



MEDIA RELEASE

Minister for Health and Ageing

Tony Abbott MHR

24 April 2007

ABB042/07

New Healthy Active Ambassadors

Seven-times world champion surfer Layne Beachley is one of seven current and former champions from a variety of sports who have joined the Commonwealth Government's Healthy Active Ambassador program.

Layne, together with former rugby union champion Simon Poidevin; the first Australian to join the American Football League, Colin Scotts; rugby league players Greg Inglis and Nathan Hindmarsh; runner John Steffensen and swimmer Brooke Hanson will join existing ambassadors, Socceroo Harry Kewell, chef Luke Mangan, children's group Hi-5, and cricketers Brett Lee and Michael Clarke, in promoting the benefits of physical activity and healthy eating.

The Healthy Active Ambassador program is an initiative of the Commonwealth Government, funded under the Australian Better Health Initiative.

The two-year program encourages young people, in particular, to adopt a healthy lifestyle, become more active and make smart food choices.

Ambassadors will work closely with the media and in schools to help spread messages about good nutrition and physical activity.

More information on the ambassador program is at www.healthyactive.gov.au

For more information call Mr Abbott's office on ph 02 6277 7220.