



MEDIA RELEASE

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## **Forums Open: Top tips for parents on teen drinking and the new law**

VIC: Parents are today being invited to schools across Victoria to learn more about teen drinking and the new secondary supply law in their local community. The Australian Drug Foundation has today released locations of the community forums, which are about to commence in ten regions around the state.

John Rogerson, CEO Australian Drug Foundation, said today that the forums are a chance for parents to get a better understanding of how they can influence when and how much their children drink, and how the law applies to them.

The community forums are part of a broader community and education campaign being rolled out by the Victorian Government in conjunction with the Australian Drug Foundation and VicHealth.

"These forums will not only help parents understand the new legislation but will give practical advice on how to discuss alcohol issues with their children," said Mr Rogerson.

The secondary supply law now makes it illegal to serve alcohol in a private home to anyone under 18 years, unless their parent or guardian has given permission. Adults who break the new law face fines over \$7,000.

The free forums will be presented by experts from the Australian Drug Foundation and the Barwon Adolescent Taskforce (BATForce) and will cover:

- the new secondary supply law;
- alcohol related harms in young people; and
- parenting strategies to prevent alcohol problems in young people.

"These forums are integral to building stronger communities. They'll get parents talking to each other as well as their own children about an important issue which affects all young people today. I'm extremely pleased that parents have been given this opportunity and would encourage everyone to go along and hear what the experts have to say."



**Community Forum dates and locations:**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Region</b>	<b>Venue</b>
14-Mar	Frankston, South Metro	Carrum Downs Secondary College
28-Mar	Geelong	Oberon High School
18-Apr	Hume, North Metro	Gladstone Park Secondary College
23-Apr	Glenelg, South West	Portland Secondary College
9-May	Whitehorse, East Metro	Vermont Secondary College
10-May	Gippsland	Bairnsdale Secondary College
16-May	Grampians	Horsham College
22-May	Shepparton	Wanganui Park Secondary College
23-May	Loddon Mallee	Swan Hill College
2-May	Melton, West Metro	Caroline Springs College, Lakeview Campus

Places are limited so register for your local forum today at [www.teendrinkinglaw.vic.gov.au](http://www.teendrinkinglaw.vic.gov.au)

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