



Inquiry into Alcohol

The House Standing Committee on Indigenous Affairs will undertake its first public hearings for the inquiry into the harmful use of alcohol in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in the Northern Territory from Monday, 31 March to Thursday, 3 April.

The Committee will hold public hearings in Alice Springs, Tennant Creek and Darwin and will undertake site inspections in Alice Springs and Tennant Creek.

Committee Chair Dr Sharman Stone said, “The Committee is aware that there are many groups in the NT who are working to reduce the harmful effects of alcohol in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. Their evidence to the Committee will be very important.”

“The average age at death from alcohol-related causes among Indigenous people is about 35 years¹. This is why the Committee is determined to identify the social and other determinants of high risk alcohol consumption in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and the best way to tackle the issues.”

The full programs for the hearing are available at www.aph.gov.au/indigenousaffairs

The public hearing program is:

Alice Springs

Monday, 31 March 2014

1.00pm – 5.00pm

Drug and Alcohol Services Association (DASA) Conference Room,
4 Schwarz Crescent, Alice Springs

Tennant Creek

Tuesday, 1 April 2014

10.30am – 2.00pm

Barkly Regional Council Hall
41 Peko Street Tennant Creek

Darwin

Wednesday, 2 April 2014

3.00pm – 5.00pm

Council for Aboriginal Alcohol Program Services Inc. (CAAPS)
60 Boulter Road, Berrimah

Thursday, 3 April 2014

8.30am – 11.15am

Council for Aboriginal Alcohol Program Services Inc. (CAAPS)
60 Boulter Road, Berrimah

Members of the public are welcome to attend.

For media comment, please contact the Committee Chair Dr Sharman Stone MP on (03) 5821 5371. **For background information**, contact the Committee Secretariat on (02) 62774559 or indigenousaffairs.reps@aph.gov.au

¹ Chikritzhs, T, Pascal R, Gray D et al. 2007, Trends in alcohol-attributable deaths among Indigenous Australians, 1998-2004. National Alcohol Indicators. Perth, National Drug Research Institute, Curtin University of Technology.