

**President's Speech  
PACCOA Official Opening Ceremony  
9.00am 17 October 2006.**

**The Honourable Tony Kelly, NSW Minister for Justice  
Mr Ron Woodham, Commissioner for NSW Dept for Corrective Services  
State & Territory & New Zealand Community Corrections Directors  
Guest Speakers: Professor David Wilson, Bill Whyte, John Bergman  
Special Guest: Mr Kang Ho-Sung, Chief of South Seoul Probation & Parole,  
Ministry of Justice, South Korea  
PACCOA members  
Ladies and gentlemen.**

Welcome to the 2006 Annual PACCOA Conference which has returned to Sydney after travelling to all of the Australian states and territories. PACCOA has grown in numbers and stature since the first conference was held in the Parramatta Leagues Club in 1988. The current PACCOA Executive appreciates the efforts of those inaugural delegates gathered from all states and territories who worked together to a national body to represent the interests of Australian Probation & Parole Officers. No doubt thanks to much hard work by all the delegates and sub delegates over the years the vision of the PACCOA founders has come to fruition. We applaud those inaugural delegates who are still committed enough to be here with us today and remember those that would have liked to be here. So as we here today I would like to take a minute to thank and introduce the current PACCOA Executive who has worked extremely hard to make the 2006 PACCOA Conference possible.

So please stand up:

Glenda Milne & Julie Webber (NSW)

Wayne Voak (Treasurer, WA)

Desi Poursanidis (A/Secretary, Vic)

Christine Lancaster (ACT)

Jay Lequertier (Qld)

Stephen Muller (SA)

Kevin Broomhall (Website Administrator, Tas) unfortunately absent through injury.

We wish him a speedy recovery.

I wish to thank all the Community Corrections Administrators for their personal support and the support of the Departments that they represent. Some of the PACCOA administrative business is conducted during work hours such as the telephone conference meetings, general telephone calls, emails and we are grateful for the use of departmental equipment and facilities. Thank you for allowing this to happen. Also thank you to the various departments for providing sponsorship enabling PACCOA members to get to the conferences. I know you get extremely good value for money as you cannot get this quality of training for the same money anywhere in Australia. The PACCOA members that are here are dedicated enough to their job to pay money to attend these conferences to increase their knowledge and skills which they take back to their work places. However without the help of the various Corrections or Justice Departments these conferences would not be possible. Thank you.

A particular thank you to Corrections Victoria for their support of PACCOA and providing the training on the third day of this conference.

Thank you to our overseas and other guest speakers for travelling so far and giving up their time to provide their expertise to our conference. We look forward to hearing from them later today. Also thank you to our presenters from all around Australia who have put their own time into their presentations to share their experience and knowledge with their colleagues. The contribution and support of the PACCOA members attending the conferences makes future conferences possible.

Finally but not least, thank you to the NSW Department for Corrective Services for their support of PACCOA from the start, the first conference in 1998 and through to this conference convened back in Sydney in 2006. It will be a pleasure to hear from Mr Ron Woodham, Commissioner for Corrective Services after first listening to the Minister for Justice, the Honourable Tony Kelly when he has officially opened this conference, who we also thank for giving up his time to be with us today.

However, before I ask the Minister for Justice to address the audience there is a number of house keeping matters that I need to make everyone aware of:

- No smoking in the Conference Venue.
- The ladies and gents toilets are in hall way behind us.
- Morning tea, Lunches and Afternoon Tea is served buffet style in the room just outside of this auditorium.
- The conference dinner at 21.00 hours is on the South Steyne, the ship moored in Darling Harbour near the Piermont footbridge within staggering distance of the local accommodation where some people are staying.
- In the event of a fire, terrorist attack or other significant event such as a king tide and we need to evacuate this building, you will hear a siren and you are required to follow directions from the Dockside Convention Centre staff, wearing the usual coloured hard hat and directing you to safer higher ground behind the convention centre.

This year the conference organising committee have selected an important topic for Corrections / Justice Agencies. It is hoped this conference will enable the agencies and their staff to exchange ideas and practices to work together to deal with this mutual dilemma to aid in the rehabilitation of offenders and manage them assisting in the protection of the public. We look forward to the usual PACCOA spirit of cooperation and shared learning evolving yet again from this PACCOA Conference.

On that note, it is now my pleasure to ask the NSW Minister for Justice to address this audience and officially open the conference. Ladies and gentlemen please welcome the Honourable Tony Kelly. Thank you.