug issues that impact on Indigenous communities. In particular, NIDAC will monitor and evaluate the implementation of the National Drug Strategy Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples’ Complementary Action Plan 2003–2006. NIDAC is comprised of individuals with expertise in a range of areas that relate to Indigenous alcohol and other drug policy.

4. Addressing social inequities

There are a number of population groups who, for a variety of reasons, are more likely to experience social and economic disadvantage. As a result of this, such groups also experience disproportionate levels of drug-related harm. The ANCD recognises that social inequity is a major determinant of problematic drug use and that significant structural reform is necessary to address the inequities that create and perpetuate underlying factors associated with harmful drug use in society. The ANCD supports governmental responses to this issue and, within its capacity, seeks to address these issues through quality, evidence-based research that aims to increase public awareness of factors underlying harmful drug use.

In particular, the ANCD will work to achieve structural reform through enhancing relationships within and between Commonwealth, state and territory governments, peak bodies, non-government organisations and other advisory bodies. The ANCD also acknowledges the strength of local approaches to localised problems. Accordingly, the ANCD recognises that, in keeping with the increasing role for the non-government and community sector in drug policy and program approaches in Australia, there is a need to provide adequate support to these groups, including financial support, and where possible appropriate access to decision-making forums.

A critical area in this structural reform response will be increasing the understanding and possible adoption of drug and related impact statements on legislative, regulative and policy changes across a wide variety of government portfolios.

Response

During the past year the ANCD has been developing an AOD charter in consultation with key stakeholders. The charter includes a broad range of principles and goals that all stakeholders within the AOD sector can draw upon in the development and implementation of AOD policy. The ANCD also expects that the charter would be included in a range of publications relevant to sectors such as law enforcement, public health, and welfare. The charter is expected to be finalised soon.

The ANCD has conducted a number of forums during the reporting period, which provide an opportunity for all community members to voice their concerns about drug use and its related harms.

The ANCD has commissioned a project addressing homelessness and drug use. It is expected that this project will address not only the prevalence and extent of drug use in the homeless populations, but the harms that accrue from
these including infectious disease, and psychological and psychiatric disturbance. The ANCD recognises that some work exists in this area, and believes that with a greater understanding of the possible ways of responding to people who have alcohol and drug problems and are homeless, service providers may be able to provide more tailored responses to their alcohol and drug use in the context of practical support.

To gain a better understanding of, and means of responding to the extent and nature of problems associated with drug use in the homeless population in Australia, the ANCD is currently developing a set of clear guidelines for managing drug and alcohol problems amongst the homeless. The ANCD is also conducting a general overview of the extent and nature of drug problems associated with homelessness.

The guidelines are aimed at people who have frontline contact with homeless people, but are particularly aimed at penetrating the service provision sector that provides specialist homeless person services. The document will be applied nationally and will be relevant in any jurisdictional setting.

Further, the ANCD gave continued support to the Illicit Drug Diversion Initiative, which aims to break the cycle of drug use in prisons, because it is often the continued misuse of drugs that maintains people in difficult situations.

5. Capacity building

The ANCD acknowledges the value of initiatives that build capacity within the community to effectively respond to AOD and related issues. In particular, the ANCD aims to encourage and support seven major aspects of capacity building:

- Intersectoral partnerships
- Communities
- Workforce development
- Information sharing
- Evaluation processes and review mechanisms
- Leadership
- Funding and resource allocation

Response

The ANCD encouraged and supported many aspects of capacity building during the reporting period.

The ANCD strengthened partnerships and worked with all state and territory governments to obtain and exchange information for AOD-related research, initiatives and projects. The ANCD also continued to have regular meetings with senior officials from government departments such as Family and Community Services, Health and Ageing, Education, Science and Training, and Customs. The ANCD considers that building and maintaining partnerships is essential to ensure that there is a consistent approach to addressing drug-related issues. As a result, the ANCD also facilitated communication between non-government organisations, the private sector and the community.

To ensure that programs and initiatives are responsive to local needs, the ANCD involved communities in decision making through their inclusion in forums and by liaising with and maintaining partnerships with all relevant sectors of the community, such as health and law enforcement.

The ANCD remained committed to building a strong, stable and skilled workforce in the drug and alcohol and related sectors. Accordingly, the ANCD funded 16 Rural and Regional Alcohol and Other Drugs Workforce Development Grants, to increase the knowledge of personnel in areas of Australia where opportunities for staff development are limited.

The ANCD encouraged a wide dissemination of evaluated best practice techniques and evidence-based research findings in prevention and treatment interventions that minimise the harms associated with drug use. This was achieved through media statements and articles in the ANCD’s national magazine, Of Substance.
The ANCD continued to advocate to federal and state/territory governments the need for evidence-based approaches in determining AOD policies, by supporting the detailed evaluation of processes, impacts and outcomes of initiatives under the 2004–2009 National Drug Strategy and related policies and programs implemented across all jurisdictions. The ANCD continued to support the allocation of funding through advice given to government, and assistance to individuals and organisations that promote and deliver best practice in the AOD and related sectors.

The ANCD publicly acknowledged the efforts of leaders in the AOD field through the National Drug and Alcohol Awards that were held in June 2006.

We are pleased to congratulate the ANCD for its achievements to date and look forward to continuing to work together in the coming years to tackle the problem of drug and alcohol abuse in our community.

Hon John Hatzistergos
Minister for Health (NSW)

Over the last year, the Australian National Council on Drugs (ANCD) has continued to make a significant contribution to drug and alcohol policy in this country as the peak national advisory body on these matters. In 2005/2006, the ANCD helped to build the evidence base for policy directions and practical responses to emerging issues as well as supported workforce development in the non-government sector.

These sorts of activities work to provide a sound basis for our ongoing strategies and actions at national and local levels to stop substance abuse in our community and related harms which can have terrible impacts on families and individuals.

The NSW government continues its commitment to working in partnership with the community, other governments and non government organizations such as the ANCD to find effective solutions to the serious issue of drug and alcohol abuse.

These are important partnerships which recognize there is no one solution to the complex issue of substance abuse and that the strongest approach is to share our experiences, evidence and collective wisdom to determine the best way forward.

In this context, the NSW Government valued the contribution of the former ANCD Chair Major Brian Watters and we wish him well in his future ventures and new responsibilities. We would also like to acknowledge and welcome Dr John Herron as the new Chair.

We are pleased to congratulate the ANCD for its achievements to date and look forward to continuing to work together in the coming years to tackle the problem of drug and alcohol abuse in our community.
Senator the Hon Christopher Ellison  
Minister for Justice and Customs  
Senator for Western Australia

I would like to take this opportunity to commend the Australian National Council on Drugs (ANCD) for their outstanding work over the past twelve months. The continued success of the ANCD during this period constitute a significant contribution to the Australian Government’s fight against illicit drugs. By capitalizing on the knowledge and experience of a wide range of organizations such as the ANCD, we can directly reduce the damage that illicit drugs cause to our community. The ANCD has continued to provide high quality, independent, evidence-based advice to the government on new and innovative options for combating illicit drugs. For example, the ANCD’s 2004 research paper, *Supply, Demand and Harm Reduction in Australian Prisons*, is proving crucial to informing the development of the National Corrections Drug Strategy, which the ANCD has taken a leading role in producing.

I am particularly pleased with the ANCD’s publication this year of the research paper entitled *Evidence-based answers to cannabis questions a review of the literature*. This paper provides a comprehensive overview of current patterns of cannabis use, the legislative status of cannabis, health effects of cannabis and the current best-practice treatments in Australia. This important publication provides valuable material for implementing the National Cannabis Strategy and is a result of very effective collaborative relationships. The success of these research papers affirms the ANCD’s close relationship with the law enforcement community, and I look forward to further cooperation with the ANCD in the effort to reduce the supply of illicit drugs to the Australian community.

The ANCD is also represented on a number of important bodies, including the National Working Group on the Prevention of the Diversion of Precursor Chemicals into Illicit Drug Manufacture. This demonstrates the importance of the ANCD’s role in national approaches to illicit drug issues.

Finally, congratulations on your appointment as Chairman of the ANCD. I look forward to continuing our strong working relationship on drug policy initiatives.
National drug and alcohol awards

The National Drug and Alcohol Awards are a collaborative effort of the Ted Noffs Foundation, the Alcohol and other Drugs Council of Australia, the Australian Drug Foundation and the Australian National Council on Drugs. The awards aim to encourage, recognise and celebrate Australian achievements to prevent and reduce alcohol and other drug use and harm. Awards were presented in the following categories: Prime Minister’s Award for Excellence and Outstanding Contribution in Drug and Alcohol Endeavours; Recognition for Lifetime Achievement in the Drug and Alcohol Field Award; Services to the Drug and Alcohol Field Award; Excellence in Prevention; Excellence in Treatment; Excellence in Research; Excellence in Services for Young People; Excellence in Serving a Special Target Population; and Excellence in Alcohol and Drug Media Reporting. The Excellence in Law Enforcement Award was also presented for the first time.

The National Drug and Alcohol Awards were presented for the second time in Sydney in June 2006.

ANCD rural and regional alcohol and other drugs study grants program 2005

This annual initiative is a workforce development strategy specifically for rural and regional based workers who deal with AOD issues. Workers are able to submit applications for funding to attend other AOD agencies to gather new information, improve workforce networks and learn about the services provided at other agencies. Each grant is a maximum of $5,000 and recipients must submit a report to the ANCD by no later than three months after completion of study, along with a full acquittal of funds.

This year the Australian National Council on Drugs (ANCD) awarded grants to 23 rural and regional alcohol and other drug (AOD) workers across the country to enable them to undertake a range of workforce development activities. The initiative is worth $70,000 and is the sixth consecutive year that the ANCD has offered these rural and regional AOD workforce development grants and they continue to be one of the ANCD’s most popular initiatives. Since the inception of the initiative the ANCD has awarded grants to more than 125 AOD workers across rural and regional Australia, which represents an investment in the sector of approximately $400,000.

The ANCD is very aware that the budget for professional development in rural and regional AOD agencies can be limited and the costs to undertake workforce development activities are often exacerbated by the travel involved.

The ANCD received a great deal of interest from workers for this program, with 23 grants awarded in the reporting period.

The project was completed in June 2006.

Mapping national drug treatment capacity Siggins Miller Consultants

The ANCD released its latest research paper entitled Mapping National Drug Treatment Capacity, at the 2005 Australasian Professional Society on Alcohol and Other Drugs Conference. This report provides a comprehensive listing of all the drug and alcohol treatment services across Australia. With the ANCD now able to answer the following questions with authority:

- What is the current profile of alcohol and other drug treatment services across Australia?
- Where are the alcohol and other drug treatment services across the country?
- Is there a way to better understand the types of alcohol and other drug treatment services that are needed in Australia?

The list of services, accompanying set of maps and electronic mapping software linked to this project are excellent resources for organisations that are involved in funding or referral activities. As a result of this project, the ANCD now has a reference tool, which may facilitate advice and decisions about allocation of resources to treatment services, utilising information about the nature and spread of existing AOD services. In addition, the project includes
a literature review that examines resource allocation formulae and their potential use in the AOD sector.

To obtain a copy of the complete report please visit the ANCD’s website www.ancd.org.au.

Young people and drugs

Queensland Health Alcohol and Drug Service

Through its consultation forums and own networks the ANCD is well aware that youth drug use is a significant concern to the community. Furthermore, the ANCD acknowledges that young people have relatively limited opportunities to express their concern about the impact of AOD issues on their lives. Consequently, the ANCD has identified young people (12–18 years) as a specific community about which it seeks to gain more information. This process will involve a comprehensive literature review and a series of consultations to ascertain the issues young people face in terms of drugs.

The ANCD recognises that research about young people and drugs is continually evolving and that a considerable body of literature exists within Australia and internationally on issues such as the impact of drugs on young people; statistics about young people’s drug use; influences on young people’s drug-use behaviour; and young people’s views, attitudes and perceptions about a range of drugs.

Evidence-based answers to cannabis questions

National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre

Cannabis is Australia’s most frequently used illicit substance. Figures from the 2001 National Drug Strategy Household Survey estimate that marijuana/cannabis had been used by one-third of Australians aged 14 years or older in 2001 (33.1%), and that (12.9%) had recently used in 2001 (AIHW 2001:5).

It is not surprising that cannabis has been the subject of significant research efforts, both within Australia and internationally. Despite these efforts, the ANCD has recognised that there is confusion about the state of our knowledge about cannabis and its effects. Issues such as the conflicting nature of some research findings, the accessibility of the information by decision makers, and the views and perceptions which are developed from experiences rather than research evidence may be contributing to this situation.

Accordingly, the ANCD has decided that it is important that governments have access to clear and concise answers to some of the more commonly asked questions about cannabis and that importantly, these answers are provided on the basis of findings from the highest quality research evidence. To achieve these goals, the ANCD will be producing two documents. Document 1 will be
a compilation of research evidence which will be gathered around a number of key questions that have been identified by the ANCD. Document 2 will serve to provide succinct answers to each of the key questions.

Family project 1

Griffith University

Recognition that children tend to assume the substance-use behaviours of their parents is becoming more widespread. Issues related to the modelling of unhealthy behaviours (particularly drug use) which are ‘learned’ by children are of concern to the ANCD. One premise underlying the ANCD’s concern is that there are opportunities for prevention which are currently not being realised due to a lack of appropriate and coordinated intervention among problematic drug users who have children.

The focus of the project is the child. Our interest is related to the way in which drug use disrupts or diminishes parental capacity to fulfil their responsibilities as a parent, and other social roles.

We recognise the direct and indirect impact of tobacco smoking by parents on their children, however the principle focus of this work is on drug use that is especially disruptive to family functioning. This tends to be most severe where one or both parents is dependent on alcohol, benzodiazepines and/or illicit drugs.

Recognising parallel projects noted above, pre-birth (pregnancy) and early years of life (infancy) interventions are not the intended focus of this project.

It is envisaged that the project will consider a number of key aspects which are represented under three indicative headings (below). These headings and issues are provided as a context and represent a range of questions that have been generated through the discussions of the ANCD. The specifications represent an attempt to capture these questions and focus the project in light of the budgetary constraints.

In summary, the project seeks to identify the opportunities and impediments for engaging and supporting families to reduce the likelihood that children of current, problematic drug users, failing to receive proper care during their formative years, will possibly become drug users themselves.

Family project 2

The second project to be commissioned by the ANCD acknowledges that there are many Australian families who are affected by the problematic drug use of a family member. Through this project the ANCD has the opportunity to provide quality advice to governments on appropriate interventions that work to support the parent/s or carer/s and other family members of a drug-using family member. For this project, the ANCD has chosen to focus on the family members of a drug-using young person or young adult (herein referred to as ‘young people’ or ‘young person’).

While the majority of available services and programs often target young people, the detrimental effect of a young person’s drug use on the social, emotional, health and economic well being of their family can often go unrecognised. The ANCD acknowledges that in the absence of an appropriate level of support, education and access to services, family members of a problematic drug user/s are often subject to multiple complex stressors that have the potential to result in a number of additional problems for the family.

In particular, the ANCD believes that family members often receive inconsistent messages about which services and support options will appropriately address their needs. The ANCD also recognises that there is a lack of information available about the effectiveness of current programs. The current project seeks to address these issues.

This project will aim to conduct an exploration of the evidence-based research into the needs of family members of a young person/s who is/are involved in problematic drug use and to make recommendations about which programs or services most effectively address the needs of these family members.
Compulsory treatment

Turning Point Alcohol and Drug Centre

The issue of compulsory treatment for alcohol and/or drug dependence promotes a wide spectrum of debate in the community. In order to inform its response to ongoing debate in this area, the ANCD wishes to investigate the evidence for the effectiveness of compulsory treatment of both offending and non-offending alcohol- and/or drug-dependent individuals.

The ANCD has commissioned this project to gain a greater understanding of how compulsory treatment is currently used in the Australian context and to evaluate whether its use should be considered further. The current project will include four main areas:

- the research evidence relating to compulsory treatment
- the legislative provisions for the commitment of offending and non-offending individuals into compulsory treatment in Australia
- current professional practice in Australia in the area of compulsory treatment for AOD issues
- appropriate principles underpinning compulsory treatment.

Prisons — Part 2

The ANCD has continued to liaise and meet with senior members from correctional authorities across Australia. As a result of the recommendations made in the ANCD’s [Supply, demand and harm reduction strategies in Australian prisons](#) research paper, the ANCD is supporting correctional authorities to produce a national strategy for drug issues in correctional facilities and remand centres.

The purpose of this project will be to conduct a follow up activity to the ANCD prisons report. It is expected that this project will commence next financial year.

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Hon Bronwyn Pike MP
Minister for Health

The Victorian Government is committed to consultation with the non-government sector and the wider community. It values the contribution of non-government peak organizations such as the ANCD in the provision of expertise and advise to inform policy and program development.

As a national level, the ANCD plays a significant role representing the interests and concerns of the drug and alcohol sector and contributing to the development of national strategies and policy directions. Bringing together expertise from a wide range of groups and consulting with the wider community, the ANCD plays a key role in keeping governments informed of trends and issues as they arise.

The ANCD has commissioned and undertaken a number of research papers and projects covering a diverse range of topics, which are extremely valuable in informing policy and program responses in this complex area. I congratulate the ANCD on its activities during 2005–2006 and wish the ANCD well for the forthcoming year.

... the ANCD plays a significant role representing the interests and concerns of the drug and alcohol sector and contributing to the development of national strategies and policy directions. Bringing together expertise from a wide range of groups and consulting with the wider community, the ANCD plays a key role in keeping governments informed of trends and issues as they arise.
ANCD MEMBER AND SECRETARIAT REPRESENTATIONS ON OTHER COMMITTEES

Dr John Herron

ANCD committees
- ANCD Executive (Chair)
- Project Reference Group
- National Illicit Drug Campaign Reference Group
- Pre-Cursors Working Group
- National NGO Treatment Grants Program Reference Group
- National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Committee
- Asia–Pacific Drug Issues Committee
- Strengthening Families Initiative Reference Group
- Of Substance magazine Board of Management
- Of Substance magazine Editorial Reference Group

Commissioner Michael Joseph Keelty APM

ANCD committees
- ANCD Executive (Deputy-Chair)

Other relevant interests, associations and memberships
- Interpol General Assembly
- Heads of Commonwealth Operational Law Enforcement Agencies (HOOLEA)
- Australasian Police Ministers’ Council — Senior Officers’ Group
- Police Commissioners Conference (PCC)
  - PCC Drug Policy Sub-Committee
  - PCC Electronic Crime Steering Committee

- Member — Board of Control:
  - Australasian Police Education Standards Council
  - National Institute of Forensic Science
  - Australasian Centre for Policing Research
  - Australian Institute of Police Management — Chair
  - Australian Bureau of Criminal Intelligence
  - Chair of Australian Crime Commission Board
  - Board Member of NSW Crime Commission
  - Co-chair Asia/Pacific Group on Money Laundering
  - Member South Pacific Chiefs of Police
  - Board Member Council for Security Co-operation in Asia and South Pacific
  - Co-chair of Board of Jakarta Centre for Law Enforcement Cooperation
  - Member Australian Institute of Company Directors
  - Fellow Australian Institute of Management
  - Member Australian Company Directors
  - Member of High Tech Crime Centre Board

Jon Stanhope MLA
Chief Minister (ACT)

The ACT Government would like to commend the Australian National Council on Drugs on another successful and productive year in 2005–06. Over the past eight years we have witnessed many changes in drug use patterns and the harms associated with that use. The ANCD continues to provide high quality evidence-based research and information to assist both government and non-government alcohol and drug treatment and support services reduce the harms associated with misuse of alcohol and other drugs in our community.
Delia Lawrie  
Minister for Family and Community Services (NT)

The Northern Territory Government recognizes the role of the ANCD in providing independent advice to the Prime Minister and Ministerial Council on Drug Strategy on nation drug strategies and policies. It brings together national expertise from volunteer and community organizations and non-government agencies from across health and social welfare fields. The cooperation of these fields is vital to the comprehensiveness of Australia’s policy response to alcohol and other drug issues in the community.

I fully support the continued cooperative working relationship between the Australian Government, the Intergovernmental Committee on Drug Strategy and the National Expert Advisory Panels to develop and complement effective strategies, policies and programs that address the uptake and misuses of licit and illicit substances.
Mr Garth Popple  

ANCD committees  
- ANCD Executive  
- Asia–Pacific Drug Issues Initiative Committee  
- National Diversion Workshop Steering Committee  
- NGO Funding Review Committee  
- ANCD Secretariat Auspicing Steering Committee  
- Co-morbidity Reference Group (2003 Budget Initiative)  

Other relevant interests, associations and memberships  
- We Help Ourselves  
  (Executive Director)  
- Associate Member WFTC  
  (World Federation of Therapeutic Communities)  
- Online Recovery Australia  
  (Board member/Director)  
- International Council of Alcohol and Addictions (ICAA)  
  (Council Member)  
- Australasian Therapeutic Communities Association (ATCA)  
  (Current President/Board Member)  
- Network of Alcohol and other Drug Agencies (NADA)  
  (Board Member)  

Mr Scott Wilson  

ANCD committees  
- ANCD Executive  
- NGO Treatment Grants Program Reference Group (SA)  
- NGO Treatment Grants Program National Reference Group  
- National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Committee  
- National Rural Inhaling Abuse Taskforce  
- Rural and Regional Reference Group (2003 Budget Initiative)  
- National Illicit Drug Diversion Reference Committee (SA)  

Other relevant interests, associations and memberships  
- Alcohol Related Brain Damage/Dementia State Steering Committee (SA)  
- Police Drug Diversion Worker Training Steering Committee (SA)  
- Alcohol and other Drugs Council of Australia (ADCA)  
  (Executive Director)  
- Alcohol Education and Rehabilitation Foundation — Deputy Chairperson  
- Director ADAC  
- National Indigenous Substance Misuse Council — Chairperson  
- Indigenous Strategies Working Group (DOHA)  
- Wine Foundation Board Member  

Mr David Crosbie  

ANCD committees  
- National Alcohol Strategy Planning Group  
- National Alcohol Campaign Reference Group  
- National Illicit Drug Campaign Reference Group  
- Community Partnerships Initiative Expert Advisory Group — Chair  
- Of Substance Editorial Reference Group  
- Strengthening Families Initiative Reference Group  

Other relevant interests, associations and memberships  
- CEO Odyssey House Victoria  
- Non-profit Australia — Board Director  
- National Drugs Partnership — Board Director  
- National Alcohol Indicators Project Committee  
- Alcohol Education and Rehabilitation Foundation — Executive Board Director  
- Australian Professional Society on Alcohol and Drugs (APSAD) Member  
- Alcohol and other Drugs Council of Australia (ADCA) Member
Superintendent
Frank Hansen APM

ANCD committees
- ANCD Member

Other relevant interests, associations and memberships
- NSW Police Force
- Intergovernmental Committee on Drugs (IGCD) — Chair
- Drug and Alcohol Multicultural Education Centre (DAMEC) Management Committee
- Ted Noffs Foundation Governing Committee — Deputy Chair
- National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Committee
- Illicit Drug Diversion Reference Group (NSW)
- Alcohol and other Drugs Council of Australia (ADCA) — Life Member

Ms Kim Gates

ANCD committees
- NT Illicit Drug Diversion Program Diversions Advisory Group
- NT NGO Treatment Grants Reference Group
- Rural and Regional Reference Group (2003 Federal Budget Initiative)

Other relevant interests, associations and memberships
- Alcohol and other Drugs Council of Australia Treatment Reference Group
- NT Community Harmony Strategy — Alcohol and Patrolling Working Party
- NT Community Harmony Strategy — Accommodation Working Party
- Council for Aboriginal Alcohol Program Services Inc.

Mr Jeff Linden

ANCD committees
- National Diversion Workshop Steering Committee
- IGCD Scheduling Working Party on Controlled Substances
- Cannabis Legislation and Regulation Reference Group

Other relevant interests, associations and memberships
- NSW Magistracy
- NSW Far North Coast MERIT Steering Committee

Hon Alan Carpenter MLA
Premier of Western Australia

The Western Australian Government continues to collaborate with the Commonwealth, the non-government sector, peak bodies and the wider community to address the complex issue of drug misuse. The research and initiatives of the ANCD draw on national expertise, ranging from the non-government sector, community and volunteer organizations, to health and social development sectors. As a result, the ANCD complements the Government’s partnership approach and provides a valuable resource on a range of drug related issues. The work of the ANCD facilitates a national framework for action, and wherever possible, Western Australia continues to be involved with, and provide assistance to, the projects it is undertaking. I look forward to our continued association with the ANCD and wish it every success in the coming year.
Professor Richard P Mattick

ANCD committees
- National Cannabis Working Group
- Project Reference Group
- Asia–Pacific Drug Issues Committee
- National Illicit Drug Campaign Reference Group

Other relevant interests, associations and memberships
- Executive Director NDARC
- Assistant Editor — Addiction
- Executive Editor — Drug and Alcohol Review
- Scientific Advisor to the Cochrane Review Group for Drugs and Alcohol
- Australian Professional Society on Alcohol and Drugs (APSAD) Member
- Alcohol and other Drugs Council of Australia (ADCA) Member

Ms Tonie Miller

ANCD committees
- Illicit Drug Diversion Initiative Reference Group (TAS)
- Project Reference Group
- Strengthening Families Initiative Reference Group
- National Illicit Drug Training Project for Pharmacy
- NGO Treatment Grants Program Reference Group (TAS)
- Preliminary Research into Drug Education in the Early Years of Schooling Reference Group
- Psychostimulants Reference Group (2003 Budget Initiative)

Other relevant interests, associations and memberships
- Pharmacist registered with the Pharmacy Board of Tasmania
- Member of the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia
- Grandparents Raising Grandchildren (State Coordinator)
- Interim Executive committee, Alcohol Tobacco and Other Drugs Council (ATDC) (Tasmania) and currently an advisory role to ATDC

Professor John B Saunders

ANCD committees
- Project Reference Group
- Of Substance Board of Management — Chair
- Of Substance Editorial Reference Group
- Pill Testing Group
- Asia–Pacific Drug Issues Committee

Other relevant interests, associations and memberships
- World Health Organization Collaborating Centre on Mental Health and Substance Abuse (Co-Director)
- World Health Organization expert Panel on Mental Health

Jim McGinty MLA
Minister for Health (WA)

The Western Australian Government continues to be committed to working in partnership with the Commonwealth, other states and the various peak bodies in the alcohol and other drug sector. Our aim is to reduce drug-related harm through prevention initiatives, and to provide effective responses to people with drug-related problems. The ANCD provides a national framework of initiatives and enables Western Australia to be involved with, and provide input to, a range of projects to further progress responses to drug-related problems. The Western Australian Government is committed to being actively involved with the ANCD to ensure effective responses are developed to address this difficult social problem.
The challenges posed by the compounding effects of alcohol and drug misuse demand a response from all levels of government, and from the broader community.

Release of the 2005–06 annual report of the Australian National Council on Drugs provides a welcome opportunity to express my appreciation for the work of that organization, and for the efforts of all those, both in the government and community sectors, who continue to address drug and alcohol misuse in our society.

The Tasmanian Drug Strategy 2005–09 has been developed with the support and assistance of the ANCD. It represents a suite of initiatives that collectively adopt a harm minimization approach consistent with national drugs policy since 1985. The Tasmanian Drug Strategy builds on the experience gained from national efforts over 20 years, and draws from the National Drug Strategy 2004–09.

As Premier I look forward to continuing the positive relationship with the ANCD, other levels of government and the community sector in jointly addressing both the underlying causes of abuse, and its effects.
within the Rio Tinto Partnership there are several committees of which Ted is a member. These committees include:
- The National Advisory Committee
- The Operational Management Committee
- The Internal Management Committee
- The Project 2 and 3 Committee
- Data Principles Working Group (Department of Health and Ageing): Member

Within the Rio Tinto Partnership there are several committees of which Ted is a member. These committees include:
- The National Advisory Committee
- The Operational Management Committee
- The Internal Management Committee
- The Project 2 and 3 Committee
- Data Principles Working Group (Department of Health and Ageing): Member

Western Australian Aboriginal Child Health Survey: Chairperson
Curtin University Centre for Aboriginal Studies Advisory Committee: Member
Derbarl Yerrigan Health Service inc.: Board member
Kulunga Research Network, Telethon Institute for Child Health: Advisor
Marr Mooditj Foundation: Executive Committee member

Lara Giddings MHA
Minister for Health and Human Services (Tas)

The Tasmanian Government is committed to working in partnership with the Commonwealth, other States and various peak bodies in the alcohol and other drug sector. To this end, Tasmania is very supportive of the role of the ANCD in providing a national framework of initiatives that enable our State to have input into a range of projects aimed at progressing responses to drug-related problems.

The Tasmanian Government recognizes the importance of working together with the non-government sector, peak bodies, service providers and the broader community in ensuring that the views of all are incorporated in the development of policies and related strategies aimed at reducing drug-related harm. Over past years, the ANCD has played a pivotal role with this partnership approach in Tasmania.

On behalf of the Tasmanian Government, I would like to congratulate the ANCD on its achievements and I look forward to a continued collaborative approach in the future to advance our efforts in the drug policy area.
Dennis Young

ANCD committees
- Queensland Illicit Drug Diversion Initiative Reference Group (QLD)
- Member, Queensland Drug and Alcohol Community Association (QDACA)
- Of Substance magazine Board of Management
- Member of the Nyunda Park Cooperative and Chair of the Board of Directors
- Committee Member of QC-MOVE consortium
- Committee Member of Goodna Youth Outreach
- Casual lecturer Bremer Institute of TAFE
- Superintendent of the Drug Awareness and Relief Foundation (Australia)
- Executive Director DRUG ARM AUSTRALASIA
- Registered Teacher in Queensland

Other relevant interests, associations and memberships
- Australian College of Road Safety
- Australian Institute of Management
- Member of Action Learning Action Research and Process Management Association (ALARPM)
- Alcohol and other Drugs Council of Australia (ADCA) Member

Mr Gino Vumbaca — Secretariat

ANCD committees
- Retractable Needle and Syringe Implementation Group
- Asia-Pacific Drug Issues Committee
- National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Committee
- Strengthening Families Initiative Reference Group
- COAG Illicit Drug Diversion Initiative Reference Group (ACT)
- COAG Illicit Drug Diversion Initiative Reference Group (NSW)
- NSW NGO Treatment Grants Reference Group
- National Illicit Drug Campaign Reference Group
- Of Substance Board of Management
- Of Substance Editorial Reference Group
- Project Reference Group
- AOD Data Reference Group
- NSP Reference Group
- NSP Kit Reference Group
- Hepatitis C Care and Prevention in Australian Prisons Working Group
- Research Fund Reference Group (2003 Budget Initiative)

Other relevant interests, associations and memberships
- Prison Syringe Testing Project Reference Group
- Australian Professional Society on Alcohol and Drugs (APSAD) Member
- Consultant (ad-hoc) to UNODC
- Amnesty International

Ms Tess McLachlan — Secretariat

ANCD committees
- ANCD Project Reference Group

Ms Denise Gilchrist — Secretariat

ANCD committees
- ANCD Project Reference Group
- National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Committee
- IGCD Scheduling Working Party on Controlled Substances
- DEST Drug Education Forums Support Materials Reference Group
- LMS Consulting Family Stories Book Advisory Group
## ANCD MEETINGS (2005–2006)

### 2005

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<td>Canberra</td>
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<td>19 August</td>
<td>Secretariat steering committee meeting</td>
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<td>7 September</td>
<td>Executive and steering committee meetings</td>
<td>Brisbane</td>
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<td>11 November</td>
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### 2006

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</tbody>
</table>
The ANCD has produced a number of reports on a vast range of issues. Some reports are available in hard copy and can be obtained free of charge by contacting the ANCD Secretariat. All of the ANCD’s reports are available in electronic format from the web site www.ancd.org.au.

**ANCD research paper 1**  
Heroin overdose: prevalence, correlates, consequences and interventions

**ANCD research paper 2**  
Structural determinants of youth drug use

**ANCD research paper 3**  
Evidence supporting treatment

**ANCD research paper 4**  
Indigenous drug and alcohol projects 1999–2000

**ANCD research paper 5**  
Drug policy: the Australian approach

**ANCD research paper 6**  
Diversion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth from juvenile detention

**ANCD research paper 7**  
Dealing with risk: a multidisciplinary study of injecting drug use, hepatitis C and other blood-borne viruses in Australia

**ANCD research paper 8**  
Indigenous drug and alcohol projects: elements of best practice

**ANCD research paper 9**  
Supply, demand and harm reduction strategies in Australian prisons

**ANCD research paper 10**  
Mapping national drug treatment capacity

**ANCD research paper 11**  
Evidence-based answers to cannabis questions: a review of the literature

**ANCD position paper**  
Heroin related overdoses

**ANCD position paper**  
High risk groups and behaviours: A secondary position paper on heroin related overdoses

**ANCD position paper**  
Naloxone availability: A secondary position paper on heroin related overdoses

**ANCD position paper**  
Needle and syringe programs

**ANCD national report**  
Cannabis: answers to your questions

**ANCD Annual Report 1998–1999**

**ANCD Annual Report 1999–2000**

**ANCD Annual Report 2000–2001**

**ANCD Annual Report 2001–2002**

**ANCD Annual Report 2002–2003**

**ANCD Annual Report 2003–2004**

**ANCD Annual Report 2004–2005**
MEDIA RELEASES

Federal budget: a real boost — the commitment continues 9 May 2006
Facts on Cannabis 5 May 2006
Welcome assistance for non-government organisations 19 April 2006
A statement by the ANCD 6 March 2006
Top police, health and drug officials agree on priorities 28 February 2006
New Chair welcomed by Australian National Council on Drugs 21 February 2006
Treatment for heroin and opioid users 13 December 2005
A statement by the ANCD 9 November 2005
National Council maps it out for treatment! 8 November 2005
Brisbane 2005 meeting communiqué 4 October 2005
National Council contributes $70,000 to rural and regional AOD workforce development 24 August 2005
A potent top end mix: kava, petrol and alcohol 14 July 2005

Stephen Robertson MP
Minister for Health (QLD)

The Queensland Government strongly acknowledges the important role and essential work of the Council in reducing drug-related harms in the community via the development of strategic policy direction and support for innovative programs. We look forward to maintaining our ongoing collaboration with the ANCD in tackling the many challenges that alcohol and other drug misuse presents to the individual and the community.

In particular, the Council provides significant advocacy and support for a range of innovative projects and programs throughout Queensland. Examples include the Illicit Drug Diversion Initiative, the Managing the Demand for Alcohol project in Indigenous communities of Cape York Peninsula, the funding of Places of Safety in five Queensland locations as part of a response to Volatile Substance Misuse, support for the Needle and Syringe program, and the enhancement of treatment and rehabilitation services in the non-government sector. Support for these initiatives significantly enhances the provision of effective responses to drug-related problems in the community.

Finally, we wish to acknowledge the dedication of the Council in responding to drug-related problems and for their strengthening of partnerships between the government and non-government sector. We look forward to continued collaboration with the Council in the future.
In October 2003 the Prime Minister announced that the ANCD had been asked to increase its links throughout the Asia–Pacific region, specifically to promote drug-use prevention, reduction and treatment.

As part of this new role the ANCD will advise the Australian Government on the most appropriate ways to work with our regional neighbours to share the knowledge and understanding we have developed from our successful strategies to reduce demand for illicit drugs, particularly our work with the community sector, as well as to learn from their experiences.

To ensure that the ANCD can provide appropriate advice to the Australian Government it has formed a committee that comprises individuals with a broad range of experience and expertise in drug policy.

**Membership**
- Associate Professor Robert Ali (Chair) (ANCD Member) Director Clinical Policy and Research Drug and Alcohol Services Council
- Mr Garth Popple (ANCD Member) Executive Director We Help Ourselves (WHOs)
- Prof John B Saunders (ANCD Member) Mental Health Centre Royal Brisbane Hospital
- Prof Richard Matick (Director) NDARC, University of NSW
- Associate Prof Nick Crofts (Director) Turning Point Drug and Alcohol Centre
- Dr John Howard, Ted Noffs Foundation
- Federal Agent Vicki Adams, Policy and Strategic Services AFP
- Dr Grant Wardlaw (National Manager Intelligence) AFP
- Dr Toni Makkai (Director) Aust. Institute of Criminology
- Dr Robert Power (Director) Centre for Harm Reduction MscFarlane Burnet Institute for Medical Research and Public Health
- Prof Anthony Zwi, Public Health and Community Medicine, School of Medicine, UNSW
- Emeritus Professor Peter McDonald, Department of Microbiology and Infectious Diseases
- Ms Jenny Hefford, Department of Health and Ageing
- Ms Annie Madden (Executive Officer) Australian Injecting and Illicit Drug Users League (AIVL)
- Mr Peter Callan, AusAID
- Mr Murray Proctor, AusAID
- Mr Andrew Rose, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
- Mr Robert Rushby, Australian Customs Services
- Mr John Valastro, Australian Customs Services
- Ms Catherine Phillips, Dept. of Prime Minister and Cabinet
- Ms Leonie Smith, Dept. of Prime Minister and Cabinet
- Mr Gino Vumbaca (ANCD Executive Officer) Australian National Council on Drugs (ANCD)
- Mr Ian Richards (DASSA) Project Officer

**Mission**
To advise the Australian National Council on Drugs (ANCD) and the Australian Government on ways to maximise Australia’s response, leadership and impact on Asian-Pacific regional illicit drug issues.

**Terms of reference**
The Asia–Pacific Drug Issues Committee will advise the ANCD by:
- Surveying current illicit drug initiatives in the Asia Pacific region and building a knowledge base of national and international efforts within the region
- Assessing the strategic directions, approaches and models required to coordinate Australian illicit drug and related activities in the Asia–Pacific region
- Identifying potential structures and processes for addressing new and emerging issues in the region
- Developing a comprehensive options paper on the models available to best address illicit drug issues in the Asia–Pacific region and identifying Australia’s potential contribution
Principles

The Committee recognises the following principles in undertaking its work:

- The importance of exploring new ways to work with our regional neighbours to share and learn from all of our knowledge, understanding and experiences
- The diversity of cultural, historic, economic and social characteristics within the region
- The complex and diverse relationships between countries in the region
- The range, complexity and barriers to addressing drug issues that face countries in the region, including the numerous conditions that give rise to drug use and the multiplicity of solutions that exist over time
- The need to liaise closely with government departments and committees already established to address some Asia-Pacific region illicit drug issues
- The need for any proposed responses from the committee to be acceptable for other countries in the region
- The need to encourage more comprehensive, complementary and integrated responses within the region, including cross-regional initiatives

Goals

- To develop a comprehensive options paper on the current initiatives and models available to best address illicit drug issues in the Asia Pacific region and identify Australia’s potential contribution
- To develop and promote strong liaisons among international organisations, national governments, appropriate government agencies, community-based organisations and regional networks including UNODC, ASEAN, UNAIDS, UNICEF, World Bank, Asian Development Bank, UNESCAP, IFNGO and the Asian Harm Reduction Network
- To develop a comprehensive approach to addressing illicit drug issues in the Asia–Pacific region, including supply, demand and harm reduction strategies

Barry Evans
President of NADA

Since the inception of the ANCD NADA has enjoyed a productive working relationship with the ANCD and the staff of its secretariat. NADA would particularly like to congratulate the Council on its very positive work supporting the NGO sector, particularly in relation to the leadership and advocacy that the ANCD has shown through the Commonwealth grants processes — NIDS NGO Treatment Grant Program, Community Partnership Initiative and the National Illicit Drug Diversion Strategy.

NADA has also had feedback from its membership on the usefulness of the publications that the ANCD has produced and would particularly like to congratulate the Council on the development of its recent cannabis resource. NADA looks forward to working with the Council and its secretariat in the future as we believe that state and territory peak bodies have much to gain by strategic relationships with national bodies like the ANCD.

Scope

We have audited the attached Income and Expenditure Statement relating to Government grants and other funds of The Salvation Army's Australian National Council on Drugs Asia-Pacific Committee ("the Centre") for the year ended 30 June 2006 ("the Statement"). The Statement has been prepared by us for purposes of identification. The Salvation Army is responsible for the preparation and presentation of the Statement and the information contained therein. We have conducted an independent audit of the Statement in order to express an opinion to the Trustees of The Salvation Army on it. No opinion is expressed as to whether the basis of accounting used is appropriate to the needs of The Salvation Army.

The Statement has been prepared for The Salvation Army for the purpose of fulfilling its reporting obligations to the Department of Health and Ageing under the conditions of the grant agreement. We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the Statement to which it relates to any person other than the trustees of The Salvation Army, or for any purposes other than that for which it was prepared.

Our audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our procedures included examination of a test basis of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the Statement. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion as to whether, in all material respects, the Statement is presented fairly in accordance with the reporting and measurement rules in Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.
Audit opinion

In our opinion, the attached Statement presents fairly, in accordance with the recognition and measurement rules in Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia, the income and expenditure of the Centre for the year ended 30 June 2006.

In addition the cash balance of the centre as at 30 June 2006 is $129,134.01.

J A Gordon
Partner

Sydney
12 September 2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Revenues from ordinary activities</strong></td>
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<td>226,000.00</td>
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<td>-</td>
<td>3,548.22</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other income</td>
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<td>0.00</td>
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<td>126,000.00</td>
<td>229,548.22</td>
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<td>26,316.56</td>
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<td>11,046.52</td>
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<td>-</td>
<td>33,983.33</td>
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<td>(14,177.53)</td>
<td>(114,953.48)</td>
<td>(129,131.01)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Hon Gail Gago MLC
Minister for Mental Health and Substance Abuse (SA)

The Australian National Council on Drugs (ANCD) continues to maintain its important role as an effective avenue for non-government and community-based organizations to affect the development of government policies and strategies that address drug and alcohol misuse in Australia.

The ANCD continues to initiate research projects and provide funding opportunities to facilitate networking within the alcohol and other drugs and related sectors and remains committed to cooperation and partnerships within these areas.

The release in May 2006 of the cannabis booklet entitled Cannabis answers to your questions and literature review entitled Evidence-based answers to cannabis questions — a review of the literature, prepared on behalf of the ANCD, is one example of the support the ANCD provides in informing the community and reiterating the evidence base that informs current strategies.

I would like to thank the ANCD for their efforts during the year and I look forward to working with them to develop future strategies to address alcohol and other drug misuse within our communities.
In late 2004 the ANCD agreed to auspice the newly formed National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Committee (NIDAC). The formation of NIDAC allows the ANCD to provide clear advice to government on a range of alcohol and other drug issues that impact on Indigenous communities. In particular, NIDAC will monitor and evaluate the implementation of the National Drug Strategy Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples’ Complementary Action Plan 2003–2006. NIDAC is comprised of individuals with expertise in a range of areas that relate to Indigenous alcohol and other drug policy.

Membership of the National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Committee

- Associate Professor Ted Wilkes (Chair) Curtin University
- Ms Coralie Ober (Deputy Chair) University of Queensland
- Mr Scott Wilson (Co-Deputy Chair) Aboriginal Drug and Alcohol Council
- Dr Noel Hayman (Executive Member) University of Queensland
- Ms Dea Delaney Thiele (Executive Member) National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation
- Ms Wendy Casey, Western Australia Drug and Alcohol Office
- Ms Kim Gates, Council for Aboriginal Alcohol Program Services
- Associate Professor Dennis Gray, National Drug Research Institute
- Superintendent Frank Hansen, Inter-Governmental Committee on Drugs — Chair
- Dr Toni Makkai, Australian Institute of Criminology
- Dr Naomi Mayers, National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation
- Ms Kate Gilbert, Office for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health
- Ms Mary Osborn, Royal Australasian College of Physicians
- Mr Daryl Smeaton, Alcohol, Education and Rehabilitation Foundation
- Mr Gino Vumbaca, Australian National Council on Drugs
- Major Brian Watters, International Narcotics Control Board

Mission

To maximise the capacity of local communities, governments and other organisations to respond to the harmful effects of alcohol and other drugs on Indigenous communities.

Terms of reference

The National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Committee will:

- Monitor and evaluate the implementation of the National Drug Strategy Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples’ Complementary Action Plan 2003–2006
- Make recommendations to governments on funding programs that respond to the harmful effects of alcohol and other drugs on Indigenous communities; are related to the Complementary Action Plan; and target the following agreed Indigenous alcohol and other drug issues (in order of priority):
  - Workforce development — including the need to provide appropriate clinical support and supervision for Indigenous staff, as well as promote and support Indigenous leadership
  - Addressing alcohol and tobacco use — including the need for updating and improving Indigenous treatment programs and addressing drugs in pregnancy issues
  - Partnership approach with police/law enforcement — including the need for improving the delivery of policing services and the relationship between police and local communities
  - Addressing illicit drug use — including the provision of culturally sensitive programs and services for Indigenous peoples
- Provide expert policy and program advice to governments on Indigenous alcohol and other drug use and related harms
- Work closely with governments, non-government organisations and committees already established to respond to the harmful effects of alcohol and other drugs on Indigenous communities
- Provide regular reports to the Australian National Council on Drugs, Inter-Governmental Committee on Drugs and the National Indigenous Council

**Principles**

The Committee recognises the following principles in undertaking its work:

- The importance of a whole-of-government approach to address the broader structural determinants that influence social inequity in Indigenous communities
- The need to reduce the over-representation of Indigenous peoples in the criminal justice system
- The need for a preventative approach to reduce the uptake, use and harmful effects of alcohol and other drugs on Indigenous communities
- To be action (rather than research) driven and focus on sustaining long-term programs that are supported by local communities
- Ensuring that programs and services for Indigenous peoples are culturally sensitive

Janine Bush  
Executive Officer VAADA

The Victorian Alcohol and Drug Association (VAADA) is a peak organization that aims to ensure that the issues for people experiencing the harms associated with alcohol and other drug use and the organisations that support them are well represented in policy and program development and public discussion. Over recent years, VAADA has worked with the ANCD and has welcomed its support of the NGO sector through its consultation, liaison, research initiatives and advocacy of the key issues.

The ANCD’s commitment to raising the profile of peak organisations in the AOD sector — and the opportunities it has provided to bring state and national peak bodies together to discuss and debate issues — have been welcomed by VAADA.

VAADA looks forward to sustaining its ongoing relationship with the ANCD.
AUDITOR'S REPORT — NATIONAL INDIGENOUS DRUG AND ALCOHOL COMMITTEE (NIDAC)


Scope

We have audited the attached Income and Expenditure Statement relating to Commonwealth grants and other funds of The Salvation Army's Australian National Council on Drugs - National Indigenous Drug & Alcohol Committee ("the Committee") for the year ended 30 June 2009 ("the Statement"). The Statement has been stamped by us for purposes of identification. The Salvation Army is responsible for the preparation and presentation of the Statement and the information contained therein. We have conducted an independent audit of the Statement in order to express an opinion to the Trustees of The Salvation Army on it. No opinion is expressed as to whether the basis of accounting used is appropriate to the needs of The Salvation Army.

The Statement has been prepared for The Salvation Army for the purpose of fulfilling its reporting obligations to the Department of Health and Ageing under the conditions of the grant agreement. We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the Statement to which it relates by any person other than the trustees of The Salvation Army, or for any purposes other than that for which it was prepared.

Our audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the Statement. If all material respects, the Statement is presented fairly in accordance with the recognition and measurement rules in Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been based on the above facts.

Liability limited by professional indemnity insurance under professional standards legislation.
Audit opinion

In our opinion, the attached Statement presents fairly, in accordance with the recognition and measurement rules in Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia, the income and expenditure of the Centre for the year ended 30 June 2006.

In addition the cash balance of the centre as at 30 June 2006 is $17,445.18.

[Signature]

PricewaterhouseCoopers

J A Gordon
Partner

Sydney
12 September 2006
NATIONAL INDIGENOUS DRUG AND ALCOHOL COMMITTEE (NIDAC) FINANCIAL REPORT

National Indigenous Drug and Alcohol Committee (NIDAC) income and expense statement for the year ended 30 June 2006.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Revenues from ordinary activities</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government funding</td>
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<td>-</td>
<td>119,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest received</td>
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<td>-</td>
<td>2,943.20</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Revenues from ordinary activities</strong></td>
<td><strong>121,943.20</strong></td>
<td><strong>0.00</strong></td>
<td><strong>121,943.20</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenses from ordinary activities</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Equipment and furniture</td>
<td>60.98</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>60.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utilities</td>
<td>127.31</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>127.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>25,195.81</td>
<td>11,916.00</td>
<td>37,111.81</td>
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<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>7,723.00</td>
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<td>7,723.00</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Expenses from ordinary activities</strong></td>
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<td><strong>11,916.00</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>(Surplus) / deficit</td>
<td>(88,836.10)</td>
<td>11,916.00</td>
<td>(76,920.10)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

David Clements
Executive Officer

The Alcohol, Tobacco and other Drugs Council of Tasmania Inc (ATDC) is the peak body representing the interests of the NGO sector. We are committed to advancing the ATOD sector in Tasmania through on-going consultation and co-operation with government at all levels. The ANCD has worked closely with the ATDC over the past twelve months to promote the value of, and build capacity in, the NGO sector in Tasmania. The ANCD has also continued to advocate for peak body representation on important policy and funding advisory bodies in Tasmania. The ATDC views this advocacy role as indicative of the value the ANCD places upon collaborative approaches to addressing alcohol, tobacco and other drugs related issues.

We take this opportunity to congratulate the ANCD on its positive support of the non-government (NGO) sector and welcomes the on-going efforts of the ANCD in these endeavours.

We look forward to sustaining the positive relationship developed with the ANCD.
Of Substance, the national magazine on alcohol, tobacco and other drugs is an initiative of the ANCD and receives funding from the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing.

Of Substance launched its first issue in October 2003 and now publishes four issues per year — in January, April, July and October. The magazine targets frontline workers with plain English articles reporting on current research and emerging issues that affect the sector. Secondary audiences include policy makers, academics and others interested in AOD issues. Topics covered to date include articles on treatment, early intervention and prevention. The magazine has published articles on emerging drug trends, law enforcement, mental health, research, workforce development, ethics and other topics.

The magazine has a separate management structure to that of the ANCD with members of the ANCD taking key roles on its Board of Management (Chaired by Professor John B Saunders) and Editorial Reference Group (Chaired by Professor Margaret Hamilton). Other representatives on the Board and Advisory Group come from a diverse range of backgrounds from the government, non-government and publishing sectors. The Board and the Editorial Reference Group each meet quarterly.

Subscriptions and distribution

Prior to July 2005, the magazine was distributed on a subscription basis only, with approximately 1,400 subscribers registered. In the 2005–06 Federal Budget, the Australian Government provided significant additional support for the magazine with an increased annual grant, which has enabled the magazine to now be distributed free of charge. The additional funding also enabled the magazine to employ an Administration and Distribution Manager in September 2005 (see further details under ‘Staffing’), whose key responsibility it has been to increase subscription numbers. The A&D Manager has actively promoted the magazine to the AOD sector via conferences and events, email groups and direct marketing. As a result, the magazine has enjoyed a significant rise in its quarterly distribution (see following table for 2005–06 distribution figures).

Subscriptions by month (up to and including 30 June 2006)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Total subscribers</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 2005</td>
<td>1126</td>
<td>1622</td>
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<td>August 2005</td>
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<td>2774</td>
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<td>September 2005</td>
<td>1150</td>
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<td>October 2005</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 2006</td>
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<td>8296</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 2006</td>
<td>3972</td>
<td>8519</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Marketing and promotion

During the first half of 2006, the magazine management predicted an underspend in the *Of Substance* budget for 2005–06. Subsequently a proposal was sent to the Department of Health and Ageing which included a request to roll over the extra funds into a range of marketing and promotional activities to occur in the following financial year. These activities include: running a targeted promotional campaign, and conducting focus groups to improve our understanding of our readers’ information needs. The annual report for 2006–07 will outline any such activities undertaken.

Website: www.ofsubstance.org.au

In late 2004, *Of Substance* sent out quote specifications to suitable organisations for the job of developing the magazine’s stand-alone website. Starkis Design were the successful company, and they began initial work on the website in late 2005. Further development work began in early 2006 under the guidance of Anton Perkins, with the site going live in late June 2006. Prior to this time, all information about the magazine had been housed on the ANCD’s website, which was not ideal as this site provided no search capabilities or feedback mechanisms. The new *Of Substance* site allows people to search for particular issues or article topics; it also allows them to register for subscription online, plus send feedback and correspondence to magazine staff.

Staffing

Managing Editor: This position has been filled on a job-share basis since the inception of the magazine. Ms Kate Pockley and Dr Julia Tresidder were the initial appointments to the position; Dr Tresidder resigned as co-Editor in May 2005, and was replaced on an interim basis by Ms Jenny Tinworth. Dr Tresidder’s position was externally advertised in 2005, and Ms Tinworth was the successful candidate. Ms Pockley remains as co-Editor.

Administration and Distribution: The May 2005 funding increase also allowed for the appointment of Mr Anton Perkins as a part-time Administration and Distribution Manager in September 2005.

Of Substance Board of Management: 2005–06

Chair:
Professor John B Saunders, Professor of Alcohol and Drug Studies, University of Queensland.

Members:
Trevor Fearnley AM, Chief Executive, AdPartners Group.
Dr John Herron, Chairman, Australian National Council on Drugs.
Robert Olney, Manager, Marketing and Communications, Australian Federal Police.

Gino Vumbaca, Executive Officer, Australian National Council on Drugs.
Dennis Young, Executive Director, DRUG ARM Australia.


Chair:
Professor Margaret Hamilton, Chair, Multiple and Complex Needs Panel, Victoria.

Members:
David Crosbie, Chief Executive Officer, Odyssey House Victoria.
David McDonald, Representative, Alcohol and other Drugs Council of Australia.
Annie Madden, Executive Officer, Australian Injecting and Illicit Drug Users League (AIVL).
Wesley Noffs, Chief Executive Officer, Ted Noffs Foundation.
Larry Pierce, Executive Director, Network of Alcohol and Other Drugs Agencies.
Professor Ann M Roche, Director, National Centre for Education and Training on Addiction, Flinders University.

Professor John B Saunders, Professor of Alcohol and Drug Studies, University of Queensland.
Gino Vumbaca, Executive Officer, Australian National Council on Drugs.
AUDITOR’S REPORT — OF SUBSTANCE


Scope

We have audited the attached Income and Expenditure Statement relating to Government grants and other funds of The Salvation Army’s Australian National Council on Drugs-Of-Substance (Magazine) (“the Centre”) for the year ended 30 June 2006 (“the Statement”). The Statement has been prepared by us for purposes of identification. The Salvation Army is responsible for the preparation and presentation of the Statement and the information contained therein. We have conducted an independent audit of the Statement in order to express an opinion on the trustees of The Salvation Army on it. No opinion is expressed as to whether the basis of accounting used is appropriate to the needs of The Salvation Army.

The Statement has been prepared for The Salvation Army for the purpose of fulfilling its reporting obligations to the Department of Health and Ageing under the conditions of the grant agreement. We disclaim any responsibility for any reliance on this report by the Statement to which it relates to any purpose other than the purpose of The Salvation Army, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

Our audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the Statement. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion as to whether, in all material respects, the Statement is presented fairly in accordance with the recognition and measurement rules in Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia.

The audit opinion expressed at this report has been formed on the above basis.
Audit opinion

In our opinion, the attached Statement presents fairly, in accordance with the recognition and measurement rules in Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia, the income and expenditure of the Centre for the year ended 30 June 2006.

In addition the cash balance of the Centre as at 30 June 2006 is $118,542.77.

PricewaterhouseCoopers

J A Gregson
Partner

Sydney
12 September 2006
**OF SUBSTANCE FINANCIAL REPORT**

*Of Substance* (magazine) income and expense statement for the year ended 30 June 2006.

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<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Revenues from ordinary activities</strong></td>
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<td>Government funding</td>
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<td>76.37</td>
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<td>Equipment and furniture</td>
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<td>(90,300.97)</td>
<td>(25,884.59)</td>
<td>(116,185.56)</td>
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Scope

We have audited the attached Income and Expenditure Statement relating to Government grants and other funds of The Salvation Army's Australian National Council on Drugs-Secretariat, Projects and Meetings ("the Centre") for the year ended 30 June 2006 ("the Statement"). The Statement has been signed by us for purposes of identification. The Salvation Army is responsible for the preparation and presentation of the Statement and the information contained therein. We have conducted an independent audit of the Statement in order to express an opinion to the Trustees of The Salvation Army on it. No opinion is expressed as to whether the basis of accounting used is appropriate to the needs of The Salvation Army.

The Statement has been prepared for The Salvation Army for the purpose of fulfilling its reporting obligations to the Department of Health and Ageing under the conditions of the grant agreement. We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the Statements to which it relates by any person other than the Trustees of The Salvation Army, or for any purposes other than that for which it was prepared.

Our audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the Statement. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion as to whether, as at all material respects, the Statement is presented fairly in accordance with the recognition and measurement rules in Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.
Audit opinion

In our opinion, the attached Statement presents fairly, in accordance with the recognition and measurement rules in Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia, the income and expenditure of the Centre for the year ended 30 June 2006.

In addition the cash balance of the centre as at 30 June 2006 is in overdraft of ($43,218.61).

[Signature]

PricewaterhouseCoopers

J A Gather
Partner

Sydney
19 September 2006
ANCD FINANCIAL REPORT


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<tr>
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<td><strong>Revenues from ordinary activities</strong></td>
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<td><strong>(Surplus) / deficit</strong></td>
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# ACRONYMS

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<td>ADCA</td>
<td>Alcohol and other Drugs Council of Australia</td>
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<td>ANCAHRD</td>
<td>Australian National Council on AIDS, Hepatitis and Related Diseases</td>
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<td>ANCD</td>
<td>Australian National Council on Drugs</td>
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<td>AOD</td>
<td>Alcohol and Other Drugs</td>
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<td>ASEAN</td>
<td>Association of Southeast Asian Nations</td>
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<td>ATDC</td>
<td>Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Council (TAS)</td>
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<td>COAG</td>
<td>Council of Australian Governments</td>
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<td>International Federation of Non-Government Organisations for the Prevention of Drug and Substance Abuse</td>
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<td>Intergovernmental Committee on Drugs</td>
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<td>MCDS</td>
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<td>The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS</td>
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<td>United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime</td>
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<td>Victorian Alcohol and Drug Association</td>
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<td>WANADA</td>
<td>Western Australian Network of Alcohol and other Drug Agencies</td>
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