



**ALLIANCE FOR
GAMBLING REFORM**



**Public Health Association
AUSTRALIA**

TACKLING GAMBLING HARM IN AUSTRALIA

Pre-Conference Symposium

**Monday 1 May 2023
Adelaide Convention Centre, SA**



Public Health Association of Australia

The Public Health Association of Australia (PHAA) is recognised as the principal non-government organisation for public health in Australia and works to promote the health and well-being of all Australians. The Association seeks better population health outcomes based on prevention, the social determinants of health and equity principles.

PHAA is a national organisation comprising of 2,000+ individual members and representing over 40 professional groups concerned with the promotion of health at a population level.

The Public Health Association of Australia provides forums for the discussion of public health in Australia and a voice of a wide variety of professional public health workers.

Via the Australian and New Zealand Journal of Public Health (ANZJPH), PHAA provides Australia's basic public health infrastructure that links those undertaking research in public health and those undertaking policy and program development and implementation.

Via our conferences, workshops, forums and other member events, we bring together those seeking to debate scientific evidence, policy and program evaluation and options for the further and better development of public health in Australia.

The Policy Statements that are developed within PHAA are provided to the public to help educate Australians about the scientific evidence and policy options around public health. They are also the primary resource for our advocacy efforts, efforts that underlie bringing policy alternatives to the attention of governments and bureaucrats.



Alliance for Gambling Reform

The Alliance for Gambling Reform is a national peak body which represents a collaboration of organisations with a shared concern about the harmful aspects of gambling and its normalisation in Australian culture. We are a registered health promotion charity. The Alliance supports public policy and regulatory regimes that make Australia a safer, healthier, and more equitable society by reducing the level of gambling harm.



Tackling Gambling Harm in Australia

Hello delegates,

Welcome to the Pre-Conference Symposium: Tackling Gambling Harm in Australia hosted by the Public Health Association of Australia (PHAA) and the Alliance for Gambling Reform (the Alliance).

The symposium will focus on mounting evidence of gambling related harm internationally. We are in a unique period of intense focus on gambling with State casino inquiries in VIC, NSW, WA, Qld and SA and growing concerns about the impact of sports gambling advertising, online gambling and continued harmful land-based gambling primarily through poker machines.

The forum aims to highlight the evidence while identifying tangible solutions to a problem that has been largely left to grow out of control through a series of political circumstances and historical decisions.

We look forward to a robust discussion about tackling gambling harm in Australia.

Kind Regards,



Adjunct Professor Terry Slevin
CEO, Public Health Association of Australia



Ms Carol Bennett
CEO, Alliance for Gambling Reform





Ms Anna Bardsley

Co-Ordinator Voices for Gambling Reform, Alliance for Gambling Reform

Anna Bardsley is a retired business woman, two of her five children have died and she lost ten years of her life to poker machines.

For more than ten years she has spoken honestly about the shame of being a gambler and the struggle of recovery in the hope of reducing the stigma around gambling and to advocate for legislative change.

Anna works with the Alliance for Gambling Reform lived experience community, she is an author and performs with Three Sides of the Coin. Her media appearances include 'You Can't Ask That: Gambling S2, podcasts and documentaries.



Mrs Kate Seselja

Manager- Voices for Gambling Reform (Lived experience), Alliance for Gambling Reform

For the past 10 years Kate Seselja has passionately contributed in the areas of Advocacy for Gambling Reform and also in various roles in the mental health and recovery space. Kate uses her 12 years of experiencing Gambling Harm, to now create positive change on every level, from influencing policies to changing vernacular. Her authenticity and vulnerability create a pathway for others to learn from and connect to safety and understanding, by breaking down stigma and shame. The passionate mum of 6 has turned her adversity into a mission to coach, educate and inspire others through founding The Hope Project (a social enterprise) in 2015.



Mr Paul Fung

Voices, Alliance for Gambling Reform

Paul started gambling when was 7. In his teens, a fake ID got him into the casino, gambling became a daily activity. He borrowed/stole from his family, eventually losing his brother's home in a week-long gambling episode. His support and advocacy work includes a Chinese Peer Support group, Young Leaders of the West (Victoria), Alliance for Gambling Reform, Three Sides of the Coin theatre group and the Victorian Responsible Gambling Foundation Lived Experience advisory committee. He works closely with migrant communities to prevent gambling harm.



Mr Scott Wilson

CEO, Aboriginal Drug and Alcohol Council South Australia

Scott Wilson is a well-respected Aboriginal leader and CEO of ADAC, the Aboriginal Drug and Alcohol Council (South Australia). He is also an Adjunct Associate Professor in the Faculty of Medicine and Health at the University of Sydney.

Scott's personal and professional experience in substance misuse has made him a valued member of nearly every major governmental and non-governmental committee in Australia for more than 30 years. He has received several awards including the Australian Centenary Medal and the Sister Alison Bush Award from the University of Sydney. He is also now the lead convener of the South Australian Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation Network (SAACCON), and represents not only the specific needs of the SA Aboriginal community, but Deputy Convenor for the Coalition of Peaks (CoP).



Associate Professor Charles Livingstone

Head of Gambling & Social Determinants Unit, School of Public Health and Preventive Medicine Monash University

Associate Professor Charles Livingstone works in the School of Public Health and Preventive Medicine, Monash University. He teaches health policy, sociology and politics in the Bachelor of Health Sciences, Bachelor of Public Health, & Master of Public Health programs. He is also head of the Gambling and Social Determinants unit in SPHPM. Charles has research degrees in economics and social theory. His current principal research interest is critical gambling studies, including in particular gambling policy reform and the politics, regulation and social impacts of gambling. More information about Charles is available at: <https://research.monash.edu/en/persons/charles-livingstone>



Dr Jennifer Lacy Nichols

Research Fellow, University Of Melbourne

Dr Jennifer Lacy-Nichols is a Victorian Health Promotion Foundation research fellow based at the Melbourne School of Population and Global Health at the University of Melbourne. Her research seeks to understand the relationships between corporations, politics and health, part of the emerging field of Commercial Determinants of Health. Her current program of work explores the opportunities and challenges for systematically monitoring corporate political activities.



Ms Caterina Giorgi

Chief Executive Officer, Foundation for Alcohol Research and Education

Caterina is the CEO of FARE, a national organisation working towards an Australia free from alcohol harm.

Caterina is passionate about working with local communities, governments, researchers and health professionals to develop evidence-informed policy, enable people-powered advocacy, and deliver health promotion programs.

Before joining FARE as CEO, Caterina founded and led For Purpose, a national organisation working with other not-for-profit and purpose-driven organisations to build their strategic, advocacy and communications capacity to create positive social change. She also worked previously at FARE, leading the Policy and Research Team.

Caterina has presented at national and international conferences and has delivered training and workshops on strategy, advocacy, public health and public policy. In 2015, she was a finalist for ACT Young Woman of the Year Awards.

Caterina has an honours degree in public health and is a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.



Mr Nick McKenzie

Investigative journalist, Fairfax Media

A fourteen time winner of the Walkley Award, Australia's highest journalism honour, and four time Australian Journalist of the Year, Nick McKenzie is a leading Australian investigative journalist who works for newspapers Melbourne's The Age and The Sydney Morning Herald. He's also presented major investigations for the ABC's Four Corners and 7:30, 60 Minutes and the Australian Financial Review. With 20 years' experience, Nick's investigations span foreign affairs, defence and national security, corporate wrongdoing, politics, organised crime and corruption, the criminal justice system and social affairs. His work has sparked many national and state inquiries, including Royal Commissions and parliamentary inquiries, prompted investigations in Australia, the US and Britain into corruption and led to significant legislative change.



Miss Shonica Guy

Volunteer, Alliance for Gambling Reform

Shonica Guy is a passionate advocate for gambling reform. She uses her lived experience of gambling harm to help others understand gambling addiction.

13 years ago, through her own research, she found that poker machines were deliberately designed to addict. This knowledge made her more determined to let people know the truth behind the machines.



Rev Tim Costello

Chief Advocate, Alliance for Gambling Reform

Tim is one of Australia's most respected community leaders and a sought after voice on social justice issues, leadership and ethics. For 13 years until October 2016, Tim was Chief Executive of World Vision Australia (WVA). In his current role as the Alliance's Chief Advocate, Tim is putting awareness of gambling harm on the national agenda. Concurrently this year, Tim is the Executive Director of Micah Australia. Other positions Tim holds are Chair of the Community Council of Australia; member of the Multi-Stakeholder Steering Committee of the EU-Australia Leadership Forum; board member for the Campaign for Australian Aid; board member for the Australian National Development Index; Patron of SMSF and Patron of the National Youth Commission.



Mr Andrew Wilkie MP

Federal Independent Member for Clark

Andrew Wilkie has been the Federal Independent Member for Clark (originally called Denison) since 2010. Reducing harm from gambling has been a strong focus in Andrew's political life, notably when he made poker machine reform one of the central planks in his deal with Prime Minister Julia Gillard to provide support for her minority government. More recently he's been in the news for issues as varied as being sued by Clubs NSW, revealing key evidence against Crown Casino and weighing into the recent NSW state election. Before politics Andrew famously blew the whistle over the fraudulent reasons for Australia joining in the invasion of Iraq in 2003, which helps to explain his continuing strong advocacy for media freedom and protecting whistleblowers.



Dr John Crozier

Chair National Trauma Committee, RACS

John Crozier AM CSM FRACS, vascular & trauma surgeon, is Chair of the National Trauma committee of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons. He is a vocal critic of regulatory capture and a strong advocate for long overdue gambling harm reduction.



Ms Peta Murphy

Member For Dunkley, Parliament Of Australia

Peta Murphy is the first woman to represent the Federal seat of Dunkley since her election in 2019.

Before entering Parliament, Peta's career was defined by a commitment to social justice and strong communities. She worked in the Victorian justice system, volunteered at her local Community Legal Centre, was a solicitor advocate, a Senior Public Defender at Victoria Legal Aid, a Barrister and a Team Leader at the Victorian Law Reform Commission.

In the 47th parliament Peta is the Chair of the House Standing Committee on Social policy and Legal Affairs. She is also a member of the House Standing Committee on Health, Aged Care and Sport, Joint Committee on the National Anti-Corruption Commission, the Joint Standing Committee on Public Accounts and Audits and the Joint Select Committee on the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice Referendum.



Ms Rebekha Sharkie MP

Federal Member for Mayo

Rebekha Sharkie MP represents the regional electorate of Mayo in South Australia.

Having worked as a paralegal, researcher, policy advisor and manager of youth services before being elected in 2016, Rebekha is the first woman to represent this region since Federation and is now the longest serving female House of Representatives crossbench Member.

Rebekha believes in putting her community first and being their "independent voice". Some of the issues Rebekha champions in the Parliament include aged care reform, climate action, regional housing, health-care, employment and infrastructure, political donation reform, gambling reform and of course honesty, integrity and accountability in politics.

Rebekha has served on many Parliamentary committees and co-chaired several Parliamentary Friends Groups covering topics as diverse as Climate Action, the ABC, Youth, and Gambling Harm Reduction. She is also the first female crossbench member to be admitted to the Speaker's Panel.

Mum to three adult children, Rebekha lives in the Adelaide Hills with her husband Nathan and Great Dane Lulu.

INVITED SPEAKERS



Senator David Pocock

Independent Senator for the ACT

Having migrated from Zimbabwe with his family as a teenager, David went on to captain the Wallabies and Vice-Captain the Brumbies as part of a stellar rugby career in which he has been awarded for leadership on and off the field.

With a Masters in Sustainable Agriculture, David also has a track record as a powerful advocate on issues ranging from climate to marriage equality.

He has been involved in multiple small businesses and has co-founded numerous not-for-profit community initiatives in Australia and overseas, including with his wife Emma.

In 2021, David attended the COP26 climate summit and led The Cool Down campaign that saw over 470 Australian athletes from 40+ sports call on the Australian Government to lift its ambition on climate change. Upon returning home, he announced his run as the community-endorsed Independent Senate candidate for the ACT. After campaigning on a platform of integrity, doing politics differently and making Canberra count, David was successfully elected at the 21 May 2022 Federal Election.



Emeritus Professor Mike Daube

Faculty of Health Sciences, Curtin University

Mike Daube is Emeritus Professor in the Faculty of Health Sciences at Curtin University, where he was also Director of the Public Health Advocacy Institute. He was previously Director General of Health for Western Australia and Chair of the Australian National Public Health Partnership. He has held many senior positions in government, with further roles including President of PHAA, President of the Australian Council on Smoking and Health, co-chair of the National Alliance for Action on Alcohol, Deputy Chair of the National Preventative Health Taskforce, and chair of many other boards and committees, including the government's advisory committee that recommended tobacco plain packaging. He has been active in health policy, tobacco, alcohol, gambling, predatory journals and other public health areas for fifty years, has been an active researcher, published widely, and worked with WHO, governments and health organisations in more than forty countries. Before moving to Australia in 1984 he was the first full-time Director of Action on Smoking and Health (ASH) in the UK, then Senior Lecturer in Health Education in the Department of Community Medicine at Edinburgh University.

He is an Officer in the Order of Australia (AO), was the Western Australian of the Year in 2018, and has received further awards from WHO, PHAA, AMA, Cancer Council Australia, Heart Foundation, Thoracic Society and many other national and international organisations, including the American Cancer Society's Luther Terry Distinguished Career Award and the World Federation of Public Health Associations' highest honour, the Leavell Award for Outstanding Global Health Leadership.



Mr Dini Soulio

Commissioner, Consumer And Business Services

Dini Soulio is the Liquor & Gambling Commissioner and Commissioner for Consumer Affairs leading Consumer & Business Services in South Australia. CBS has a very broad portfolio including consumer protection, occupational licensing, liquor licensing, gambling regulation and charities regulation.

Dini has a background in law, consumer protection, corporate regulation and enforcement. Dini practiced as a solicitor in private practice before holding senior regulatory roles with the Australian Customs Service and Australian Securities & Investments Commission.



ALLIANCE FOR GAMBLING REFORM



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TIME	SESSION	ROOM
8:45am - 12:00pm	Registration Open	City Room Foyer
Opening Session – Setting the scene		
9:15am - 11:15am	<p>Acknowledgment of Country, Welcome and overview of the day MC: Mr Terry Slevin, CEO, Public Health Association of Australia</p> <p>A perspective from the Federal Communications Minister Michelle Rowland MP Speaker: Ms Peta Murphy, Member For Dunkley, Parliament Of Australia</p> <p>Lived experience of gambling harm Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms Anna Bardsley, Co-Ordinator Voices for Gambling Reform, Alliance for Gambling Reform Mrs Kate Seselja, Manager- Voices for Gambling Reform (Lived experience), Alliance for Gambling Reform Mr Paul Fung, Voices, Alliance for Gambling Reform Mr Scott Wilson, CEO, Aboriginal Drug and Alcohol Council South Australia <p>What the research and evidence tells us Regulating the unregulated: what must be done to effectively prevent and reduce gambling harms? Speaker: Associate Professor Charles Livingstone, Head of Gambling & Social Determinants Unit, School of Public Health and Preventive Medicine Monash University (virtual) Recent revelations from a slew of inquiries and Royal Commissions in Australia demonstrate that the power of regulators in Australian jurisdictions has been no match for the commercial imperatives of the gambling industry. Regulators are now armed with more powers including hefty fines and more active surveillance of casinos. But no casino has stopped trading, and attempts to constrain the operation of EGMs in NSW clubs and hotels were defeated by political choices. What must be implemented to stop gambling's many harms, and how do we achieve this?</p> <p>Commercial Determinants of Health - an overview Speaker: Dr Jennifer Lacy Nichols, Research Fellow, University Of Melbourne (video) A brief history of commercial determinants of health (CDoH) research- defining the CDoH- understanding the impacts of CDoH on health- Conflicts of interest and the CDoH</p> <p>Speaker: Ms Caterina Giorgi, Chief Executive Officer, Foundation for Alcohol Research and Education</p>	City Room 1 & 2
11:15am – 11:30am	Morning Tea	City Room Foyer
Session 2 – Identifying influence of industry		
11:30am – 1:00pm	<p>The investigation that changed it all Speaker: Mr Nick McKenzie, Investigative journalist, Fairfax Media</p> <p>Lessons from historical attempts to address gambling harm Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Miss Shonica Guy, Volunteer, Alliance for Gambling Reform Rev Tim Costello, Chief Advocate, Alliance for Gambling Reform Mr Andrew Wilkie MP, Federal Independent Member for Clark (virtual) 	City Room 1 & 2

TIME	SESSION	ROOM
Session 2 – Identifying influence of industry <i>continued</i>		
11:30am – 1:00pm	<p>Political context - how gambling and political integrity became one Doctors Against Gambling Harm- A Surgeon's view Speaker: Dr John Crozier, Chair National Trauma Committee, RACS</p> <p>Surgeons often treat physical injuries that are extreme manifestations of gambling harm. Interpersonal violence, which culminates in grievous bodily harm, adds significant cost to health and jurisprudence agencies. The gambling industry denies responsibility, generates profit and avoids costs related to gambling harm. Surgeons, with other medical doctors, are essential advocates for long overdue gambling reform to reduce the burden of gambling harm.</p>	City Room 1 & 2
1:00pm – 1:30pm	Lunch	City Room Foyer
Session 3 – The reform movement, what's worked? What hasn't worked?		
1:30pm – 2:45pm	<p>Breaking News National focus on gambling Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms Peta Murphy, Member For Dunkley, Parliament Of Australia, Chair of the Inquiry into Online Gambling and its impact on those experiencing gambling harm Ms Rebekha Sharkie MP, Federal Member for Mayo Senator David Pocock, Independent Senator for the ACT (virtual) 	City Room 1 & 2
2:45pm – 3:00pm	Afternoon Tea	City Room Foyer
Closing Session - What are the elements of success? The way forward		
3:00pm - 4:30pm	<p>Gambling harm as a health issue The predatory industry playbook – what can we learn from tobacco? Speaker: Emeritus Professor Mike Daube, Faculty of Health Sciences, Curtin University</p> <p>Predatory industries use many of the same strategies to oppose and undermine effective curbs on their activities. This presentation will outline some of those used over time by the tobacco industry, and some approaches that have been effective in countering them.</p> <p>Bringing in experts from all sectors and their recommendations Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms Carol Bennett, CEO, Alliance for Gambling Reform Rev Tim Costello, Chief Advocate, Alliance for Gambling Reform Mr Terry Slevin, CEO, Public Health Association of Australia Mr Dini Soulio, Commissioner, Consumer And Business Services Mrs Kate Seselja, Manager- Voices for Gambling Reform (Lived experience), Alliance for Gambling Reform <p>Call to action/steps forward</p>	City Room 1 & 2
4:30pm	End of Symposium	

Thank you for attending the
Pre-Conference Symposium: Tackling Gambling
Harm in Australia

