



38th Public Health Association of Australia Annual Conference

ALICE 2007 REALITY CHECK

INEQUITIES & HEALTH

Tackling the Differentials

Registration Brochure



23 - 26 September 2007

Alice Springs Convention Centre, Alice Springs, NT

Invitation to Attend

On behalf of the Organising Committee and the Northern Territory Branch of the Public Health Association, we invite you to Alice Springs in the red centre of Australia.

The theme of the 2007 Annual Conference "Alice 2007 Reality Check, Inequities and Health - Tackling the Differentials" offers the chance to hear invigorating presentations that address issues of interest to us all.

Keynote speakers include:

Pat Anderson, *Aboriginal health advocate and current Chair of the Cooperative Research Centre into Aboriginal and Tropical Health. Pat is a former chair of the National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organization (NACCHO) and has recently chaired an inquiry into sexual abuse in the Northern Territory.*

Professor Ian Anderson, *Indigenous Health Director, Centre for Health & Society and Onemda VicHealth Koori Health Unit and Research Director CRC for Aboriginal Health. Ian has been a leading advocate for evidence-based Aboriginal health policy reform.*

Professor Robert G Evans, *one of the world's leading health economists who has been responsible for groundbreaking comparative studies of health systems and funding strategies. He is the Associate Director, Centre for Health Services and Policy Research at the University of British Columbia.*

Dr Helen Caldicott *is the President Emeritus for the Physicians for Social Responsibility and President of the Nuclear Policy Research Institute. Helen has devoted the last 35 years to educating the public about the medical hazards of the nuclear age and the necessary changes in human behaviour to stop environmental destruction. She is an articulate advocate for citizen action.*

Barbara McCarthy *is an Aboriginal woman from the Boroloola area of the Northern Territory. She is a member of the Northern Territory Legislative Assembly and has been involved in issues relating to mining and Aboriginal people's land rights especially over the development of the McArthur River mine.*

Vincent Forrester *is an Aboriginal man who is a successful lobbyist and political activist on a range of issues including Landrights, Anti-Uranium policy, Treaty rights and many other issues.*

There will also be a delegate from the Assembly of First Nations and from the People's Health Movement.

The invited speakers will be ably supported by presenters of the oral papers and poster displays. Prominently placed within the program will be workshops reflecting both the conference themes and other public health interests.

Themes that the Conference will highlight include:

- *Indigenous health*
- *Primary health care*
- *Planning, infrastructure and health*
- *Social determinants of health*
- *Political Economy of health*
- *Public policies and health outcomes*

SIG Workshops

Traditionally, the Sunday prior to the conference is the opportunity for Special Interest Groups to gather. This year, there will be six workshops.

A visit to central Australia will provide you with a wonderful opportunity to extend your stay and see some of the Northern Territory. There are few times better to experience the sights and atmosphere of the red centre. We look forward to welcoming you to Alice Springs in September.

John Boffa

Conference Convenor

On behalf of the PHAA Northern Territory Branch.

Invited Speakers

Professor Robert Evans

Robert G. Evans is a University Killam Professor in the Department of Economics, and Associate Director of the Centre for Health Services and Policy Research, at UBC. He is an Institute Fellow of the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research and was Founding Director of the Institute's Program in Population Health (1987-97). Major publications include /Strained Mercy: The Economics of Canadian Health Care/ (1984), and /Why Are Some People Healthy and Others Not? The Determinants of Health of Populations/ (1994). Dr. Evans was a member of the British Columbia Royal Commission on Health Care and Costs (1990-91), and of the National Forum on Health, chaired by the Prime Minister (1994-97). In 2001 he was the first Canadian to win the Baxter International Foundation Prize for Health Services Research. Dr. Evans holds a B.A. in Political Economy (University of Toronto, 1964) and a Ph.D. in Economics (Harvard University, 1970)

Patricia Anderson

Patricia Anderson is an Alyawarr woman who is well known, nationally and internationally, as a powerful advocate of the disadvantaged, with a particular focus on the health of the Indigenous Peoples. She has extensive experience in all aspects of Indigenous health, including community development, advocacy, policy formation and research ethics. Ms Anderson has spoken before the United Nations Working Group of Indigenous people, was the CEO of Danila Dilba, the Aboriginal community controlled health service in Darwin, and has been the Chair of the National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO), the peak national Indigenous health organisation. Until recently Ms Anderson held the position of Executive Officer of the Aboriginal Medical Services Alliance Northern Territory (AMSANT), which is the peak body of the Aboriginal community controlled health organisations in the Northern Territory. Ms Anderson is also the Chairperson of the Cooperative Research Centre for Aboriginal Health, and is a board member of Beyondblue.

Barbara McCarthy

Barbara McCarthy is a Yanyuwa woman from Borroloola in the Northern Territory and was elected to the Northern Territory Parliament as the Labor Member for ARNHEM on 18th June 2005. The seat of ARNHEM covers several hundred square kilometres on the eastern side of the Top End of the Northern Territory and takes in 15 communities and a mining town on Groote Eylandt. Barbara grew up in Borroloola and Alice Springs before going to Sydney to further her education. Over the years Barbara has participated on the Australia Arts Council's 'Community Development Fund', contributed on behalf of Indigenous women on the Federal Government's Office of Women committees, is a member of EMILY'S LIST and is patron for SIDS & KIDS NT. She is currently Chair of the Legal & Constitutional Affairs Parliamentary Committee and Co-Chair of the Statehood Steering Committee.

Professor Ian Anderson

Professor Ian Anderson is the foundation Chair in Indigenous Health at the University of Melbourne. His family are Palawa Trouwunna: Plaimairrenner and Trawlwoolway clans. Professor Anderson is currently the Deputy Head of the School of Population Health, and the Director of the Centre for Health and Society and the Onemda VicHealth Koori Health Unit. He has been a full-time research academic since 1998 when he established the Onemda VicHealth Koori Health Unit with external funding from the Victorian Health Promotion Foundation and the Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing. He is also currently the Research Director for the Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) for Aboriginal Health (CRCAH). The CRCAH is a virtual research organisation with 12 core partners (8 universities, 2 government departments and 2 Aboriginal community controlled Aboriginal health services). It has a majority Aboriginal board and a research budget of 24 million over seven years. Ian has worked in Aboriginal health for about 20 years in a number of clinical/health care and administrative/policy roles. Ian has a longstanding interest in issues of identity, representation, Aboriginal health policy, and art practice and has written on these issues.

Vincent Forrester

Vincent Forrester, a Luritja/Arrernte man, is a long term resident of Alice Springs. Vincent was an original member of the National Aboriginal Conference, and is a successful lobbyist and political activist on a range of issues from Land Rights, Anti-Uranium policy, Treaty Rights and many other issues as well as being a founding member of a number of central Australian Aboriginal community-controlled organisations. He is a regular commentator on both national and local government Aboriginal affairs policy.

Dr Helen Caldicott

Dr. Helen Caldicott is one of the world's leading anti-nuclear activists. A medical doctor, she has devoted the past thirty-five years to an international campaign to educate the public about the medical hazards of the nuclear age. Dr Caldicott is a Nobel Peace Prize nominee, the recipient of the 2003 Lannan Prize for Cultural Freedom and the inaugural Australian Peace Prize awarded by the Peace Organisation of Australia, 2006. Helen divides her time between the central coast of New South Wales and Washington, DC, where she is President of the Nuclear Policy Research Institute.

Hani Serag, Global Secretariat Coordinator, People's Health Movement (PHM), Cairo, Egypt

Conference Program

Sunday 23rd

SIG Workshops

9.00 - 4.00	International Health SIG Workshop & AGM
1.00 - 4.00	Environmental Health SIG Workshop & AGM
1.00 - 4.00	Health Promotion and Food Nutrition SIG Workshop
1.00 - 5.00	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health SIG Workshop
1.00 - 5.00	Primary Health Care & Political Economy of Health SIG Workshop & AGM
1.30 - 4.30	Women's Health SIG Workshop & AGM
4.30 - 5.30	✦ Registration
5.00 - 6.00	✦ Policy round table
6.00 - 7.00	☉ Welcome reception

Monday 24th

7.30 - 8.30	✦ Registration
8.30 - 10.00	Presidential address and Welcome Welcome by representatives of the traditional owners Plenary 1 - Why are some people healthy and others not?: Robert Evans
10.00-11.00	Morning tea & Discussion time with Keynote Speaker from Plenary 1
11.00-12.00	Proffered Papers Session 1 - including ✦ Workshops
12.00-1.30	Lunch & Poster Sessions ♫ Meet with local artists, young people, performers & community activists
1.30-3.00	Proffered Papers Session 2 - including ✦ Workshops
3.00-3.30	Afternoon tea
3.30-5.00	Proffered Papers Session 3 - including ✦ Workshops
5.00-6.00	♫ Cultural Events
5.30-6.30	✦ Policy Forum

Tuesday 25th

7.00-8.15	Breakfast session: Consultation on the interim statement from the WHO Commission on the Social Determinants of Health - August 2007 - Fran Baum & Shane Houston
7.00-8.15	Breakfast session: Increasing Public Health Research Capacity - Jane Freemantle
8.00-8.30	✦ Registration
8.30-9.00	Morning summary of Day 1 & Announcements

Conference Program

9.00-10.30	Proffered Papers Session 4 - including ✂ Workshops
10:30-11.00	Morning tea & 🎵 Cultural program
11.00-12.00	Proffered Papers Session 5 - including ✂ Workshops
12.00-1.30	Lunch & Poster Sessions 🎵 Meet with local artists, young people, performers & community activists
1.30-2.30	Douglas Gordon Oration: Patricia Anderson
2.30-3.00	Afternoon tea
3.00-4.30	Plenary 2 - Panel Discussion: Dragging the nuclear chain – what does this mean for public health -The Impact of Mining & the Nuclear fuel cycle, Indigenous & Non-Indigenous perspective: Barbara McCarthy, Helen Caldicott & Vincent Forrester
4.30-5.30	Discussion time with panellists & Film Showings
7.30-11.00	🍷 Conference Dinner

Wednesday 26th

7.30-8.45	Breakfast session: Healthy public policies for reducing health inequalities: lessons from England - Fiona Adshead
8.30-9.00	🗳️ Registration
9.00-10.30	Plenary 3 - National & International perspectives on Indigenous health - Reality check: Ian Anderson & Assembly of First Nations Speaker
10.30-11.00	Morning tea, 🎵 Cultural program & Discussion time with Keynote Speakers from Plenary 3
11.00-12.00	Plenary 4 - Civil society and the struggle for health: Hani Serag
12.00-1.45	Lunch & 🎵 local entertainment
12.45-1.45	🗳️ PHAA AGM
1.45-3.00	Close of Conference: Rapporteur, President's closing address and recognitions

Sponsors



Northern Territory Government

Sponsorship and exhibition packages are still available for this event. Please contact Julie Woollacott at: conference@phaa.net.au

Workshops - Sunday 23 September 2007

International Health Special Interest Group Workshop

Time: 9.00 am to 4.00 pm

Implications of policies on practice

This workshop will review the various AusAID and other international policy directions and targets for Health including HIV/AIDS in health sector – and discuss implications for practice. Some briefings of the policy environment will be provided by invited speakers – and then workshopping to share experiences, reflections and networks will be utilized. The implications specifically for PHAA SIGIH will also be discussed.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Special Interest Group Workshop

Time: 1.00 pm to 5.00 pm.

Indigenous People speak out about family violence

Significant media attention over the past several years has focussed on Indigenous family violence and child abuse. It has often been characterised by sensationalised headlines such as “Sex abuse ‘rife’ in NT communities”. The ensuing moral panic that often follows such headlines engenders and reinforces historically demeaning stereotypes about Aboriginal people and cultures. They also result in hysterical calls for government(s) to ban alcohol supply and to abolish customary law. Such analyses however, fail to engage in the complexities of the issues, complexities which are well documented in numerous inquiries and reports. They also fail to illustrate the positive actions of community members – male and female – who are actively involved in responding to Indigenous family violence and its associated problems at the local level on a day to day basis. It has often been said that the answers to these problems are in our communities, with the support of these men and women in Indigenous communities across the country are at various stages in the development and implementation of their own initiatives to combat the problem. However, detailed information about such initiatives has been absent from the formal literature and very rarely publicised. This workshop will highlight some of these initiatives and discusses how we might sustain long term committed action beyond the moral panic.

Environmental Health Special Interest Workshop

Time: 1.00 pm to 4.00 pm

Public health and the nuclear Industry

The Nuclear Chain, Adverse Health Effects of the nuclear industry, Nuclear Waste dump proposal for Australia

Primary Health Care and Political Economy of Health Special Interest Workshop

Time: 1.00 pm to 5.00 pm

“Primary Health Care in a Market Driven World”

The Primary Health Care and Political Economy of Health SIGs are combining to offer an exciting workshop exploring contemporary issues in Primary Health Care. In the decades since Alma Ata has the model evolved and does it retain relevance ? Key Note speakers and group discussion will highlight issues of philosophical approach, policy development and funding. At the end of the workshop participants should be able to answer the question, “Is Primary Health Care still relevant and how?”

Women’s Health Special Interest Group Workshop

Time: 1.30 pm to 4.30 pm

Framework for a National Sexual and Reproductive Health Strategy: progress report

The workshop will report on progress in the first half of 2007 on the development of a framework document or kit for PHAA and others to use in advocating for a National Sexual and Reproductive Health Strategy. The Women’s Health SIG workshop in Sydney in 2006 conceived the idea for a specific project to develop such a framework. With the help of a Victorian Public Health Fellow between February and June 2007, as well as a project advisory group of SIG members and other key stakeholders, considerable progress has since been made. The workshop will be a chance to present the work to date for SIG members and to receive feedback from all interested workshop participants.

Health Promotion and Food and Nutrition Special Interest groups workshop

Time: 1.00 pm to 4.00 pm

Iodine deficiency in Australia

This workshop will be lead by Professor Basil Hetzel, a world authority on Iodine deficiency and Dr Malcolm Riley. The workshop will cover the prevalence of the condition in Australia and discuss the public health options for prevention.

Conference Information

Social and Cultural Program

During the conference there will be local Aboriginal people sharing with you their stories through poetry, music and art. An experience not to be missed.

Welcome Reception, Venue: Ghan Room, Alice Springs Convention Centre

Please join the Northern Territory Branch of PHAA, the local host committee and other delegates for the Welcome Reception at 6.00pm on Sunday, 23 September. This will be the first opportunity to catch up with colleagues before the start of the conference.

Conference Dinner, Venue: McDonnell Room, Alice Springs Convention Centre

The Conference Dinner will start at 7.30 pm on Tuesday, 25 September.

Dinner with the stars at various venues - *Let's talk over dinner, Monday and Wednesday - details to be advised on the PHAA conference website.*

WHO Breakfast Session - Tuesday 25 September

Title: Consultation on the interim statement from the WHO Commission on the Social Determinants of Health- August 2007- Joint chairs: Prof Fran Baum and Prof Shane Houston

The World Health Organization's Commission on Social Determinants of Health (CSDH) was launched in March 2005 and will complete its term in May 2008. It is chaired by Sir Michael Marmot of the University College, London and has nineteen Commissioners. There is one Australian Commissioner, Prof. Fran Baum. The Commission brings together leading scientists, politicians and practitioners to provide evidence on actions that improve health by addressing the social conditions in which people live and work. It collaborates with countries and civil society to support social action, policy change and monitor results. At the eighth meeting of the Commission in Vancouver in June 2007 the Commission will finalise an interim statement that will be released for global consultation in early July 2007. Much of the content of the Commission's statement will have direct relevance for public policy in Australia. This session will provide opportunity for participants to take part in the consultation process that will contribute to a considered response to the Commission's interim statement.

PHRAG Breakfast and workshop-Tuesday 25 September

Title: Increasing Public Health Research capacity - Mentoring, Facilitating and Expanding: Dr Jane Freemantle

The purpose of the breakfast session is to provide an informal setting where conference delegates can discuss issues relating to the process of grant applications for Public Health research funding and the deficiencies of this process, and the role of mentoring in supporting junior researchers in order to "prime" the workshop in the afternoon. It is proposed that an expert in submitting and winning research funding be assigned to each table so that delegates can converse with them, over breakfast, about issues they have encountered in their own Public Health research grant application experiences and their attitude to mentoring. In the afternoon session the workshop aims to bring together a number of leaders in Public Health research to work with conference delegates in identifying positive approaches to grant applications including developing a model of mentoring and to provide delegates with background information that would allow them to choose appropriate options at each step in their own research application activities.

Fiona Adshead Breakfast Session - Wednesday 26 September

Title: Healthy public policies for reducing health inequalities: lessons from England

Dr Adshead will discuss the health improvement agenda within England including cross government work to address health inequalities. She will also touch on the economic and policy perspective that have developed over the past ten years and future directions of work to address the social determinants of health.

Dr Fiona Adshead *is the Deputy Chief Medical Officer in the Department of Health for England who has responsibility for the health improvement agenda. She leads on developing national policy and programmes in key public health areas and works with colleagues across government on developing healthy public policy. Dr Adshead has an extensive international portfolio and has close links with the WHO and the European Commission. As a former Director of Public Health, Dr Adshead has extensive experience of working in partnership with local authorities and other stakeholders to develop and deliver programmes, which drive forward the public health agenda, improve health and wellbeing and reduce inequalities.*

Travel & Accommodation

The Lido Group is the official travel agent for the Public Health Association of Australia's 38th Annual Conference. The Lido Group has negotiated discounted accommodation on behalf of the Public Health Association of Australia and is pleased to assist in any arrangements for travel and accommodation for the conference.

A link for Travel and Accommodation can be found on the PHAA website.

Venue

The 38th PHAA Annual Conference will be held at the Alice Springs Convention Centre, 93 Barrett Drive, Alice Springs, NT Alice Springs. Phone (08) 8950 0200, Fax (08) 8950 0300

The Alice Springs Convention Centre has an abundance of natural light and spectacular views of the MacDonnell Ranges, the convention centre is a modern and fresh alternative for conferences and incentives and is only a 15 minute drive from the airport.

Spring: 1st September - 30th November: Average Temperature Min 14.0 Max 30.1

During spring this region comes to life with magnificent wildflowers. Visitors will experience warm sunny days and pleasant evenings.

Cancellation Policy

*All conference registration cancellations must be advised in writing to the PHAA conference secretariat. Cancellations received before the 31 August 2007 will incur a penalty fee of \$50. Cancellations received after the 31 August 2007 and before the 15 September 2007 will incur a penalty of 50% of the fee paid. No refunds will be given after the 15 September 2007, however substitutes are welcome. PHAA must be advised of substitutes by 20 September 2007. **No Shared Registrations accepted.***

About PHAA

Our Association forms a dual role as a forum for the promotion of the health of the public and as a professional resource for public health personnel. The PHAA provides opportunities for the exchange of ideas, knowledge and information on public health and actively undertakes advocacy for public health policy, development, research and training. The PHAA is a non-party political organisation.

The PHAA has a national and multi-disciplinary perspective on public health issues. It is able to make a major contribution to the public health debate in Australia through representation on government boards, committees and other decision-making bodies such as the National Health and Medical Research Council and the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare. PHAA members are also representatives on many State and Territory committees contributing to a broad spectrum of public health issues.

*Membership forms are available on request from the PHAA Secretariat: Phone: (02) 6285 2373
Fax: (02) 6282 5438 Email: membership@phaa.net.au Post: PO Box 319 CURTIN ACT 2605
or it can be downloaded from the PHAA website at www.phaa.net.au*

