

ACOSH

Australian Council on Smoking and Health

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TOBACCO CONTROL MEDAL FOR PAUL BOYATZIS

The 2010 Bob Elphick Medal for an outstanding contribution to tobacco control has been awarded to the Executive Director of the Australian Medical Association in WA, Paul Boyatzis.

The Bob Elphick Medal is awarded annually by the Australian Council on Smoking and Health (ACOSH) in memory of Dr Bob Elphick, a distinguished and pioneering chest physician who was President of ACOSH from its inception in 1971. This award has been made in recognition of Paul Boyatzis' contributions to recent developments in WA and his tireless and committed support for action to reduce smoking over more than twenty years.

Minister for Health Dr Kim Hames said, "Paul has been unwavering in his position to stamp out smoking in Western Australia for more than 20 years.

"I have been privileged to have a long association with him and his passion for public health and smoking cessation is evident in everything he does."

ACOSH President, Professor Mike Daube said, "Paul Boyatzis has made a remarkable contribution to tobacco control in WA and nationally. He has been a crucial figure in all the developments over more than two decades that have made Western Australia a national and international leader in reducing smoking.

"Paul's support for prevention overall and tobacco control in particular has been staunch and unremitting. It is in large part thanks to his efforts that we have an outstanding record of action, from banning tobacco advertising to getting cigarette displays banned at retail outlets, as well as an array of measures protecting non smokers.

"Paul Boyatzis has been one of the unsung heroes of tobacco control. His work has contributed to preventing literally thousands of premature deaths."

AMA (WA) President A/Prof David Mountain said the association had been a courageous and relentless campaigner for smoking reform and never took a backward step in challenging governments to put the health of the community first.

"As Executive Director of the AMA(WA) Paul has been the driving force behind this campaign and richly deserves the recognition that comes with this award," he said.

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