

Inaugural National Outdoor Education Risk Management Conference

20 September, 2007 | Ballarat, Victoria

"Innovation through risk management"



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Hosted by:



Outdoor Education A u s t r a l i a
Network of Outdoor Education Associations

Welcome to the Inaugural National Outdoor Education Risk Management Conference.

This conference has been developed as a forum for managers, coordinators, principals, teachers and leaders of outdoor and experiential programs with school-based and other dependent groups. Four keynote presentations and a facilitated panel discussion will explore how risk management can be a proactive and innovative planning and management tool.

The conference also provides an opportunity for discussion and debate about how our profession can proactively address the concerns and questions that those we work with may hold.

We welcome your feedback on this conference and invite your suggestions for topics for the next National Outdoor Education Risk Management Conference.

Conference Program

Registration

9.00am – 9.30am

Welcome

9.30am – 9.45am

James McIntosh

Chair, Outdoor Education Australia

First Keynote Presentation

9.45am – 10.30am

Preston Cline (USA)

President, Adventure Incorporated

The opening keynote presentation from Preston Cline will frame the conference by establishing the philosophical basis for risk management in outdoor education. Preston's masters thesis into the etymology and evolution of risk gave him the opportunity to reflect on how our western culture approaches risk.

Along with this academic experience Preston also has hundreds of days in the field leading remote wilderness trips allowing him to maintain a practical focus on how risk management moves from being a passive set of documents to being actively applied in the field.

Notes:

Morning tea

10.30am – 11.15am

Second Keynote Presentation

11.15am – 12.00pm

Grant Davidson (New Zealand)

Director, Edmund Hillary Outdoor Pursuits Centre

Grant will share with delegates the findings from his research in which he sought to understand the root causes of outdoor education incidents.

Delegates will have the opportunity to hear how incidents evolve and some of the strategies that can be applied in the planning phase and on program to contribute towards effective risk management.

Notes:

Lunch

12.00pm – 1.00pm

Third Keynote Presentation

1.00pm – 1.45pm

Clare Dallat (Australia)

Director of Risk Management, The Outdoor Education Group

Clare's international experience and recent masters thesis on risk communication has given her new insights into how we take the practice of risk management and share that with colleagues, parents, managers and outside agencies. She will help you to consider what language you speaking when you talk about the management of risk so that those listening actually understand.

Notes:

Table discussion

1.45pm – 2.00pm

Fourth Keynote Presentation

2.00pm – 2.45pm

Peter Wilkinson (Australia)

Manager Risk Portfolio Branch, Department of Education (Victoria)

Coming from a senior position in the state education department responsible for managing risk across a wide range of contexts Peter is in an ideal position to share with delegates how senior levels of a bureaucracy approach risk management and how their perspective can impact on the practice of outdoor education. Peter will demonstrate to delegates how risk can be used as a tool for review, influence, and for innovation.

Notes:

Afternoon tea
2.45pm – 3.15pm

Panel Discussion
3.15pm – 4.00pm

The facilitated panel discussion will ask a range of leaders from the outdoor education and risk management fields their perspectives on how outdoor education is changing and where the changes are coming from. Questions we put to these leaders were:

- How will your programs be different in 3 years time?
- What will drive changes to your program?
- Will your approach to risk management change in the next three years?
- What may influence changes to your risk management planning?
- How can we as a profession respond to outside challenges and opportunities?

David Summers (National Outdoor Leadership School - Australia/NZ) Glen Mollenhauer (Queensland Department of Communities the Northern Outlook) Lyn Willcocks, Wilderness Medicine Institute) Sue Donoghue (Canberra Grammar School) Ian Boyle (Scots College Glengarry)

Notes:

Risk Management Resources

Outdoor Education Australia – Safety & Risk Management

<http://www.outdooreducationaustralia.org.au/resources/safety.htm>

Adventure Management

<http://www.adventureincorporated.com/main.htm>

Education department guidelines

Safety Guidelines for Education Outdoors (Victoria)

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/management/schooloperations/edoutdoors>

Curriculum Activity Risk Management Modules (Queensland)

<http://education.qld.gov.au/strategic/epr/health/hlspr012/index1.html>

Outdoor and Adventure Activities policy (ACT)

http://www.det.act.gov.au/policies/pdf/outdoor_adventures.pdf

Outdoor Education Guidelines (Tasmania)

<http://www.education.tas.gov.au/school/educators/health/outdoors>

Outdoor Education and Recreation Activities (Western Australia)

http://policies.det.wa.edu.au/our_policies/ti_view?uid=b1c96fce893c0a90d83eaf9e2561a95b&iview=summary_view

Safety and Education Outside the Classroom (New Zealand)

http://www.tki.org.nz/r/eotc/resources/safety_e.php

Health & Safety on Educational Visits (United Kingdom)

<http://www.teachernet.gov.uk/wholeschool/healthandsafety/visits/>



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