## Important information: Working with Children Checks

Dear All CAMS Officials,

As some of you may be aware, the Victorian State Government has made amendments to the Working with Children Check Act 2005 that will come into effect on **1 August 2017**.

These changes will now require ALL Victorian Officials to obtain a Working with Children Check as part of their licence. These amendments are being made following a Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse.

Information regarding the changes can be found here:

 $\underline{http://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au/home/about+the+check/purpose/changes+to+legislation/about+the+check/purpose/changes-the-check/purpose/check/purpose/changes-the-check/purpose/check/purpose$ 

For those officials who already hold a valid check, details will need to be emailed to workingwithchildren@cams.com.au

The email should include:

- Your full name;
- CAMS licence number:
- Working with Children Check number/reference;
- Working with Children Check expiry date;
- a scanned copy/photograph of the card.

For those that don't currently have a check, one can be obtained free of charge from the following link: <a href="http://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au/home/applications/apply+for+a+check/apply+in+victoria">http://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au/home/applications/apply+for+a+check/apply+in+victoria</a>

To begin the application, hit the blue 'start application' box at the bottom of the page. Once the online application is complete, you will need to visit an Australia Post outlet to verify your identity free of charge. Once you receive approval, please email the same details as above to <a href="https://www.workingwithchildren@cams.com.au">workingwithchildren@cams.com.au</a>

These checks are compulsory for Victorian Officials and need to be applied for by 1 August. Any official who is yet to provide their details by this date will be ineligible to participate in CAMS permitted events until they do so.

Presently Victoria is the only state expanding their definition of 'direct contact' and removing references to 'Supervision', however CAMS anticipate that other State Governments will adopt these amendments over the next 12 months. CAMS recommends officials in other States be proactive and obtain a check.

We have generated a list of Frequently Asked Questions that can be found here

Please direct all queries to workingwithchildren@cams.com.au

Kind regards, Curtis Deboy Officials Manager