

## MEDIA RELEASE

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### Reducing drug and alcohol use harms across Australian communities requires national and State/Territory leadership and coordination.

Australia's network of State and Territory peak bodies for the non government drug and alcohol sector believe a national body responsible for providing leadership, policy expertise and sector development services is vital for quality drug and alcohol prevention, harm reduction and treatment service delivery.

The Australian Government's recent decision to suddenly cease funding the Alcohol and Drug Council of Australia (ADCA) will have a significant detrimental impact on those organisations and individuals working in the drug and alcohol sector. In particular, ADCA's National Drug Sector Information Service, including the library and e-list services, play a key role in developing knowledge, skills and partnerships; not just in the drug and alcohol specialist sector, but across broader health and well-being sectors; across government, non government and private; across hospital, primary health and welfare services; across direct service delivery, research and policy agencies.

ADCA and the State and Territory peak bodies have worked collaboratively for many years to advance the drug and alcohol sector and ensure individuals, families and communities negatively impacted by drug and alcohol use have access to quality information and services.

**We ask the Government to consider the implications that their decision to cease funding ADCA will have, and consult with the drug and alcohol sector on how this situation can be remedied.**

On behalf of: South Australian Network of Drug and Alcohol Services ([SANDAS](#)), Alcohol, Tobacco and other Drugs Council Tasmania ([ATDC](#)), Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Association of ACT ([ATODA](#)), Western Australian Network of Alcohol and Drug Agencies ([WANADA](#)), Queensland Network of Alcohol and Drug Agencies ([QNADA](#)), Victorian Alcohol and Drug Association ([VAADA](#)), and Network of Alcohol and Drug Agencies ([NADA](#)).

Media contact:

State/Territory peaks representative Tanya Merinda, ph. (02) 8113 1312, 0434 538 495 or [tanya@nada.org.au](mailto:tanya@nada.org.au).



Alcohol, Tobacco & other  
Drugs Council Tas Inc.

