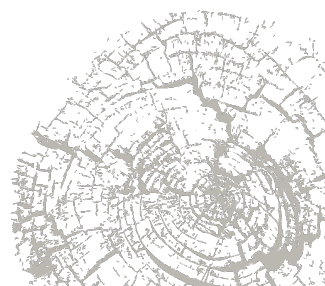# Australian Winter School 2022

Brave New World: Innovation in the AOD sector

Call for abstracts

A professional development event for people who work with people who use alcohol and other drugs

Theme

The theme for the 2022 Australian Winter School (AWS2022) is Brave New World: Innovation in the AOD Sector

We are highlighting the innovation brought about by the Covid-19 pandemic and exploring the opportunities for innovation across research, policy and treatment relating to alcohol and other drugs.
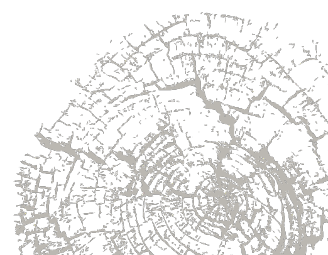
With a focus on innovative practice and new ideas, the conference will have something for everyone, including:

> **our workforce** – increasing skills, knowledge, and collaboration potential while gaining greater awareness of trends and issues to develop your practice and career potential

> **external partners** – connecting and sharing with health and other professionals whose work intersects with the alcohol and other drug (AOD) treatment space.

> **the community** – exchanging views and experiences on how the AOD sector has been and is responsive to challenges and needs to identify opportunities that enhance recovery experiences for people and their families.

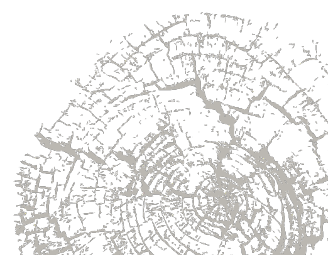**AWS 2022 is proudly presented by:**

There's something for everyone – our 2022 streams

The program will include plenary and multiple concurrent sessions on a range of issues.

Within the breakout session streams, we will showcase the following:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders
- LGBTIQ
- Health equity
- cross-sector collaboration
- workforce (including peer workforce)
- rural and remote
- youth
- Medication-Assisted Treatment
- pharmaceuticals
- primary health
- acute care
- early intervention

- outcomes
- community development
- client participation and engagement
- mental health
- criminal justice
- technology and treatment
- substance types (opioids, hallucinogens, alcohol, cannabis, tobacco, amphetamines)
- non-harmful use
- stigma and discrimination
- performance enhancing drugs.

Invitation

We invite you to consider making a 20 minute presentation (which includes five minutes of question time) during a concurrent session.

We are looking for conference speakers to inspire delegates and introduce them to new ideas and ways of thinking and working.

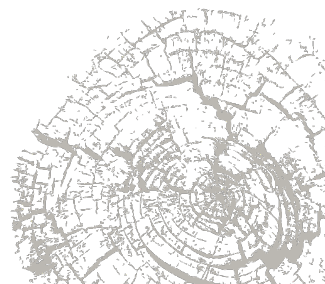We welcome abstract submissions from people who:

- are involved in delivering innovative evidence-based AOD programs and services
- have new and ground-breaking research to report on that has direct relevance to harm reduction and treatment
- have an example of an effective prevention, early intervention, or health promotion program
- are involved in an innovative area of AOD policy
- have a lived experience with AOD use (more information on page 4).

Submit your application on one of the templates provided by **5.00pm on 4 April 2022** to:

Tom Ogwang

Sector Capacity Building Officer

Email: Tom.Ogwang@qnada.org.au

Criteria

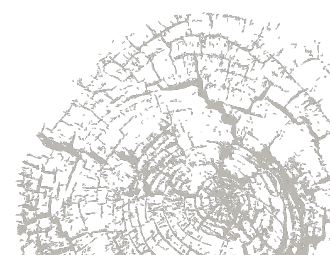All submissions will be reviewed against the following criteria:

- Audience – relevance to AWS2022 audience
- Themes – relevance to the AWS2022 overarching theme and topics
- Quality – appropriate educational, evaluation, or research methodology and clarity
- Content – presenting new work or building upon existing work (new news; not old).

Key dates	
7 March 2022	Call for abstracts open
4 April 2022	Call for abstracts close
4 April – 6 May 2022	Panel review abstract submissions
7-10 May 2022	Presenters advised of abstract outcomes
2 May 2022	Registration opens
3 June 2022	Early Bird registration closes
18-19 August 2022	Conference

General guidelines

The following points should be noted:

- Abstracts will be subject to peer review
- Acceptance or otherwise is at the discretion of the organising committee whose decision is final
- Refer to the template on the conference webpage for the abstract layout
- All presenting authors must register and pay to attend the AWS2022 conference to be eligible to present. We are unable to advertise speakers in the conference program until they have registered and paid in full
- Submission of an abstract implies the author's agreement to publish their abstract in the final conference program handbook
- Successful abstracts must be presented by the author/s or a nominated co-author.
- The AWS2022 Organising Committee reserves the right to reject abstracts which do not include sufficient information.

Increasing the voice of lived experience

We want to increase the representation of speakers with a lived experience of AOD use in the AWS2022 program.

If you are - or know - someone who is either in AOD treatment, has completed treatment, is a parent, carer, or family member of someone who uses substances or has some other unique perspective on AOD, then we want to hear from you!

We understand that speaking about substance use at a conference may be daunting. We also understand that there are potential risks with disclosing substance use in public. However we are also aware of the benefits – both personally and professionally – to using the power of lived experience in helping others to learn, understand, and make change.

That's why the AWS2022 Committee is offering to provide personalised assistance to individuals with a lived experience to support them to be involved. A representative from our committee will become a fixed contact point for you, assist you in preparing your abstract, discuss any questions or concerns you may have and, if your abstract is accepted, assist with reviewing your speech or presentation, including by connecting you with local support workers. We can also support you to share your story or perspective in a way that maintains your privacy and anonymity.

We want to make this the best and safest experience for you.

If you are interested in submitting an abstract, or want more information, contact Tom Ogwang at QNADA on Tom.Ogwang@qnada.org.au