



**MEDIA RELEASE
WEDNESDAY 11 JUNE 2014**

**ONE NOMINATION IS ALL IT TAKES -
NOMINATIONS OPEN FOR 2015 AUSTRALIAN OF THE YEAR AWARDS**

Nominate now at australianoftheyear.org.au

Nominations close 1 August 2014

The National Australia Day Council today called on all Australians to have their say on who should be the 2015 Australian of the Year by nominating inspirational Australians from the community.

The Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia and 2001 Australian of the Year, His Excellency General the Honourable Sir Peter Cosgrove AK MC (Rtd) officially opened the nominations for the 2015 Awards program at an event hosted by long-term sponsor Commonwealth Bank in Sydney this morning.

The current Australian of the Year Adam Goodes, Senior Australian of the Year Fred Chaney AO, Young Australian of the Year Jacqueline Freney OAM and Australia's Local Hero Tim Conolan attended to show their support for the call for nominations.

Each year, the *Australian of the Year Awards* recognise 128 remarkable Australians in eight States and Territories. The public is asked to nominate Australians to be considered for the four Award categories:

- Australian of the Year
- Senior Australian of the Year (60 years and over)
- Young Australian of the Year (16-30 years)
- Australia's Local Hero

National Australia Day Council Chair Adam Gilchrist said while the awards honour great Australians each year, it is the Australian public who play a key role in finding the award recipients each year.

"Since 1960, the Australian of the Year Awards have recognised the very best among us - those who make us proud, those whose achievements we admire, those whose work brings about profound change and those who are committed to helping others," said Adam

"But in true Australian style, it's up to the people of this nation to say who should be considered for the awards by nominating someone they find inspiring - you tell us who we should consider for the awards and just one nomination is all it takes to have your say."

Adam Goodes, 2014 Australian of the Year, said nominating someone for the Awards was a powerful act.

"It's really important to acknowledge people doing good things, so if you're seeing someone doing great work in the community, I encourage you to submit a nomination for them so they can be recognised for what they do," said Adam.

WITH THANKS TO
OUR MAJOR SPONSOR

CommonwealthBank



Commonwealth Bank has supported the Australian of the Year Awards for more than 35 years.

“The Australian of the Year Awards are an important celebration of those who make significant contributions to Australian society,” said Chief Marketing Officer, Vittoria Shortt.

“Their achievements inspire all of us to not only reach our own potential but also to recognise those around us who are making a difference to our communities.

“With the 2015 nominations now open, you can reward the contribution of Australians you believe deserve this ultimate community accolade.”

Nominations for all Award categories can be made online at australianoftheyear.org.au or call 1300 655 193 for more information and for assistance if you don't have internet access.

Go online to submit a nomination **before 1 August 2014** - one nomination is all it takes to shine a light on an Australian you admire.

ENDS.

Audio grabs: Audio grabs of Adam Goodes, 2014 Australian of the Year, talking about nominating for the Awards available for download after 10:30am Wednesday 11 June from:
<http://www.australianoftheyear.org.au/news-and-media/>

Live Broadcast Feed: Live broadcast feed of today's launch available for access via Globecast DVOC on TX1. Any queries or problems contact Globecast bookings on 02 8258 7979.

For further media information about the Australian of the Year Awards or interviews contact:

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