

ADVOCACY TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Members State Training Consultative Group

Dear TCG Member

I am writing to let you know about the transition from the Training Information Program (TIP) to the new Advocacy Training and Development Programme (ATDP).

The ATDP was established from a review into advocacy, by the late Brigadier Bill Rolfe, and workshops held with different representatives from Ex-Service Organisations (ESOs). The program was endorsed by the Ex-service Organisation Round Table and subsequently by the then Minister for Veterans' Affairs, Senator the Hon Michael Ronaldson, as a more contemporary approach to advocacy training.

The ATDP will see the introduction of:

- a nationally consistent and accredited advocacy training program;
- stronger ties with ESOs by expanding access to support and mentoring for advocates; and
- a Community of Practice that supports advocates in the delivery of services to the Veteran Community.

From 1 July 2016, the ATDP will commence managing TIP and will progressively replace TIP courses with ATDP courses. This means there will be minimal changes to how things operate for the remainder of this calendar year.

Below is some additional information about the program that may be of interest to you. I have also enclosed a copy of the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) about the ATDP.

Governance

The ATDP is managed under the following governance structures:

- **Strategic Governance Board (SGB)** which provides strategic oversight of the Programme;
- **Capability Framework Management Group (CFMG)** which is responsible for designing and implementing the program; and
- **new Regional Management Groups** which are responsible for the day to day administration of the program.

TIP/ATDP Courses

From 1 July 2016, existing TIP courses scheduled at the TIP website www.TIP.org.au will continue to run as scheduled; however these will be managed under the new ATDP governance structures which will see the progressive transition of TIP courses over to ATDP courses.

ESOs will also be asked to apply a selection criteria to nominate new applicants from this date to ensure they have the prerequisites for the courses. I have also enclosed a copy of the Guidelines for the selection of trainees for the ATDP for you information.

Accreditation/RPL

The ATDP is working closely with a Registered Training Organisation to ensure accreditation and Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) frameworks are easily facilitated with minimal impact to advocates. We understand that an advocate's time is valuable and better spent serving the veteran community. We are exploring different options for the RPL that supports the different needs and circumstances of advocates. Further information on this will be available in the coming months.

Welfare

The ATDP is currently developing Level 1 and 2 Welfare courses that will include up-to-date information on aged care reforms and how to connect clients to these services.

Transfer of Expertise

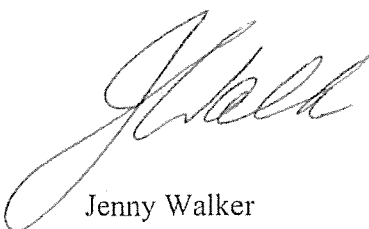
The SGB is harnessing the expertise of TIP into the development and design of the ATDP frameworks and courses as there is a fantastic wealth of knowledge and experience that can add enormous value to the program.

Have Further Questions?

Should you or your members require further information about the ATDP or have a question that is not covered under the FAQs, you can email ATDPenquiries@dva.gov.au or check the Department's website www.dva.gov.au which will be updated as information becomes available.

I would appreciate you sharing this information within your community so that there is broad understanding of, and support for, this important development in advocacy training.

Yours sincerely



Jenny Walker
Chair
Strategic Governance Board
Advocacy Training and Development Programme

22 June 2016