



City West Lotteries House, 2 Delhi Street, West Perth WA 6005
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MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate release

ICCWA Lunchtime Forum Thursday 2 April 2009

Reducing risk-taking behaviour associated with excessive alcohol consumption by university students: *The Tertiary Alcohol Project* and student initiatives implemented at the University of Western Australia.

To recognise **National Youth Week 2009**, ICCWA's April lunchtime forum will discuss important risk-taking behaviour related issues concerning young Western Australians. A significant proportion of university students are aged 18-24 years – an age group who exhibit the riskiest drinking patterns, placing themselves in danger of harmful short and long term effects from alcohol consumption and alcohol influenced behaviours.

Dominic Rose, the University of Western Australia 2009 Student Guild President will deliver a presentation entitled '**Planning University Events, the Student's Experience**'. His presentation will discuss the student experiences of event and risk management when planning student events at the University of Western Australia.

Ruth Wernham from the UWA Health Promotion unit will also present on the Tertiary Alcohol Project (TAP), which received the 2008 Safe Road Users Award at the Insurance Commission of Western Australia Road Safety Awards. TAP aims to reduce risk-taking behaviour associated with excessive alcohol consumption by university students. The project provides practical information to students regarding alcohol consumption and social norms with a focus on strategies to reduce alcohol related harm and encourage responsible drinking. Messages also concentrate on the implications of alcohol on sexual health, study, driving, safety and drowning.

The presentations focus on university student events and different initiatives implemented to promote safe behaviour choices and ensure responsible consumption of alcohol at student events. The forum will address a range of community safety, injury prevention and health professionals with two presentations regarding alcohol related harm and the preventative measures implemented at The University of Western Australia.

National Youth Week falls from 28 March to 5 April 2009 and is an initiative aimed to focus on young people and highlight the positive contributions young people make to society. This lunchtime forum provides an opportunity to hear the positive initiatives implemented by young people at the University of Western Australia when planning student events.

The forum will be held in the Conference Room at City West Lotteries House, 2 Delhi Street, West Perth on Thursday 2 April 2009 at 12.30pm.

Ends.

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