

## From down under – Australian Safe Communities

Australia has a total of eleven communities accredited and committed to promoting the Safe Community model – they range in size from 4,500 to 250,000 people.

In addition to these communities there are two Affiliate Support Centres. Both are located in Melbourne, Victoria – one at Monash University Accident Research Centre, the other at the Safety Centre of the Royal Children's Hospital. The 11 accredited communities and the support centres have all come about since 1994, but the effort to promote safety has gone much further.

Two major concentrations of development in community safety promotion are in the states of New South Wales and Victoria.

The NSW SafeComm is a jointly funded community safety initiative between State Government departments, the NSW Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA) and NSW Health. A three-year pilot programme is being run at Gundagai, Macleay and Kiama, and is the first phase of a broader “whole of government” initiative in which NSW Health will attempt to form partnerships with other major government sectors. The aim is to promote the development of local infrastructure to sustain injury prevention initiatives in NSW.

A State Management Committee was set up in 1999 to formalise the partnership between NSW Health and the RTA and determine the parameters of the programme.

NSW SafeComm has held a number of network meetings and symposia in an effort to build and develop the growing network of “Safe Communities” and to highlight the profile of the model to potential partners. NSW Health has recently started discussions with State Government departments, such as NSW Fire Brigades, the Motor Accidents Authority, the Attorney General’s Office and the Department of Planning & Urban Affairs, about the potential for a formal Safe Communities partnership arrangement at state level.

The Victorian Safe Communities Network (VSCN) enjoyed a successful year in 2000. Highlights included:

- The accreditation of the City of Melbourne as a WHO Safe Community in April. Melbourne is the first capital city in the southern hemisphere to join the WHO Network of Safe Communities, and joins two other Victorian municipalities in the network, namely the City of Hume and the City of Latrobe (from 1996).

- Involvement in the international symposium “Community Safety in Major Urban Environments, 3–7



*Launch of Community Safety Week 2000 in Victoria  
(From left) Sharon Landers (VSCN Executive- Melb Fire Community safety) Henk Harberts; (Chair of VSCN - City of Latrobe) Carmen Lee (VSCN Project - Monash Uni); Michael Bourne (Director of Crime Prevention Victoria,) Hon. Steve Bracks, Premier of Victoria, Elizabeth Logan (VSCN Exec and Safety Centre RCH ); Caroline Jackson (Community Safety Coordinator with Dept of Justice, Vic); Hon. Andre Haermeyer (Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Corrections)*

April, hosted by the City of Melbourne as part of its accreditation. The VSCN conducted a 2-day travelling seminar to visit accredited and aspiring Safe Communities. Monash University Accident Research Centre, an Affiliate Support Centre, hosted the WHO Safe Communities Affiliate Support Centres meeting “Towards a Safe Communities Research Agenda” during the symposium.

- The cities of Wangaratta, Moreland and Port Phillip met with Professor Leif Svanstrom during the Melbourne symposium to discuss the accreditation process. Another 5 communities plan to seek accreditation in future.

- The Community Safety Week “Live, Work, Play, Safe”, September, 2000, was coordinated by the Department of Justice.

- Visit by a delegation from South Korea in November. Researchers from Ajou University, Suwon and an official from Suwon Municipality visited to learn about Victorian experiences.

Safe Communities are also accredited in South Australia and Western Australia, while Queensland and Tasmania have activities underway ... Australia, a safer place to stay and visit!

Henk Harberts

Latrobe City, Victoria

Complete text at <http://www.phs.ki.se/csp/safecom-news/default.htm>

# Courses

*Important research course for postgraduates!*

## 2<sup>nd</sup> International Course on the Global Burden of Injury 10-14 September 2001 Stockholm, Sweden

The topic of this course is macro-level determinants of safety and their implications for prevention policy and planning. It was held for the first time in October-November 2000 at Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm, and attracted participants from all over the world.

The course is given in direct conjunction with the 4th International Ph.D. course on Safety Promotion Research at the same institute, in order to facilitate participation in both courses for international students.

For further details, see enclosed announcement. You are also welcome to contact the course secretariat: Moa Sundström E-mail: moa.sundstrom@socmed.sll.se Fax: + 46 8 517 793 30

We welcome your application from 2 April- 2 May on  
[http://edu.ki.se/research/courses/index\\_se.html](http://edu.ki.se/research/courses/index_se.html)  
Leif Svanström    Ragnar Andersson    Alex Butchart  
Professor              Professor              Assoc. Professor

## 4<sup>th</sup> International Course on Safety Research

**First week: Accidents and Risks**

**10-15 June 2001, Tampere, Finland**

**Second week: Safety Promotion**

**3-8 February 2002, Åby (Norrköping), Sweden**

**The programme is available at: [www.niva.org](http://www.niva.org)**

**Course secretary: Pirjo Turtiainen, NIVA**

**Topeliuksenkatu 41 a A**

**FIN-00250 Helsinki, Finland**

**Phone: +358 9 4747 2349; Fax: +358 9 4747 2497**

**E-mail:[pirjo.turtiainen@occuphealth.fi](mailto:pirjo.turtiainen@occuphealth.fi)**

## 2<sup>nd</sup> South Asian Human Rights and Peace Studies Orientation Course

**1-15 September 2001, Kathmandu, Nepal**

**Deadline for application: 15 April**

**For information:**

**South Asia Forum for Human Rights (SAFHR)**

**Jagat Acharya, Peace studies desk**

**GPO Box 12855, Kathmandu, Nepal**

**Phone: +977-1-541026 Fax: +977-1-527852**

**E-mail: [south@safhr.org](mailto:south@safhr.org)**

# Conferences

## 11<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Safe Communities 7-9 May 2002 Fort Frances, Ontario Canada

**For information:**  
The Rainy River Valley Safety Coalition  
P.O. Box 124  
Fort Frances, ON, Canada P9A 3M7  
Phone: +1-807-274-2823  
Fax: +1-807-274-2823  
E-mail:[who2002@hotmail.com](mailto:who2002@hotmail.com)  
[www.who2002.com](http://www.who2002.com)

## 6<sup>th</sup> World Conference Injury Prevention and Control 12-15 May 2002 Montréal, Québec Canada

**Deadline for abstracts: 15 September 2001**  
Phone: +1-514-848-1133  
Fax: +1-514 2888-6469  
e-mail:[trauma@coplanor.qc.ca](mailto:trauma@coplanor.qc.ca)  
[www.trauma2002.com](http://www.trauma2002.com)

**Number 1, 2001**

**Editor: Moa Sundström**

**WHO COLLABORATING**

**CENTRE ON COMMUNITY**

**SAFETY PROMOTION,**

**KAROLINSKA INSTITUTET**

**Department of Public Health Sciences,**

**Division of Social Medicine**

**SE-171 76 Stockholm**

**SWEDEN**



**Phone: +46 8 517 779 48**

**Fax: +46 8 517 793 30**

**E-mail: [moa.sundstrom@socmed.sll.se](mailto:moa.sundstrom@socmed.sll.se)**

**<http://www.phs.ki.se/csp>**