

Media Release

Learning from 50 years of Aboriginal Alcohol Programs: a summary

24 February 2025

The Alcohol and Other Drugs Knowledge Centre has released a new publication summarising the key findings from a book titled 'Learning from 50 years of Aboriginal Alcohol Programs: Beating the Grog in Australia' * by Peter d'Abbs and Nicole Hewlett.

<u>Learning from 50 years of Aboriginal Alcohol Programs: a summary</u> identifies the many actions and measures taken to prevent and reduce alcohol harms among Aboriginal peoples as well as the historical context for those actions. The accessible online summary was written by the Health*InfoNet* team in collaboration with the authors. The summary is accompanied by a <u>video</u> and <u>factsheet</u>

Health*InfoNet* Director Bep Uink said, "The aim of this summary is to bring together a broad overview of these efforts to support the alcohol and other drug workforce health sector and to invite deeper investigation of the evidence base which is more fully described in the book".

Peter d'Abbs said "Good quality data is often limited when assessing the effectiveness of alcohol programs. In the past, many programs that seek to address harms from alcohol have not been evaluated at all or evaluated using methods that do not acknowledge Aboriginal priorities or privilege Aboriginal voices".

Nicole Hewlett said "The past 50 years unveils rich lessons on how to effectively move forward and heal the impacts of alcohol harm. This practical summary offers such knowledge in a much more accessible way to help meaningfully guide those in policy and practice".

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More information: The Knowledge Centre provides online access to a comprehensive collection of relevant, evidence-based,

current and culturally appropriate alcohol and other drug (AOD) knowledge-support and decision-support materials and information that can be used in the prevention, identification and management of alcohol and other drug use in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population. The work of the Knowledge Centre is supported by a collaborative partnership with the three national alcohol and other drug research centres (the National Drug Research Institute, the National Centre for Education and Training on Addiction, and the

National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre). www.aodknowledgecentre.ecu.edu..au

*Link to the original full text book https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-981-99-0401-3.











