



**You are invited to:**

**WORLD HEPATITIS DAY ORATION  
RENEWED CALLS FOR NEEDLE & SYRINGE PROGRAM IN ACT PRISON**

Former ACT Health Minister and outgoing President of the World Federation of Public Health Associations, Michael Moore AM, will be renewing calls for a Needle and Syringe Program (NSP) in the ACT's prison when he delivers the Australian Injecting and Illicit Drug Users League (AIVL) World Hepatitis Day Oration.

**WHAT: AIVL World Hepatitis Day Oration**  
**WHEN: Tuesday 24 July 2018**  
**WHERE: Reception Room, ACT Legislative Assembly, London Circuit, Canberra**  
**TIME: 12:30pm – 1:30pm**  
**RSVP: Please RSVP to Carolyn Murphy on (02) 6279 1600 or [carolynm@aivl.org.au](mailto:carolynm@aivl.org.au) by COB  
Tuesday 17 July 2018**

In July 2018, it will be seven years since the [Public Health Association of Australia \(PHAA\) handed down its report](#) for the ACT Government into implementation of a NSP at the Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC). The response to the PHAA report made the implementation of a NSP in the AMC ACT Government policy. Yet, seven years later, a NSP has yet to be established in the ACT's prison.

[AIVL recently released a new report](#), looking at the needs of people living with Hepatitis C after leaving custodial settings in Australia. The report contains a series of recommendations aimed at addressing the spread of blood borne viruses (BBVs) in the Australian community more broadly, including trialling of a NSP in prison and increased focus on transitional arrangements for people returning to the community.

“With the development of new national BBV and sexually transmissible infection strategies currently underway, it is important that people entering and exiting custodial contexts are not forgotten, particularly as they are returning to their families and communities. Ensuring access to the full suite of preventive, harm reduction measures – and ensuring that people are able to continue their engagement with alcohol and other drug and viral hepatitis treatments post-release – are tangible ways that we can protect more Australians from contracting BBVs,” said Michael Moore.

[World Hepatitis Day](#) takes place every year on 28 July. The theme for 2018 is ‘Find The Missing Millions’. Worldwide, 300 million people are living with viral hepatitis unaware. Without finding the undiagnosed and linking them to care, millions will continue to suffer, and lives will be lost. AIVL is calling on governments to ensure that people in custodial settings are not forgotten within this context.

*AIVL is the national organisation representing people who use/have used illicit drugs and is the peak body for the state and territory peer-based drug user organisations.*

***AIVL's World Hepatitis Day Oration is being held in association with the Alcohol Tobacco and Other Drug Association ACT (ATODA) and the Canberra Alliance for Harm Minimisation and Advocacy (CAHMA).***