

MEDIA RELEASE

Date: Tuesday, 15 July 2008



Bogong racks up new personal best in GP drive

The Region's peak GP training body is making inroads in its drive to attract more doctors to the region.

For the first time ever, Bogong Regional Training Network has attracted more first round preferences for its GP training places than it has available.

Bogong Regional Training Network provides training for general practitioners in the Border, North East Victorian and Goulburn Valley Divisions of General Practice - an area that includes Albury Wodonga, Wangaratta, Benalla, Yarrawonga and Shepparton.

The applications for 2009 GP training places in the Bogong region came through a national process that is coordinated by GPET (www.agpt.com.au).

Bogong Chief Executive, Ms Nicki Melville, welcomed news of the surge in applications, part of a national trend which saw GP applications rise overall by 20 per cent.

"Last year we filled all 18 of our advertised GP registrar training places for the first time."

"This year Bogong RTN has topped that achievement ! This result means that we will have even greater choice and capacity to match the skills and interests of GPs with the health needs of our communities."

A panel from Bogong Regional Training Network will interview applicants for its training places in Wangaratta in mid-August, with successful candidates being matched to a local supervising teaching practice for commencement in February 2009

According to Ms Melville, Bogong is proving to be a leading choice for medical graduates who want to practice in a diverse, rural environment with proximity to capital cities.

"We're attractive because we can offer GPs a great lifestyle, diverse and challenging career opportunities and first class training," concluded Ms Melville.

Photo opportunity: Representatives from Bogong Regional Training Network will attend a national GPET convention in Wollongong next month. As part of the conference theme '*Further, Higher, Stronger - Achieving a personal best through teamwork*', Bogong is hosting a national 'virtual torch relay' through its website.

Bogong Chairman Dr Phillip Steele and Ms Nicki Melville will be available for interviews at Bogong Regional Training Network offices in Wodonga from **3pm on Wednesday 16 July**

For further information please contact:
Mary-Anne Scully, Media Consultant – **Tel: 0408 685 225**