SA Chief Health Officer recognised by Leadership in Public Health Award

The Public Health Association of Australia South Australian Branch is delighted to present the 2020 Basil Hetzel Leadership in Public Health Award to Professor Nicola Spurrier, Chief Public Health Officer, South Australian Department for Health and Wellbeing.

Professor Spurrier is a dual qualified Medical Specialist, Public Health Physician and Paediatrician, with 30 years’ experience. She has specialised in developing and implementing policies and programs across child health, obesity prevention and Aboriginal health.

In 2019 Professor Spurrier was appointed Chief Public Health Officer in the SA Department of Health and Wellbeing. A compassionate public health leader, Professor Spurrier has demonstrated exceptional strength, guiding South Australia’s public health response to the 2019 bushfires and COVID-19 international pandemic.

The purpose of this Award is to recognise the valuable contribution made by PHAA leaders to public health in South Australia.

The Award was established by the PHAA South Australia Branch in 1997. It was renamed the Basil Hetzel Leadership in Public Health Award in 2004 in honour of the late Dr Basil Hetzel.

Dr Hetzel was proclaimed a National Living Treasure by the National Trust on March 15, 2004. He is most famous for his work on iodine deficiency, particularly in developing countries. However his impact on public health was also felt in academic institutions and the field of Indigenous health.

The prestigious Award will be presented to Professor Spurrier at the PHAA SA Branch AGM on Wednesday 24 June 2020.

“The PHAA-SA is delighted to present Professor Nicola Spurrier with the Basil Hetzel Leadership in Public Health Award,” said SA Branch President Kate Kameniar.

“Professor Spurrier has demonstrated exceptional strength, compassion and leadership to the South Australian Community during a turbulent time of public health crisis.”

“Professor Spurrier is a committed public health leader in South Australia. We are pleased to acknowledge and celebrate her contribution to the field of public health.”

Professor Spurrier responded by saying that she sincerely thanked the PHAA for the award.

“I have been privileged to serve the SA Community during this time, and I acknowledge the efforts of every South Australian”, said Professor Spurrier.

Media enquires:

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