

A woman with curly hair is shown from the chest up, looking towards the right side of the frame. She has a thoughtful expression. The background is blurred, showing what appears to be an office or meeting room setting. The entire image has a blue tint.

Annual Review 2023



PENINGTON
INSTITUTE

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Our Manifesto

LIKE IT OR NOT, DRUGS ARE A PART OF EVERY SOCIETY.

It would be naive to think otherwise.
And cruel to ignore it.

And, while we don't encourage drug
use, there are other things that we will
always encourage.

Understanding. Openness.
Empathy. Communication.

Our default as a society has been to pour
scorn on those who use drugs and judge
them harshly by seeing their problems
as self-inflicted.

But human beings are complex, and so is
this issue.

The reasons people use drugs, including
alcohol and pharmaceuticals, are countless.

Risky behaviours are part of being
human. We need to understand that, not
condemn it.

a challenge.

How do we rise to that challenge?

At Penington Institute, we believe
in approaching drug use in a safe,
considerate and practical way.

We seek solutions, not scapegoats.

We strive for positive outcomes, not
negative stereotypes.

We follow evidence and data, but we
temper it with compassion and empathy
to create change for the better.

Our focus is on making individuals and
families safer and healthier.

Our goal is simple: to help communities
and frontline services reduce harm and to
make public policy work for the people,
not against them.

We won't ever give up on that goal, or the
people it exists to serve.

People & Organisation

OUR BOARD

Chair: Ms Kathryn Greiner AO
Ms Carmel Arthur OAM
Dr Bulent Hass Dellal AO
Professor Nicholas Lintzeris
Mr David Stewart
Mr Vernon White
Adjunct Professor Scott Wilson

FINANCE, AUDIT AND RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Chair: Ms Carmel Arthur OAM
Ms Shobhana Chetty
Mr Joe Flinn
Mr Bruce Lanyon

COMMUNICATIONS ADVISORY GROUP

Acting Chair: Dr Bulent Hass Dellal AO
Ms Madi Jacobs
Mr Andrew North

OUR PATRONS

Chief Patron:
**Emeritus Professor Sir Gustav Nossal
AC CBE**
Professor The Honourable Dame Marie
Bashir AD CVO
Professor Suzanne Cory AC
Emeritus Professor David de Kretser AC
Professor Peter Doherty AC
Professor Ian Gust AO
Professor Margaret Hamilton AO
The Honourable Barry Jones AC
The Honourable Michael Kirby AC CMG
Professor David Penington AC (dec.)
Professor Fiona Stanley AC

OUR STAFF

In 2023 Penington Institute had a team
of ten full-time equivalent staff, led by
CEO John Ryan.



Strategic Direction

FRANK AND FIERCELY INDEPENDENT, WE CONNECT LIVED EXPERIENCE WITH RESEARCH TO IMPROVE THE MANAGEMENT OF DRUGS THROUGH COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND KNOWLEDGE SHARING.

OUR VISION

Communities are safe, healthy, and empowered to manage substance use, including pharmaceuticals and alcohol.

OUR MISSION

To support cost-effective approaches that maximise community health and safety in relation to drugs.

IN 2023, WE FOCUSED OUR EFFORTS ON THE FOLLOWING KEY ACTIVITY AREAS:

1.

Reducing overdose in the community

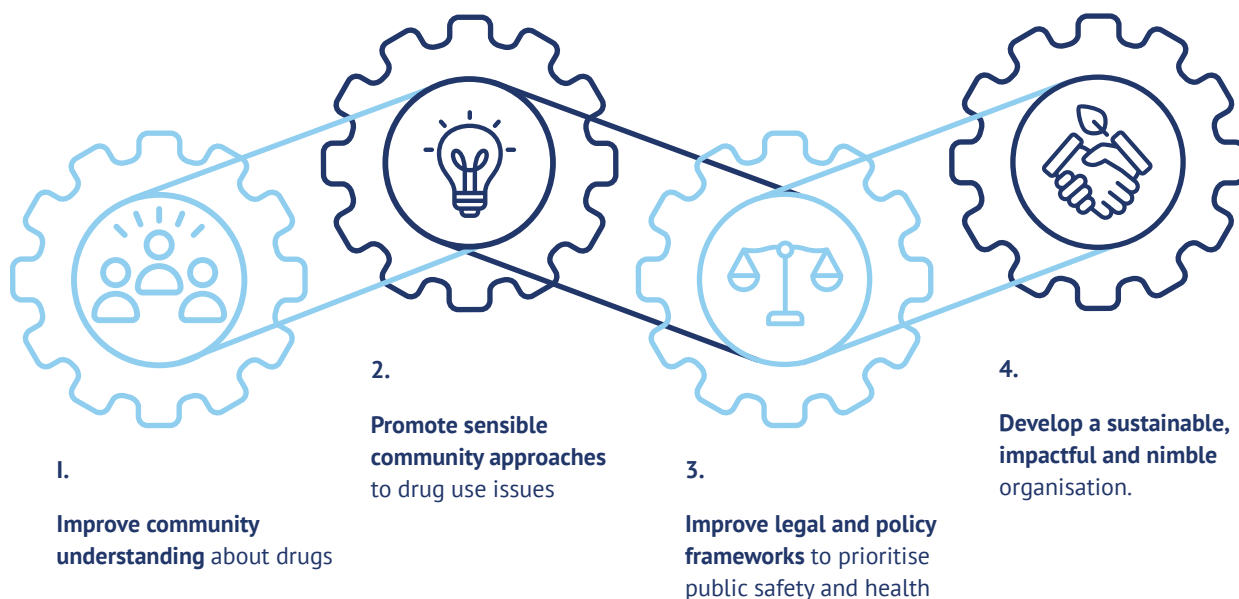
2.

Improving the management of cannabis in the community

3.

Improving knowledge about better approaches to drug use issues.

OUR 2021-2025 STRATEGIC PLAN OUTLINES OUR PRIORITIES:



A Message from the Chair

2023 HAS BEEN AN ENORMOUS YEAR FOR PENINGTON INSTITUTE – A YEAR IN WHICH WE SIGNIFICANTLY GREW OUR REPUTATION AS A TRUSTED AND EVIDENCE-LED VOICE IN A COMPLEX AND CONTENTIOUS PUBLIC POLICY SPACE.

We operated throughout with our hallmark rigour and professionalism, and in strict accordance with our strategic priorities and organisational values.

We pursued thorough investigation of the facts, communicated that evidence accurately and rationally, and pushed strategically for sensible policy reforms which protect the community.

I want to emphasise that the Penington Institute team is small but delivers real-world outcomes well above and beyond what might be expected given limited budgets and resources.

In 2023 these outcomes included the launch of several keynote reports, including *Australia's Annual Overdose Report 2023*, which drew exceptionally strong media attention. We were also delighted to see real progress towards some of the key recommendations of our *Opioid pharmacotherapy at the crossroads: enduring barriers and new opportunities* report.

As global convenor of International Overdose Awareness Day, we oversaw further expansion this year of this increasingly influential global event.

It has been one year since the passing of our namesake, the much-missed Professor David Penington AC, and in 2023 we advanced his vital legacy by hosting the inaugural *David Penington Oration*.

This event was a true success with a powerful address from former Australian Federal Police Commissioner Mick Palmer AO APM before a bipartisan audience of esteemed guests and speakers. We were grateful to have the Honourable Jeff Kennett AC and the Honourable Steve Bracks AC offer occasional remarks, alongside Professor Penington's son, Professor Tony Penington.

And now to 2024 – a milestone year which marks a decade since Penington Institute was established.

As we embark on our second decade, Penington Institute will keep human dignity at the heart of everything we do.

And, like Professor Penington, we will never stop advocating for evidence-based reform which safeguards the safety and health of people everywhere.

I'm proud to share Penington Institute's successful impact from the year 2023, and extend my heartfelt thanks to our team, our partners, and the communities we work with for another year of tremendous commitment and effort.



Kathryn Greiner AO
Chair, Penington Institute

A Message from the CEO

OVER THE PAST YEAR I HAVE REFLECTED OFTEN ON THE EXTRAORDINARY LEGACY OF OUR NAMESAKE AND PATRON, THE LATE PROFESSOR DAVID PENINGTON AC.

Professor Penington's expertise and far-sighted thinking contributed enormously to building a case for drug law reform in Australia, and he is deeply missed by everyone who was lucky enough to experience his generous nature, compassion and brilliant mind.

Professor Penington never lost sight of the need for evidence-driven and rational drug policy which prioritises people – especially the most vulnerable in the community.

A year on from Professor Penington's passing, we remain steadfast in honouring that vision.

As Kathryn has said, we were proud to host the first *David Penington Oration* which drew a bipartisan and notable audience of experts, politicians and policymakers, along with members of Professor Penington's family.

We worked very hard to honour his legacy in myriad other ways in 2023 – through the release of well-received publications and substantial media coverage, through expanded training of frontline workers in their critical

work, and through our leadership of key events such as International Overdose Awareness Day.

We did all this and more in a complex policy and political context, which is often hamstrung by misunderstanding and misinformation, and shackled by short-sighted public policy.

Despite these challenges, I'm extremely proud of Penington Institute's incredible achievements this year and the dedication and hard work of our small and talented team.

We saw some welcome policy advancements across 2023 – such as the federal government's decision to improve access to opioid dependence treatment medicines by adding them to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme. The roll-out of the Take-Home Naloxone Program, which allows more people to access this life-saving treatment free from a wider range of organisations, was another sign of progress.

Of course, there remains much more to do to achieve our ambitions – but I believe Professor Penington would be pleased to see the significant impact we have achieved this year.

I'm grateful to everyone who supported us in 2023, and as always, to our exceptional Penington Institute team – thank you.



John Ryan, CEO
Penington Institute

Impact Snapshot 2023

PENINGTON INSTITUTE IS COMMITTED TO PROVIDING A MULTI-FACETED AND EVIDENCE-LED RESPONSE TO THE COMPLEX PUBLIC AND POLITICAL DEBATES AROUND THE WORSENING DRUG CRISIS.

Central to our mission is the critical work of improving Australia's management of drugs through trusted and independent leadership, thorough research, and knowledge sharing.

This year we celebrated several significant achievements on this pathway, including those displayed in this impact snapshot.

International Overdose Awareness Day participant



1.

Producing three seminal reports: [*Cannabis in Australia 2023*](#), [*Australia's Annual Overdose Report 2023*](#) and [*Opioid pharmacotherapy at the crossroads: enduring barriers and new opportunities*](#)

3.

Hosting the inaugural **David Penington Oration** at a nonpartisan event at Victoria's Parliament House

5.

Convening **International Overdose Awareness Day 2023**, with more than 1,000 events held in over 40 countries around the world

6.

Introducing our **Global Perspectives on Australia's Cannabis Future** series, presenting key international perspectives on cannabis regulation to Australian audiences

8.

Offering valuable insights and expertise at industry events such as #ACannabis Conference and *United in Compassion 2023: Australian Medicinal Cannabis Symposium*, speaking on key issues and appearing on expert panels

2.

Achieving outstanding growth in media coverage of our work and boosting our brand awareness – with more than 2,400 mentions of Penington Institute in the media, representing an increase of 285% compared with 2022

4.

Making submissions and providing expert testimony to four key parliamentary inquiries and requests including: the Joint Committee on Law Enforcement's [*Inquiry into Australia's illicit drug problem: Challenges and opportunities for law enforcement*](#) and the Senate Parliamentary [*Inquiry into the Legalising Cannabis Bill 2023*](#)

7.

Strengthening our training and workforce development offerings to expand our expert support for frontline workers, including devising new ways to deliver our pioneering COPE and NSP 101 trainings

A Courageous Legacy: the inaugural *David Penington Oration*

OUR NAMESAKE AND PATRON, THE LATE PROFESSOR DAVID PENINGTON AC, WAS A TRUE CHAMPION OF THE NEED TO RETHINK AUSTRALIA'S FAILED APPROACH TO MANAGING DRUG USE.

After Professor Penington passed away in January 2023, we wanted to continue to honour his extraordinary legacy and share his vision with a broad and bipartisan audience.

We were honoured to do that at the November 2023 launch of our inaugural *David Penington Oration* with a landmark event at Parliament House in Melbourne.

An audience including health and academic leaders, senior public servants, members of Professor Penington's family, and parliamentarians, came together for this historic event.

Former Australian Federal Police Commissioner Mick Palmer AO APM gave a powerful oration on the failure of cannabis criminalisation in Australia and a leader's vision of a pathway forward, which was shared more broadly through media coverage.

Professor Penington knew that reform requires the building of bipartisan support, and we were delighted that this wonderful event was attended by former and current politicians from all sides of politics, with speeches from both former Victorian Premiers who had appointed him to undertake independent drug policy inquiries – the Honourable Steve Bracks AC and the Honourable Jeff Kennett AC.



1. *David Penington Oration* program
2. Dr Michael Penington (left) and John Ryan, CEO Penington Institute (right)

“The values and principles that guided Professor Penington in his work are the same ones we hold central in our own. Like him, **we will not be deterred by the complexity of managing drugs**, even when the barriers to better individual and community outcomes seem insurmountable.”

JOHN RYAN, PENINGTON INSTITUTE CEO

A Courageous Legacy: the inaugural *David Penington Oration*

1. Left to right – Hon. Steve Bracks AC, Kathryn Greiner AO, Mick Palmer AO APM, Hon. Jeff Kennett AC
2. Mick Palmer AO APM giving the Oration
3. Emeritus Professor Sir Gustav Nossal AC CBE (left) and Professor Graham Mitchell AO (right)
5. Hon. Steve Bracks AC (left), Hon. Jeff Kennett AC (right)
6. Professor Tony Penington giving a speech

(Photos: Chris Franklin)



1.



2.



3.



4.



5.

Key Activity Area 1

Reducing Overdose in the Community

Overdose causes considerable harm in our community and around the world: every day, six Australians die from overdose. In the USA, more than 100,000 people die each year.

As this crisis accelerates, so must our response – with advocacy for action, research into balanced pathways to policy reform, and ensuring the community is informed about the risks of using drugs, including pharmaceuticals prescribed by a doctor.

As we deepened our public-facing campaigning and community engagement this year, we also continued expanding our support for Australia's incredible frontline workers through high-quality training and professional development.

INTERNATIONAL OVERDOSE AWARENESS DAY 2023

Penington Institute has led the world's biggest campaign to end overdose, International Overdose Awareness Day (IOAD), on 31 August each year since 2012.

2023 saw one of the strongest IOAD campaigns ever, with the global IOAD community demonstrating powerful momentum and readiness for reform and informed debate about ending overdose.

We also introduced our first ever campaign theme: 'Recognising those people who go unseen', to highlight the hidden impact of overdose on our communities.

This initiative was very well-received, as was our highly successful IOAD social media campaign and another year of outstanding global media reach across influential outlets including Forbes and NBC.

Key Achievements:

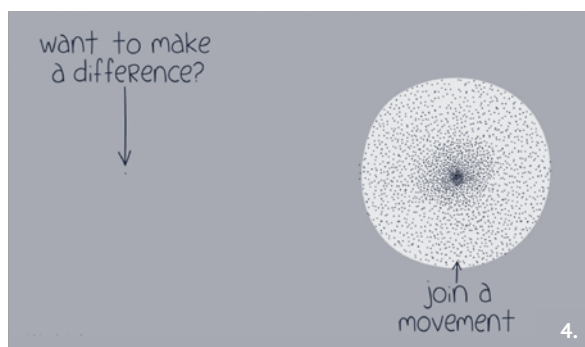
- **1,000+ events** worldwide
- **40 countries** participated
- **1,000,000+ people** reached via social media campaign
- **48,000+ downloads** of education and campaign resources
- **16 billion+ people reached globally** through media coverage
- **50,500+ Facebook** followers
- **6,500+ Twitter/X** followers
- **7,500+ Instagram** followers



Chris Dobbs, Canada

"Thank you for doing what you can to raise awareness. **Don't stop.** Lives can and will be saved with increased conversation."

**IOAD SUPPORTER,
BOQUETE, PANAMA**



1. Montenegrin Harm Reduction Network Link and NGO Juvenats event, Montenegro
2. West Side Heroin-Opioid Task Force event, USA.
(Photo: Sandra Harrison)
3. Moms Stop The Harm-Healing Hearts event, Canada
4. Graphic created by Gapingvoid for IOAD
5. Metzineres event, Spain

“The International Overdose Awareness Day website is what **spurred me to start our local event, with 12 people around a picnic table.** We have grown in 5 years to 20 vendors at our resource fair and 150 people in attendance. This has been an amazing journey for me, thank you.”

IOAD SUPPORTER, CALIFORNIA, USA



AUSTRALIA'S ANNUAL OVERDOSE REPORT 2023

Drug overdose is a national catastrophe. More Australians now die from overdose every year than on our roads, yet this crisis remains poorly understood by the wider public.

Our definitive annual review of overdose, *Australia's Annual Overdose Report 2023* (AAOR 2023), challenges this lack of urgency.

This landmark report, produced since 2016, grew further in influence this year, generating extensive media attention and public conversation.

It provides vital evidence of the scale of the overdose crisis and its growing impact on our community.

“(After reading the report) ... our service developed an Overdose Action Working group **to review and implement what we thought was relevant to our service.**”

SURVEY RESPONDENT

Our AAOR 2023 documented a number of crucial issues:

- Overdose is a crisis that requires urgent attention;
- Opioids and benzodiazepines play a major role in overdose in Australia;
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities are disproportionately affected by overdose;
- Prescription drugs help fuel overdose rates;
- Overdose affects Australian adults of all age groups.

Key Achievements:

- **Attracted close to 500 industry registrants** for our report launch webinar featuring Penington Institute Board Member and Executive Director of ADAC, the Aboriginal Drug and Alcohol Council (South Australia), Scott Wilson, discussing overdose among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities;
- **Secured the strongest media coverage since before the COVID-19 pandemic**, reaching more people in 2023 than in 2020, 2021 and 2022 combined;
- **Presented the key findings of the report** at the Beyond the Stigma: Understanding Overdose and Taking Action Forum organised by the Government of South Australia's Drug and Alcohol Services South Australia (DASSA).

Thank you to all members of the expert advisory committee for their valued support throughout the development of this report.



AUSTRALIA'S ANNUAL OVERDOSE REPORT 2023 EXPOSURE AND MEDIA COVERAGE





COMMUNITY OVERDOSE PREVENTION EDUCATION (COPE)

Supporting our sector to expand skills and professionalism is one of our core priorities. We're especially proud of the notable contribution made by our [Community Overdose Prevention Education \(COPE\)](#) program in 2023.

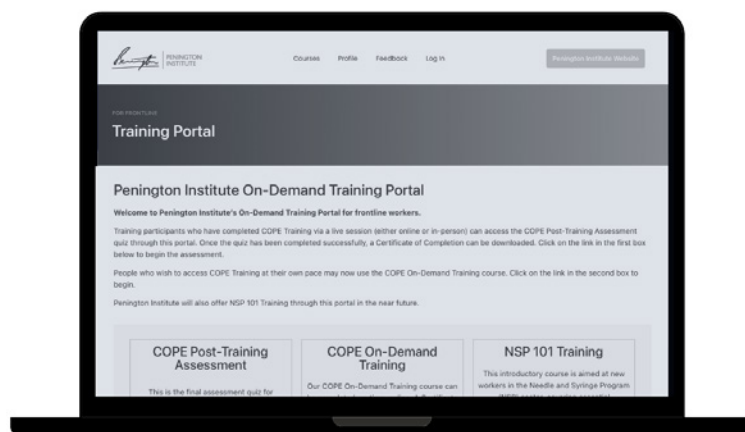
This program, which was established in 2014, has become the gold standard for overdose prevention and response training. It is recognised in the Australian Government's funding of free naloxone as part of its [Take-Home Naloxone](#) program.

All eligible Needle and Syringe Program (NSP) and Medically Supervised Injecting Room (MSIR) workers in Victoria are required to complete our COPE training as part of the certification process to be able to distribute naloxone.

Key Achievements:

- Trained 554 frontline workers;
- Delivered 23 COPE training sessions;
- Our COPE resources were downloaded more than 2,000 times.

In 2023, we also developed our new online COPE On-Demand Training module, which will greatly expand opportunities for more flexible access to this important training. The on-demand module is due to be launched on our website in early 2024.



Key Activity Area 2

Improving the Management of Cannabis in the Community

Australia's prohibition of cannabis has failed. Instead of protecting our community, the nation's current approach nurtures a thriving black market, and does nothing to prevent problematic drug use.

At the same time, more countries worldwide are moving to decriminalise cannabis. Australians are increasingly in favour of a similar shift here.

Throughout 2023, Penington Institute advocated clearly and rationally for a strictly regulated adult-use cannabis market, controlling access and quality, reducing harm and freeing up the justice system to tackle serious crime.

We continued to provide compelling evidence for this balanced approach, building support and momentum for reform which has Australians' health and safety at its heart.

CANNABIS IN AUSTRALIA 2023 REPORT

Our *Cannabis in Australia 2023* report expanded on our inaugural *Cannabis in Australia* report, which was released in 2022 and informed by interviews with around 100 cannabis experts.

Released in late 2023, this authoritative report examined prevailing local and global trends and made a compelling case for cannabis law reform to remain a priority for the public and for policymakers.

It is one of many ways in which we worked in 2023 to champion the need for balanced and urgent change, helping more Australians better understand both the deficiencies of the current system and the real opportunities to achieve progress.

Key Achievements:

- **Showcased the current landscape of Australia's connection with cannabis** by presenting the most recent evidence and perspectives;
- **Confirmed the continuous expansion of the medicinal cannabis sector** while identifying persisting obstacles to accessibility;
- **Provided supplementary evidence highlighting the advantages associated with cannabis law reform** and increased availability of medicinal cannabis;
- **Engaged key political leaders** at both state and federal levels;
- **Received media mentions** including the ABC, the Herald Sun and 2GB, demonstrating strong outreach and a high level of public conversation.





UNDERSTANDING COMMUNITY PERSPECTIVES ON CANNABIS REGULATION

In 2023, Penington Institute commenced a comprehensive research project to better understand the thoughts and opinions of a representative cross-section of the Australian community about cannabis and cannabis regulation.

Research findings indicated there to be a community-wide appetite for greater education on the topic of cannabis and

a desire for policy that reduces harms to the community. Insights garnered from this research have supported the formulation of a program of work planned for 2024, whereby we will actively support the cultivation of a more informed and drug-literate community, fostering engagement in the rapidly growing public discourse around cannabis regulation.

GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES ON AUSTRALIA'S CANNABIS FUTURE WEBINAR SERIES

Penington Institute continues its efforts to move towards an Australian model of a regulated cannabis market.

We believe that lessons learned elsewhere are critical to shaping a model appropriate for the Australian context, so in 2023 we were inspired to stimulate community conversation with the launch of our first *Global Perspectives on Australia's Cannabis Future* series of webinars featuring well-known cannabis policy experts from around the globe.

This well-received series has been praised by politicians, policymakers, and other key stakeholders, creating a public forum for leading thinkers on cannabis law reform – in line with our strategic priority of sharing knowledge and innovative approaches to drive Australia's shift to sensible cannabis policies.

Key Achievements:

- Delivered three webinars sharing international perspectives on cannabis regulation;
- Reached hundreds of Australian policymakers and law enforcement representatives through these webinars;
- Received extremely positive feedback from participants; 71% said most of the content was new to them.

Key Activity Area 3

Improving Knowledge about Better Approaches to Drug Issues

Fundamental reform of Australia's ineffectual drug use policy landscape is long overdue.

We know that better public policy and law enforcement strategies exist, and Penington Institute kept advocating for them throughout 2023, using the expertise and reputation for independence which our team of experts has built over many years in this space.

Our support for frontline workers was also a primary focus in 2023, expanding further the high-quality training we provide to this invaluable workforce.

OPIOID PHARMACOTHERAPY AT THE CROSSROADS REPORT

Another highlight of the year was our launch of *Opioid pharmacotherapy at the crossroads: enduring barriers and new opportunities* in August 2023.

We produced this significant piece of work to expose current barriers to pharmacotherapy access in Australia, and to demonstrate how this complex system can – and must – be fundamentally improved for people seeking treatment.

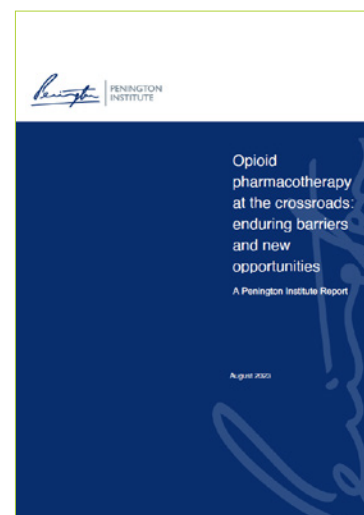
Our seminal report recommended a number of essential reforms:

- Tackle the opioid pharmacotherapy prescriber shortage;
- Develop cooperative relationships across jurisdictions to improve efficiency and care quality in the opioid pharmacotherapy system;
- Diversify entry points into the system and prioritise inclusion of socially and geographically disadvantaged groups;
- Plan and implement a sustainable pharmacotherapy system that is capable of responding to diverse patient needs;
- Ensure that all people experiencing opioid dependence have equitable and continuous access to the medications best suited to their individual needs.

We were thrilled with the response to this report as a pivotal contribution in moving Australia towards an effective and equitable treatment model.

Key Achievements:

- Synthesised extensive consultation with a diverse range of stakeholders, including our expert advisory committee;
- Delivered a clear analysis of the latest pharmacotherapy data, and an appraisal of current and future pharmacotherapy options;
- Some of our recommendations were advanced in both the May 2023 federal budget funding for improved access to opioid dependence treatment medicines, and in the decision in November 2023 giving general practitioners a seven-month extension to write private prescriptions for opioid pharmacotherapy medications.



We're very grateful to our expert advisory committee, which provided invaluable commentary and strategic direction during the report's creation, and facilitated access to a diverse range of interviewees from across the spectrum of drug use and treatment.



TRAINING AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Australia's frontline harm reduction workers do a truly remarkable job working in a complex and often under-resourced space, which requires them to respond to new drug use trends, policy changes, and shifting levels of community interest.

We are very proud to continue to offer general and specialised training and workforce development services to workers in Needle Syringe Program (NSP) services and other critical frontline services.

This has been a Penington Institute priority since our inception – and continued to evolve in 2023 with a suite of activities designed to hone skills and enhance professional development.

Key Achievements:

- **Hosted 24 Victorian Harm Reduction Network (HRN)** meetings throughout the year, connecting frontline workers to experts, government representatives, new information, and resources;
- **HRN guest speakers included a range of relevant local and international guests**, such as Associate Professor Anna Olsen sharing the evaluation results of CanTEST, Australia's first fixed-site Health and Drug Checking Service in Canberra, and Naomi Burke-Shyne, the Executive Director of Harm Reduction International;
- **Delivered 13 NSP 101 training sessions**, covering the fundamentals of running a needle and syringe program site, to 98 participants;
- **Continued to provide highly valued consultation services to NSPs** across Victoria;
- **Developed a new series of NSP 101 videos** which will be launched in early 2024;
- **Hosted a well-received GHB/GBL/1,4-B webinar** in May which had almost 200 registrants and strong ongoing engagement with the event recording and resources.



SUBMISSIONS TO PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRIES

Bringing credible and trusted thought leadership to public policy debates around drug use was central to our strategy and work in 2023.

We make our case to policymakers in various ways, and in 2023 our team prepared rigorous responses to relevant State and Commonwealth parliamentary inquiries as one of these avenues for powerful advocacy.

Contributions made in 2023:

- Produced a submission in January 2023 to the Joint Committee on Law Enforcement's [Inquiry into Australia's illicit drug problem: Challenges and opportunities for law enforcement](#) (Commonwealth);
- Shared our views on the Victorian Government's proposed amendments to the [Drugs, Poisons and Controlled Substances Regulations 2017](#) ([access controls for MDMA and psilocybine](#)) in May 2023;
- Provided a response to the Commonwealth Government's consultation on its draft Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C strategies in June 2023;
- Produced a submission in November 2023 to the Senate Parliamentary [Inquiry into the Legalising Cannabis Bill 2023](#) (Commonwealth) outlining our proposed amendments to the draft legislation.

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

Throughout 2023, our team offered valuable insights and expertise at events speaking on key issues and appearing on expert panels. These events included the *#ACannabis Conference*, the *NSW HIV and Related Programs (HARP) Forum*, the *United in Compassion 2023: Australian Medicinal Cannabis Symposium*, and a *European Network of People Who Use Drugs (EuroNPUD)* event.

“The evidence shows that, as drug laws and their enforcement become tougher, illicit substances become more harmful and they become more varied.”

DR KAREN GELB, PENINGTON INSTITUTE MANAGER, RESEARCH AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

SPEAKING AT A HEARING FOR THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON LAW ENFORCEMENT'S INQUIRY.

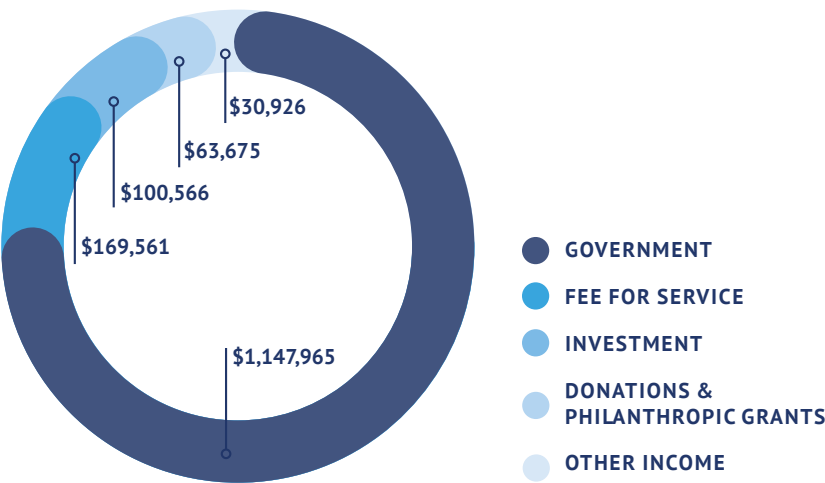
Governance and Financials

Penington Institute receives strong corporate governance leadership through our Board with the support of our Advisory Committees: the Finance, Audit and Risk Management Committee and the Communications Advisory Group.

Penington Institute generated \$1.51 million in revenue in 2022-2023.

Accounting firm Crowe Australasia externally audits Penington Institute's annual financial statements.

PENINGTON INSTITUTE REVENUE 2022-2023



FUNDING PARTNERS

Penington Institute would like to extend our sincere thanks to our funding partners. It is through the support of these partnerships that we can achieve our vision of communities that are safe, healthy, and empowered to manage substance use.

GOVERNMENT

Department of Health, State Government of Victoria

Department of Health and Aged Care, Australian Government

ORGANISATIONS

Camurus AB
Indivior PLC
The Masimo Foundation

MAJOR DONORS

Professor David Penington AC (dec.)
Dr Sonay Hussein



Thank you

To frontline workers, to our partners, and to the many grassroots community groups and volunteers around the world who also support our work – thank you. Your commitment to reducing harm and to evidence-based drug policy is exceptional.

To our generous donors – thank you. Your incredible support helps us stay at the forefront of research and community education, train frontline workers, and grow high-impact campaigns such as International Overdose Awareness Day, among other vital work.

We warmly welcome all donations [here](#).

Penington Institute

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