

From: Mary Kumvaj
Sent: Wednesday, 4 December 2013 3:02 PM
To: 'senator.nash@aph.gov.au'; 'peter.dutton.MP@aph.gov.au'
Cc: 'Colleen.Krestensen@health.gov.au'
Subject: De-funding of the Alcohol and other Drugs Council of Australia

Dear Minister

The sudden and unexpected de-funding of the Alcohol and other Drugs Council of Australia (ADCA) is a matter of great concern for its many stakeholders in the community. The closure of one of ADCA's key services, the National Drug Sector Information Service (NDSIS), will have a significant negative impact on the work of researchers and information specialists in the alcohol and other drugs field.

The National Drugs Sector Information Service (NDSIS) has built up a comprehensive collection of books, journals and DVDs on drug and alcohol use and associated problems. With almost 100,000 AOD resources, the collection is one of the largest AOD collections in the world. NDSIS' DRUG database is an open access resource used by researchers globally.

NDSIS staff have consistently provided an excellent support service to librarians and information specialists seeking to promote access to AOD information. Indeed, they have played a leadership role in professional networks such as the Australian Alcohol and Drug Librarians and Information Specialists and the Substance Abuse Librarians and Information Specialists international network.

The de-funding of ADCA and the associated library and information services provided by NDSIS will leave a major gap in the provision of information resources and support to research and professional development in the AOD sector. We urge you to support the continuation of the service, to ensure that this wealth of knowledge is retained for Australia.

On behalf of the Australian Alcohol and Drug Librarians and Information Specialists (ADLIS) Association <http://ndsis.adca.org.au/adlis>