

# ANNUAL REPORT 2010-2011



**Physical Disability Council of NSW**

*ordinary people. ordinary lives*

# THE YEAR IN REVIEW

# 2010-11

## **2010-2011 has been a proactive year, with significant achievements.**

### **We adopted a new constitution**

To ensure that PDCN remains relevant as an organisation a new constitution was adopted (page 18)

### **We developed a new strategic plan**

To provide a framework for the organisation we developed a new Strategic plan (page 18)

### **We provided accessible and relevant information**

In the past year the use of the online guide on the PDCN website grew by 276% (page 8)

### **We contributed to safety**

PDCN received a grant to develop and deliver a workshop on 'Emergency Readiness and Response' (page 10)

### **We mentored students with physical disability**

Through a grant we developed and implemented the 'Mentors Matter' programme to connect students with adult mentors (page 11)

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**pdcn**  
Physical Disability Council of NSW  
Ordinary People Ordinary Lives

**bqcu**  
Brisbane Queensland Community Unit  
Ordinary People Ordinary Lives

# CONTRIBUTORS

Thank you to all who have supported the work of PDCN during 2010-2011.

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## FINANCIAL SUPPORT

**Ageing, Disability and Home Care,  
NSW Department of Human Services**  
for a financial grant

**St George Foundation**  
for a grant to develop and conduct a mentoring program  
*Mentors Matter*

**NRMA**  
for a grant to develop and conduct two *Emergency  
Preparedness* Workshops

**Council of the City of Sydney**  
for support through their Accommodation Grants program,  
and a grant to conduct a *Defining Pathways* Workshop

**Australia-Sino Education Service and  
Culture Exchange Centre, Grand Aust Tour**  
for donations of office items

## IN-KIND SUPPORT

**Members of the Committee of Management**  
for their time and governance of the organisation.

**Luke Morris Design**  
for the design of the PDCN logo and the 2009-2010  
Annual Report

**Andrew Longhurst, Ben Williams, Denise Beckwith,  
Jo Ragen, Julie Stonestreet, Lachlan Hazelton,  
Mary Vierboom, Sophie Marmont**  
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for work associated with policy review and submissions, and  
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General Meeting

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for catering assistance before and during the 2010 Annual  
General Meeting

**Leonie Hazelton**  
for catering assistance during the 2010 Annual  
General Meeting

**Bill McKee**  
for his role as the Returning Officer for the 2010 Annual  
General Meeting

## COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

(as at 30.06.11)

**Ann-Mason Fumage**  
President

**Neil von Schill**  
Vice-President

**Andrew Longhurst**  
Secretary

**Peter Simpson**  
Treasurer

**Kevin Finlayson**  
Member

**Patricia Davies**  
Member from April 2011

## EMPLOYEES

**Ruth Robinson**  
Executive Officer

**Lachlan Hazelton**  
Media Officer

**Jordana Goodman**  
Policy Officer

**Ben Williams**  
Assistant Policy Officer

**Alison Vella**  
Accounts and Membership Officer

## CONTRACTED SERVICES

**Annette Mitchell**  
Researcher

**Jodie Were**  
Website design and support from 'Sanifu Designs'

**IT team**  
Computer support from 'Bootstrap'

**David Fearnley**  
Auditing services from 'DA Fearnley & Co'

**Randall Pearce**  
Strategic planning from 'Think: Insight & Advice'

# PHYSICAL DISABILITY COUNCIL OF NSW

## ORGANISATION PROFILE

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The Physical Disability Council of NSW is the peak body representing people with physical disabilities across New South Wales. PDCN is a not-for-profit, non-government organisation.

### MEMBERSHIP

Individual membership of PDCN includes people with a range of physical disability issues, from young children and their representatives to aged people. Members live across New South Wales, from the Greater Sydney Metropolitan area to rural NSW, and are from a wide range of socioeconomic circumstances.

Organisational membership includes community organisations, human service providers and other organisations who have a commitment to people who have physical disability and to the work of PDCN.

### GOAL

As an organisation we will grow the financial and non-financial capacity of PDCN to represent people experiencing physical disability.

### VISION

As people living with physical disability we strive to ensure that our human rights are protected, our equality of opportunity is assured and our full participation is a reality.

### MISSION

Using a community development approach, we will:

- 1 Educate, inform and assist people experiencing physical disability to access services.
- 2 Develop the capacity of people living with physical disability to advocate for themselves.
- 3 Educate and inform stakeholders about the needs of people living with physical disability.

### VALUES

As we implement our vision, we will be guided by our values:

Integrity  
Inclusion  
Independence  
Commitment  
Communication

## CONTACT PDCN

St Helens Community Centre  
3/184 Glebe Point Rd. Glebe 2037

T: (02) 9552 1606  
1800 688 831(freecall outside  
the Sydney metropolitan area)

E: Admin@pdcnsw.org.au

F: (02) 9552 4644

National Relay Service

TTY users:  
1800 555-677 then ask  
for (02) 9552 1606

Speak and Listen users:  
1300 555-727 then ask  
for (02) 9552-1606

# REPORT

## FROM THE PRESIDENT AND EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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It is our pleasure to provide the Annual report to you for the year 2010-2011. This has been a year when we have again built on developing strengths and sought new ways to meet the objectives of the organisation.

During this financial year PDCN has been given the opportunity to see “where we are at”. As part of a strategic planning process independent interviews were conducted with major stakeholders, and a survey was completed by our members. Feedback identified that PDCN: is well-known for the ability to cover the full spectrum of issues impacting on people with physical disability (unlike condition-specific groups) and this is the key to its peak status; has staff and volunteers with a disability, adding credibility; that working collaboratively is one of PDCN’s acknowledged strengths; and that PDCN’s greatest strength is its ability to consult its members regularly and widely, adding weight to its government submissions. This is good news for PDCN and reflects the proactive work in which the organisation has been engaged. Some initiatives from the year include:

Development of the Strategic plan for the period 2011-2016. This was the most thorough strategic planning exercise either of us have ever been involved in, and included the elements of: a survey of individual and organisational members; a multi-stakeholder perception study; a strategic planning working committee (25 people with physical disability, and representatives of young persons with physical disability), which developed the strategic plan from information gathered through the surveys and interviews. It is clear that the developed plan reflects the views of people with physical disability in NSW, and will provide PDCN with a solid framework for the years to come.

For the first time since 2003 PDCN has been successful in attracting financial grants from non-government sources. These have enabled PDCN to conduct specific projects that focused on the development of capacity for people with physical disability:

The St George Foundation provided a grant for *Mentors Matter*: young adults with physical disability mentoring high school students with physical disability.

NRMA provided a grant for *Emergency Readiness and Response*: an educational program to develop the capacity of people with a physical disability in NSW to identify their own risks in an emergency situation, and develop a plan to manage those risks in an emergency/ disaster.

The Council of the City of Sydney provided a grant for a workshop *Defining Pathways*: workshops providing opportunities for individuals to identify and focus on issues which are important to them and assisting them to define skills they may need in developing strategies as they work towards attaining a specific goal.

The communications we have received from our formal and informal consultations have informed a sustained body of work on person centred planning and individualised funding for people with physical disability. The most consistent message we receive from people with physical disability from across the state is that they want to be in control of their lives: make their own plans and gain the consistent, reliable support that they identify as essential to enable them to be ordinary people living ordinary lives. PDCN has worked collaboratively and proactively to inform discussion for both the National Disability Insurance Scheme, and person centred planning and individual funding in NSW (in both disability services and HACC services).

Once again we thank the members of the Committee of Management for their work in the governance of the Physical Disability Council of NSW and for the time and effort they give to this vital role. We thank employees, contractors and volunteer contributors who continue to assist in putting into action the PDCN vision through their skill, commitment, enthusiasm, and plain old-fashioned hard work.



**ANN-MASON FURMAGE**

President



**RUTH ROBINSON**

Executive Officer



# OBJECTIVE 1

Objective one of The Physical Disability Council of NSW (as identified in its Constitution) is to educate, inform and assist people with physical disabilities in NSW regarding the range of services, structures and programs available that enable their full participation, equality of opportunity and equality of citizenship. During 2010-2011, PDCN has used a number of tools and strategies in relation to this objective.

## E-BULLETINS

This is a resource and information service through which PDCN provides accurate, up-to-date, and timely information, comment and analysis on disability sector issues. It is also a tool to seek comment from people with disabilities to inform the work of PDCN. During the last year, these included information about workshops, publications and research conducted by PDCN. Also included were issues impacting on people with physical disabilities including voting in elections, and the impact of increasing electricity prices for people with physical disability.

## E-MAIL DISCUSSION GROUP (Fig 1)

During the year, the discussion group provided a vehicle for providing information, and consulting with people with disabilities. 73% of the discussion by group members was an expression of opinion or the recounting of experiences about taxis, privacy, health/medical, communication technology and travel insurance.

## EXPOS

PDCN provides information to people with physical disabilities by participating in Expos, by speaking and providing information to people, and by distributing PDCN information bags. The info bags include copies of newsletters, publications, and brochures about the work of PDCN. During 2010-2011 PDCN participated in two Expos: a Disability Expo at Central Railway Station and the Daily Living Expo at Rosehill.

## FACEBOOK (Fig 2)

In February 2010 PDCN launched its Facebook page. It was considered that a Facebook presence would enable the organisation to use this social networking strategy to reach a broader group of people. PDCN's Facebook page contains information about workshops, community consultations, specific-issue consultations, and provides opportunities for interaction via discussion/comments.

## INFORMATION SERVICE (Fig 3)

During the 2010-2011 year PDCN provided an information service to people who contacted us. The requests were received by telephone, email and fax. The service operates from Monday to Friday, during business hours.

## NEWSLETTERS

During the year PDCN prepared and distributed four newsletters PDCN Live to its membership via email and post. It provided: information about new services (eg the Companion Card); detailed information regarding some of the work of PDCN (eg Access to Premises Standards); an invitation for people with disabilities to provide comment on particular issues to inform the work of PDCN (eg adjustable height examination tables at general practitioners), an opportunity to promote PDCN initiatives (eg the Defining Pathways Workshops). The newsletters were also made available on the PDCN website, distributed when PDCN gave presentations, and distributed in Information Bags at Expos.

## TWITTER

PDCN built on its social networking initiatives by establishing a Twitter presence in May 2011. By the end of the financial year it had 12 followers.

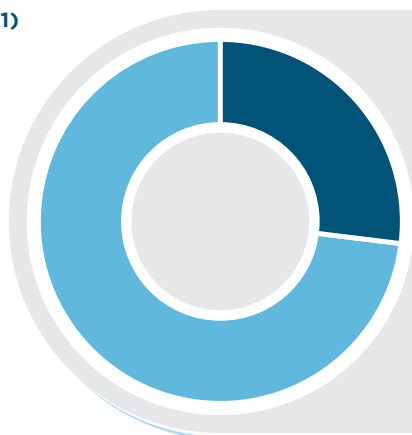
## WEBSITE (Fig 4)

The Website is an important tool of the organisation, and has W3C ranking for disability (as identified under the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines).

The Website contains information about services, structures and programs available and provides an opportunity for contribution to the work of PDCN via electronic surveys. The Website includes an education section for students and holds copies of materials prepared by PDCN including submissions and newsletters. It also provides information about the PDCN email discussion group.



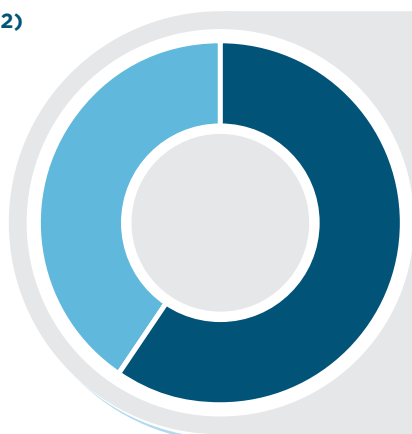
(Fig 1)



### E-MAIL DISCUSSION GROUP

- Having A Say - 27%  
voting, health/medical
- Sharing Information - 73%  
about products , events, each other and PDCN
- Opportunities - 0%  
for accommodation and work

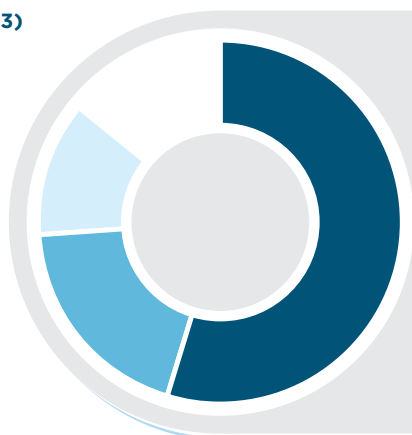
(Fig 2)



### FACE BOOK - 120 Followers

- Female - 57%  
Majority age group: 25-34
- Males - 34%  
Majority age group: 35-44

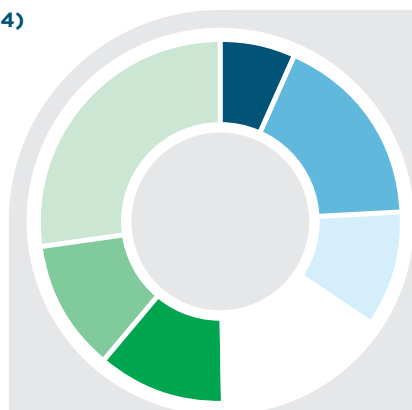
(Fig 3)



### INFORMATION SERVICE

- Referral - 54.8%  
to a particular organisation / service able to address their individual concern (eg individual advocacy)
- Getting About - 19.2%  
relating to transport, access to buildings and parking
- Enabling - 12.1%  
assistive devices (eg wheelchairs)
- Inclusion - 13.9%  
work, education, housing, voting and pensions

(Fig 4)



### WEBSITE ACTIVITY

- Adjustable Height Beds in General Practice Initiatives - 6.7%
- AGM, Contact & What is Life Long Disability - 17.7
- Supporting the Work of PDCN - 10.3%
- Publications Prepared by PDCN - 15.1%
- Consultations to Inform the Work of PDCN - 11.4%
- Educational Information for Students - 11.8%
- Information Guide - 27%

# OBJECTIVE 2

To develop the capacity of people with physical disability in NSW to advocate for themselves.

## CONSULTING WITH PEOPLE WITH PHYSICAL DISABILITY

The strategies PDCN used in 2010-2011 to ensure that the work of the organisation was informed by current state-wide information included community consultations, specific issue consultations and the PDCN Forum of Organisations.

### Community Consultations

Each year PDCN conducts a number of Community Consultations in metropolitan, rural and regional New South Wales to help inform the work of the organisation. These are attended by people with a physical disability, providers of services, local government representatives and elected officials. Each consultation provides PDCN with valuable insight into the issues concerning people with physical disabilities in each of the geographic areas. During the 2010-2011 financial year Community Consultations were held in Castle Hill and Albury.

### Specific Issue Consultations

To ensure the input provided by PDCN to government and other stakeholders was informed by people with physical disability from across New South Wales, Specific Issue Consultations were conducted. The tools used for these consultations included: newsletters; e-bulletins; surveys; expo bags; targeted conversations with members; PDCN email discussion group and facilitated consultations by telephone conference link-up. Examples of issues include wheelchair standards, career development for younger people with disability, impact of increasing electricity costs and bus usage.

### Forum of Organisations

PDCN holds two Forums each year with its organisational members. The purpose of these Forums is to provide a vehicle for PDCN to seek input from organisational members on issues relevant to PDCN, and to explore opportunities for joint partnerships and possibilities for collaborative work. For example, *Somewhere to Sit* is an initiative by PDCN in partnership with the Local Government and Shires Association, which commenced in October 2010, to promote accessible public seating within communities as an essential element for people to live inclusive lives.

## WORKSHOPS:

### 'Defining Pathways'

As part of the Physical Disability Council's policy to develop the individual capacities of people with physical disabilities, a workshop was developed in 2010-2011 through the collaborative skills of PDCN employees who have a lived experience of physical disability, and PDCN members who have particular skills in education development. The workshop developed is known as *Defining Pathways*.

The focus of the workshop is individual empowerment, person centred planning, and mainstreaming. The workshop is designed to provide people with physical disability with the skills and strategies to guide participants towards achieving personal goals. The workshops provide opportunities for individuals to identify and focus on issues which are important to them, and to assist them in defining skills they may need in developing strategies as they work towards attaining a specific goal. The workshop gives time for personal reflection and provides support and the opportunity to celebrate success as they achieve their objectives. This process fosters greater self awareness and confidence in participants.

During 2010-2011 workshops were conducted in Albury and Redfern (with the assistance of a grant from the Council of the City of Sydney). An evaluation completed by participants at the conclusion of the workshops indicated the majority of participants believed: the workshop was relevant to their needs; they had identified a goal that was important to them; they had developed a pathway to achieve their goal. Follow-up evaluations occurred with each participant some four months after they had completed the workshop. The feedback provided by this evaluation indicated all participants had found their confidence and knowledge had increased as a result of their participation in the workshops. All participants also felt more able to make decisions about their own lives and felt they had more control over their own lives.

### 'Emergency Readiness And Response'

NRMA provided a grant for *Emergency Readiness and Response*: an educational program to develop the capacity of people with a physical disability in NSW to identify their own risks in an emergency situation, and develop a plan to manage those risks in an emergency/ disaster.

PDCN developed the workshop in 2010. The workshop focuses on: increasing participants' awareness of their needs in an emergency/disaster situation; how participants' can, through proactive planning, ensure that their emergency/ disaster needs are met; raise awareness and make the community safer as a whole; encourage participants to formulate an individual emergency plan.

Workshops were held in Sydney and Albury during 2010-2011. Participant evaluations were conducted and all participants: stated that the workshop content was relevant to their needs; reported they felt better able to prepare for an emergency situation; stated they had developed a plan, so that if implemented, they would be better prepared for an emergency.

## MENTORS MATTER

ABS statistics (2003) on the education of those with a physical disability, show 30% of participants had completed year 12 and only 13% had completed a bachelor degree or higher. This is compared to 49% and 20% for people without a disability. For some high school students with physical disability it can be difficult to: recognise their own attributes and skills; see academic opportunities and future employment opportunities; identify people who can be role models.

PDCN received a grant from the St George Foundation in 2010 to develop and conduct a program *Mentors Matter*: Young adults with physical disability mentoring high school students with physical disability. PDCN sought out people who had physical disability, who it believed had the skills and attributes to be mentors. Individual characteristics sought included: had a physical disability; aged 20-40; completed at least one tertiary qualification; currently employed. The program was advertised through high schools.

The mentoring sessions (called Gatherings) occurred at four events that were scheduled at about one month intervals. A fifth Gathering was held about four months later to allow an opportunity for learning and refocus. Feedback received from students, mentors and people significant to the students has been extremely positive, and it is clear that the mentoring program has made a difference to students in terms of their short term goals and longer term aspirations. Comments included:

"I have already achieved goals" (student)

"The great discovery is that once a person starts achieving, it's really hard to stop." (mentor)

## WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE

For some years PDCN offered a service to organisations seeking regular website maintenance and updates on a weekly or daily basis. As in the previous year PDCN's involvement in this area has reduced due to the availability of free 'user-friendly' software that enables organisations to create and maintain their own websites. Support provided to organisations during 2010-2011 included the Supported Living Forum. PDCN continued to provide a free web service to the unfunded initiative IMPACT, in which PDCN has had active involvement.

## 'WORDS MATTER' LANGUAGE GUIDE

*Words Matter* was originally developed in 2007 primarily as a reference guide for journalists. PDCN found the first edition of *Words Matter* had attracted a much wider readership than was originally envisaged, in myriad organisations working with or focused upon people who have disability, as well as organisations which simply wish to use appropriate language to and about persons with disability. During 2008-2009 PDCN changed the format to an A5 "pocket-sized guide" and directed the text to a more general readership. The second edition reflected the international legislation changes in disability that occurred since the first edition. Library collections, organisations and business have started acquiring 'reference print quality' copies of this publication.

The authors of this resource are people who have disability, however, while reviewing this publication, the Physical Disability Council of NSW has sought and integrated the advice of industry professionals and experts in ethics. *Words Matter* is available on the PDCN website, distributed at Expos and community consultations, and printed copies are available from the PDCN office.



# OBJECTIVE 3

One of the objects of The Physical Disability Council of NSW (as identified in its Constitution) is to educate and inform stakeholders about the needs of people with physical disabilities so they are able to achieve and maintain full participation, equality of opportunity and equality of citizenship. During 2010-2011, PDCN has used a number of strategies in relation to this objective:

- PDCN built on previous work and sought equitable outcomes for people with physical disability through research participation, working collaboratively with like-minded individuals and organisations, participating in advisory committees and working parties, attending forums, giving presentations and participating in interviews.
- During 2010-2011 PDCN continued to provide input into the considerations, policy and legislative developments at local, state and Commonwealth Government levels, and to service providers in New South Wales. As discussed in the previous section of this report, the input that PDCN provides in this area is informed by our membership. In late 2010 PDCN asked members from across the state to identify the most important issues affecting their lives, and the lives of the majority of people with physical disability in NSW. The issues identified were: financial health; access to the built environment; transport; and education and employment.
- PDCN develops working relationships with service providers, community organisations and peak organisations to develop programs and strategies that may positively impact on services available for people with physical disability. During 2010-2011, at the Fairness in NSW – Celebrating 75 Years of NCOSS Conference PDCN gave a presentation. The PDCN presentation centred on some key areas of how PDCN works with and on behalf of people with a physical disability in NSW, and how this enables people with a physical disability to build a strong platform for social justice through living their ordinary daily lives.

## ACCESS TO THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Access to the built environment refers to all man-made physical components of human settlements such as buildings, streets, open spaces, and infrastructure, particularly in terms of whether it promotes or discourages physical activity/access.

PDCN believes that it is essential for everyone to be able to access the physical environment in order to participate and be included members of the community. During 2010-2011 PDCN continued to use various strategies to work for accessible built environments. PDCN provided focus and leadership via the initiatives of Liveable Communities and *Somewhere to Sit*, promoted accessible built environments, and engaged in providing comments through forums, submissions and reports.

Formed alliances with other organisations and groups to promote accessible built environments, through:

- Liveable Communities: Better practice initiatives
- Australian Network on Universal Housing Design
- Home Modification Information Clearinghouse

PDCN participated in forum, consultations and meetings to champion the development of accessible built environments, including:

- Housing and Mental Health Forum
- City of Sydney Access Forum
- Meeting about Seniors Living SEPP to reflect universal housing design
- Metro Rail consultations
- Consultations about Open spaces at Chinatown
- City of Sydney consultation regarding access maps

PDCN prepared the following submissions and reports:

- Ballast Point Park report prepared for the Birchgrove Precinct Committee
- Review of HACC Funded Home Modifications Scheme Submission to NSW Department of Human Services
- Ageing, Disability and Home Care
- Overhead bridge across Park St linking southern and northern Hyde Park Letter to City of Sydney
- Sydney Harbour National Draft Plan of Management submission to NSW Department of Environment and Climate Change



## Liveable Communities

PDCN created opportunities to raise awareness about accessible environments throughout the year. One of these was a Panel Presentation with the title 'Liveable Communities'. Presenters were:

- Margaret Kay (Local Gov & Shires Association) Promoting Liveable Environments
- Anne-Marie Elias (NSW Council on the Ageing) 'Friendly environments'
- Lachlan Hazelton (Physical Disability Council of NSW) 'Somewhere to Sit'

## Somewhere to Sit

The Physical Disability Council launched *Somewhere to Sit* as part of the Liveable Communities panel presentation in October 2010. The focus of *Somewhere to Sit* is to create inclusive local communities through the availability of public seating (both indoor and outdoor). The initiative encourages individuals to consider how lack of somewhere to sit affects them and others in their community. Seating is one small way a community can become more accessible and inclusive for all. It is one way to address the isolation that comes with reduced mobility, allowing people to continue to enjoy being part of their community by contributing to it. Public seating is one small way to assist individuals to stay part of the community regardless of age. PDCN has made itself available to facilitate presentations and discussions about *Somewhere to Sit*, and this has occurred in 2010-2011.

## EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT

Education and employment refers to equitable opportunities for personal, social and academic growth and development, and sets the stage for later life experiences, most especially in employment.

PDCN believes that students with disability must be provided with opportunities to realise their potential through participation in education and training. It is through education and training that opportunities for employment occur, and employment is a key to independent lives. During 2010-2011 PDCN developed and implemented a mentoring program for students with physical disability. It is known as *Mentors Matter*, and detail about this initiative is provided below. PDCN also contributed to the area of education

and employment during 2010-2011 by providing comment through submissions and reports, including:

- 'Five yearly Review of the Disability Discrimination Education Standards (2006)' for the Commonwealth Department of Family, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs
- 'National Disability Education Strategy'
- 'Supported Employment'
- 'Review of the Disability Standards into Education – 2005 Discussion Paper', Australian Government, Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relationships

## FINANCIAL HEALTH

Financial health is a term used to describe whether a person's actual or potential financial resources are adequate to meet costs associated with: housing, motor vehicle acquisition, modification and maintenance, medical treatment and health fund coverage, the purchase and associated costs of assistive aids and equipment, support services, clothing, leisure and retirement.

From a survey PDCN conducted in 2008, prior to the global financial crisis, about the 'Impact of Ageing on People with Disability', it was apparent that most people were concerned about the future in terms of financial security. PDCN continued to represent the interests of people with physical disability by participation in the Fair Go for Pensioners Alliance, and through interviews about the budget with the Today show.

## Electricity Prices

The energy price rises of July 2010 had a significant impact on many groups in the community. PDCN believed that many people with a physical disability, on fixed incomes, would be significantly disadvantaged by such a large rise in energy prices. This has proven true with many of our members informing us of their growing concern with the price of energy. Unfortunately, PDCN believes this concern will increase with the average 17.3% rise in energy prices from July 2011. In its submissions to the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal and the Department of Trade, Investment Regional Infrastructure and Services, PDCN has called for significant reform to the delivery of rebates and energy regulation. PDCN has strengthened our collaborative work with other organisations on this issue.

In early 2011 PDCN and the Public Interest Advocacy Centre (PIAC) Energy and Water Consumers Advocacy Program spoke to a group of people with physical disability about their energy use. People told us they were concerned about rising electricity costs. In some cases these concerns were especially strong because their physical conditions meant that they relied heavily on electricity to help them with the essentials of daily life. PDCN and PIAC are jointly conducting a state-wide survey on the impact of electricity costs for people with physical disability. The results of this work will be available in October 2011, and will provide a basis for continuing work by PDCN in the future.

### HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Health relates to fitness in both body and mind while well-being covers a number of other important areas including material security, aspirations, a sense of one's place in the world and connection with people who can provide support along that journey.

The health and wellbeing of people with physical disability is impacted by many factors, and in 2010-2011 PDCN has involved itself in some of those areas. In particular: the use of adjustable height examination tables in the treatment rooms of physicians in General Practice; the impact of ageing for people with physical disability; the importance of assistive devices and equipment as well as community education. Each of these areas is discussed within this section of the Report.

PDCN has also worked to inform discussion and consideration in other health and wellbeing areas where it was important to ensure that the informed opinions of people with physical disability were included.

#### Access to medical services

- 'GP NSW Stakeholder Briefings'
- 'South Eastern Sydney Division of General Practice: Community Engagement Workshop'

#### Access to community health services and disability health services

- ADHC: Rural and Remote Working Group regarding therapy initiatives

#### Impacting health policy

- Member of PDCN appointed to the Health NSW, NGO Reference Committee
- Submission, Community Engagement Framework NSW Health
- Member of PDCN on the Health Policy Advice Group at NCOSS
- NSW Suicide Prevention Strategy 2010-2015 Public Consultation Submission
- Rehabilitation Clinical Services Redesign Project
- NSW Department of Health

- Forum participant, State & Regional Development and Tourism Industry & Investment Dept regarding the Spinal Cord Injury and Related Neurological Conditions Fund for 2010/11

#### Accessing support at home

- Participated in the Home and Community Care Peaks Forum
- Ageing Disability and Home care, Therapy Task Force
- Member of the Attendant Care Industry Association (ACIA), Quality Steering Committee

#### Adjustable Height Examination Tables

Following on from the 2006 survey of GPs by Access for All, (to determine the number of adjustable height examination tables in surgeries), and the Open Letter from the Australian Human Rights Commission issued in 2007, PDCN conducted a survey of people with disability in 2008-2009 to gain more information and further insights about the extent of availability of adjustable height tables. As reported in the previous Annual report the work of PDCN continued during the 2009-2010 year, and in this financial year. The result of this work by PDCN and other organisations resulted in The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) making the use and installation of adjustable examination tables in the rooms of General Practitioners mandatory (flagged) in October 2010.

#### Ageing and People with Physical Disability

PDCN has worked during 2010-2011 to ensure that the concerns/issues of people with physical disability are considered during all of their lives, with our attention extending to people past the age of 65. PDCN has developed links with the Council on the Ageing, and has worked together on projects. PDCN also placed a submission with the Productivity Commission. Caring for Older Australians: Response to the Draft Report. Two areas of focus for PDCN during 2010-2011 have been a survey on the impact of ageing, and the development of dementia and disability education materials.

#### Survey

During 2010-2011 PDCN has been using a state-wide survey to consult on the Impact of Ageing on People with Physical Disability 2010-2011. The aim of this survey is to better understand the everyday lives of people living in NSW with a physical disability, who are aged over 50 years. This will build on previous research undertaken by PDCN into the impact of ageing on people with a disability throughout NSW in 2010-2011. The data gathered through the research survey, will be collated and a comparative analysis undertaken of both the 2008/9 and 2010/11 results. A paper will be developed

based on these findings. This will then inform PDCN and its continuing work to bring about change to support the needs of older people living with a physical disability.

### Development of Educational Materials

The life expectancy of people with disability has increased dramatically. The associated incidence of dementia, an age related illness, has increased for the population of people with disability. PDCN has been involved in the development of a training package (initiated by Community Care, Northern Beaches) that targets service providers who work with people with physical disability who have dementia. The two-day education package developed is known as *Working with People who have Dementia and Physical Disability*. It has been trialed twice, and the training was facilitated by PDCN and Alzheimer's Australia.

### Assistive Devices and Equipment

Assistive devices and equipment are terms for any device or system that allows individuals to perform tasks they would otherwise be unable to do or increases the ease and safety with which tasks can be performed. PDCN takes the position that all people with physical disability must be provided with the essential aids and equipment they need to achieve a quality standard of living which facilitates maximum participation within their community.

In NSW the Program of Appliances for Disabled People (PADP) was established to assist people who have a life-long or long-term disability to live and participate in their community by providing equipment, aids and appliances. In recent years the program has been centralised under EnableNSW.

PDCN has proactively worked for the reform of PADP since 1999 and each year since then the PDCN Annual Report has highlighted this organisation's work in relation to this. In 2010-2011 PDCN continued its involvement in the PADP Community Alliance. The Alliance works for improvements to the provision of supportive equipment and assistive technology as a basic right of people with disability. The Alliance prepared a PADP Community Alliance Issues Paper on the national core equipment for the Ministers and Shadow Ministers. The Alliance also met with Shadow Minister of Health.

A member of PDCN's Committee of Management continued her appointment on the EnableNSW Advisory Council as a 'consumer' representative.

### Community Education

PDCN understands that learning communities exist where there is a community of common purpose. This organisation has been proactive in building on the synergies of individuals in common locations, or with common interests, as we work towards sharing understandings, skills and knowledge. Resources are used to educate and inform stakeholders about the needs of people with physical disabilities to promote full participation, equality of opportunity and equality of citizenship.

#### 'Word Matters' workshop

During 2010-2011 PDCN developed a workshop focused on exploring the language of disability. It is relevant to anyone who writes about, thinks about, and talks to people with disability. It explores the factors influencing opinions and stereotypes, and the power of language.

### HUMAN RIGHTS

Human rights refer to the legal recognition of the inherent value, dignity and equality of all people.

Following the preparation of a paper for the National Human Rights Commission in 2008, The Commonwealth Government sought feedback on human rights compliance as part of a United Nations four yearly review, and PDCN's contribution in 2010-2011 included:

- Consultation process- Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) funding
- Submission: Universal Periodic Review of Australia: Issues for Inclusion into Government Report for the Commonwealth Attorney General's Department
- Submission for Australian Human Rights Commission and Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs

PDCN has continued to advocate actively on issues regarding human rights. PDCN has been represented in discussions, consultations, representation on Boards, preparation of submissions and involvement in campaigns. The involvement of PDCN in 2010-2011 has been heavily focused on individualised support for people with physical disability (discussed later in this section) and also included:

#### Value of people with physical disability

- Children: Keep Them Safe, Peak Cross-Sector Forum
- Forum: From Institutions to Community Living
- City of Sydney Community Consultation about the National Disability Service Standards
- Forum of Non-government agencies
- Representative on Board of Association for Children with a Disability in NSW



### **Dignity of people with physical disability**

- Productivity Commission Inquiry: Revision of the National Standards for Disability Services
- Submission: Funding and Operations of the Commonwealth State Disability Agreement for the Commonwealth Department of Family, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs

### **Equity for people with physical disability**

- NSW Disability Network Forum
- NSW Ombudsman Disability Roundtable quarterly meetings
- Working Party on materials related to Social Inclusion (NCOSS)
- NSWEC Electoral Democracy Plan
- ACCAN Communications Survey
- NSW Disability Network Forum

### **Individualised Support**

Since late 2008 PDCN has worked for individualised support and self-directed funding for people with physical disability. This involvement has included: participation in service reforms to services delivered by Ageing, Disability and Home Care through IMPACT; preparation of submissions to the Productivity Commission on the National Disability Insurance Scheme; promoting the Every Australian Counts campaign, and participating in organising the successful Big Event as part of In-Control Australia. During 2010-2011 PDCN involvement in each of these areas follows:

#### **‘IMPACT’**

During 2010-2011 PDCN continued as member of the Working Group of IMPACT. IMPACT is a new way of thinking about and providing human services; a way that supports people's capacities, decision making, independence and levels of autonomy; is NSW based, and defines a set of agreed principles; person-centred; culturally-appropriate, socially inclusive, flexible and responsive; supportive; and recognised as a fundamental and valued part of society.

#### **National Disability Insurance Scheme**

The National Disability Insurance Scheme was proposed as part of the National Disability Strategy. Over the past year PDCN has contributed extensively to this national campaign in advocating both nationally and state-wide for personalised planning and self-directed funding mechanisms. PDCN provided feedback to the Productivity Commission on both the Issues Paper and Draft Report into Disability Support and Care. Additionally PDCN participated in the National Disability and Carer Alliance Conference and in the Every Australian Counts Campaign.

### **In Control**

PDCN worked collaboratively with a number of other organisations in hosting the In Control Australia Big Event in May 2011. Approximately 250 people with disability, family members, service providers, professionals, academics and government officials attended this event which was focused on self-directed support.

A submission, Disability Support and Care Issues Paper for the Productivity Commission was also prepared collectively with representatives from In Control Australia.

### **Stronger Together 2**

Stronger Together 2 is the Government's plan to deliver better services for people with disability in NSW, and includes a commitment to enhance a person centred approach in which the person with disability is supported to become the primary decision maker about his/her own support needs. PDCN in 2010-2011 has contributed in the following ways:

- Provided a Submission: Inquiry into services provided or funded by the Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care for the NSW Parliament- Legislative Council Standing Committee on Social Issues
- Appeared before a Legislative Council Inquiry into Services provided or funded by the Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care, and provided a response to questions on notice
- Attended an Ageing Disability and Home Care, Stronger Together Information Session
- Participated in a meeting with Ageing Disability and Home Care regarding Directions for Adult Onset Disability services in NSW

### **TRANSPORT**

Transport relates to access to private transport (own vehicles), public and privately operated public transport (rail, taxi, busses, planes), and community transport.

PDCN understands that people with physical disability have comparatively high difficulty in accessing transport which has a significant impact on all aspects of life. PDCN in 2010-2011 has promoted the advantages to the whole community when transport can be used by everyone. We have focused on the following areas:

#### **Wheelchair accessible taxis**

PDCN has focused on the need for consistent measurement requirements for taxi modifications

- Participated in Wheelchair Accessible Taxi (WATS) Stakeholder meetings
- NSW Transport Wheelchair Accessible Taxi Measurement Protocol. Joint response by The Physical Disability Council of NSW and Paraplegic and

- Quadruplegic Association of NSW
- Submission, Review of 2008 Taxi Network Performance Standards prepared for NSW Transport
- Participated in Taxi Network Performance Standards consultation

#### **Mobility parking for cars**

- Interview with Channel 9: mobility parking scheme

#### **Bus**

- Improvements to the 311 Bus Service prepared for NSW Transport and City of Sydney Council

#### **Rail**

- Interview with Cumberland Press regarding accessible lift 'out-of-action' at Town Hall station
- Radio interview with 2UE: Town Hall station lifts
- Interviewed Holroyd Sun Newspaper: Merrylands Station
- Interviewed by the Telegraph: new CityRail protocol
- Sydney Morning Herald: 'Getting a ticket to ride easier said than done for some'
- Interviews for 2SM and 2GB Morning shows: city rail changes for wheelchair users boarding and disembarking from trains
- Provided input into a draft training program for train and platform staff

#### **Light rail**

- Submission, Sydney Light Rail Extension (SLRE) Stage 1 Prepared for The NSW Department of Planning.

#### **Transport**

- Interviewed by ABC West: Review of the Transport Standards
- Standing Committee on Transport, National Road Safety Strategy 2011-2020 PDCN feedback on Recommendation 28 Alternative vehicles
- Completed the City of Sydney: Transport Disadvantage Survey
- National Road Safety Strategy 2011-2020 'Safe Roads, Safe Speeds, Safe Vehicles, Safe People' to the Commonwealth Department of Infrastructure and Transport
- Attended a Forum about Electronic Ticketing; NSW Transport

# GOVERNANCE

In October 2010 PDCN adopted a new constitution. The new constitution was developed following the introduction of the Model Constitution: under the Associations Incorporation Act 2009. A copy of the PDCN Constitution is available on the PDCN website. In PDCN's new Constitution changes have been made to the size of the Committee of Management. On the Committee of Management there are positions available for 7 Committee Members: persons with physical disability, and representative (a parent or guardian of a person with physical disability who is under the age of 16), with at least 6 of the 7 available positions being filled by people with physical disability.

During the year PDCN's Strategic Plan for the period 2011-2016 was developed. This was a thorough strategic planning exercise and included the elements of: a survey of individual and organisational members; a multi-stakeholder perception study; a strategic planning working committee (25 people with physical disability, and representatives of young persons with physical disability) developed the strategic plan from information gathered through the surveys and interviews. It is clear that the developed plan reflects the views of people with physical disability in NSW, and will provide PDCN with a solid framework for the years to come. A summary of the strategic initiatives identified in the plan are available on PDCN's website, and focused in the following areas:

- Grow the non-financial capacity of PDCN to represent a more diverse community of people living with disability on a growing number of issues
- Build a reputation as an expert peak; exercise issues leadership through communication
- Reframe 'disability rights' as 'human rights'
- Provide expert commentary on national issues on behalf of people living with disability in New South Wales
- Maintain a watching brief on a wide range of NSW Departments and issues while focusing efforts on policies and aspects of policies which can impact the financial health of people living with disability
- Equip local groups to tackle local issues
- Equip individuals to take individual action
- Investigate new revenue streams to allow PDCN to grow...ethically

In terms of risk, the most pressing risk to the work of PDCN continues to be its financial viability. In an environment where the work of a peak body requires a proactive approach to its peak obligations balanced against increasing costs (salaries, insurances, rent etc), PDCN's somewhat inflexible income from our major source of funds means that the organisation has been operating in a negative financial situation (a copy of the financial reports for 2010-2011 appear as Appendix B). The financial resources of PDCN have not kept pace with rises in costs despite growing demand for engagement on an expanding number of issues. (Fig 5)

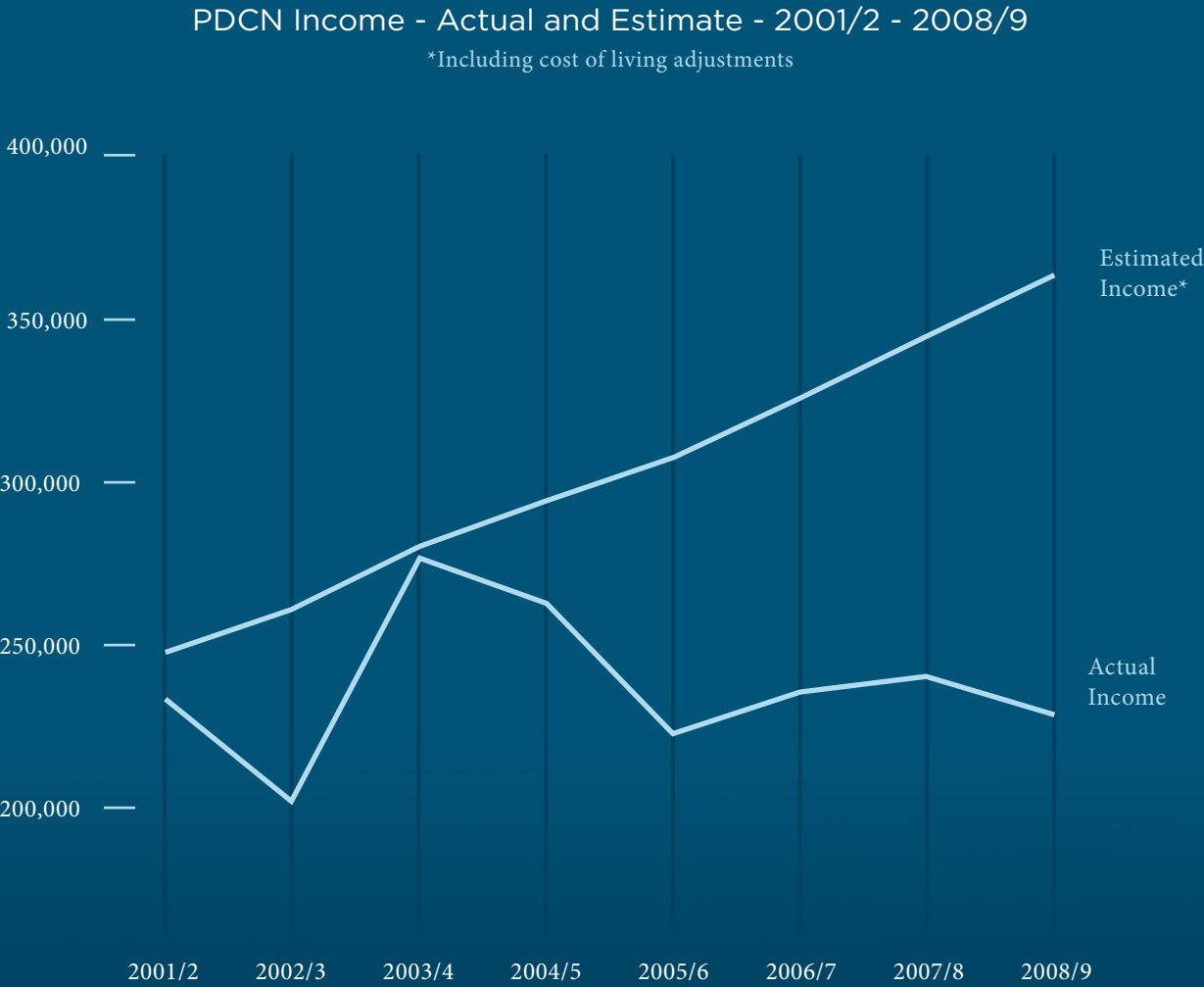
To assist in addressing this situation PDCN in recent years sought, and gained, Tax Gift Recipient Status, and during the 2010-2011 year gained three financial grants to assist with the capacity development role of the organisation:

- The St George Foundation provided a grant for *Mentors Matter*: young adults with physical disability mentoring high school students with physical disability.
- NRMA provided a grant for *Emergency Readiness and Response*: an educational program to develop the capacity of people with a physical disability in NSW to identify their own risks in an emergency situation, and develop a plan to manage those risks in an emergency/ disaster.
- The Council of the City of Sydney provided a grant for a workshop *Defining Pathways*: Workshops providing opportunities for individuals to identify and focus on issues which are important to them and assisting them to define skills they may need in developing strategies as they work towards attaining a specific goal.

The Committee of Management, and the Executive of the Committee, met regularly through the year (see Appendix A for details of meetings and the attendance of individual members). With the reduction in numbers for the Committee of Management to 7 following the introduction PDCN's Constitution, October 2010, the Executive of the Committee has not met separately from the remainder of the Committee, and the Committee of Management now meets monthly.

The individuals who have been members of the Committee during 2010-2011 have brought a range of skills and experience, and personal experience of physical disability to the organisation. Information about Members of the Committee as at the 30 June 2011 appears on page 20.

(Fig 5)





**ANN-MASON FURMAGE**

President

Ann-Mason was born and grew up in the United States of America. In 1950, she contracted polio, which caused paralysis of her left hand, arm and shoulder. In 1959, she had a radical mastoidectomy of her right ear and has been hearing-impaired since that time.

In 1968, Ann-Mason migrated to Australia. She attended the West Australian Institute of Technology (now John Curtin University) where she attained her Bachelor of Business in Accounting in 1980. She became a Certified Practising Accountant (CPA) in 1983. Ann-Mason has been an accountant or financial controller for a number of organisations in Australia and the United States.

In 1996, physical problems associated with the late effects of polio resulted in Ann-Mason leaving full-time employment, although she continued working on a part-time basis until 2000. Ann-Mason now uses a motorised wheelchair. She currently serves as President of the Physical Disability Council of NSW and is a member of: the EnableNSW Advisory Council; the Board of Directors of the Independent Living Centre of NSW; the External Advisory Committee to the Department of Occupational Therapy at the University of Sydney; the Community Advisory Council of Royal Prince Alfred Hospital and the Access Committee of the Town of Marrickville.



**NEIL VON SCHILL**

Vice President

Neil was born in 1947 and contracted Polio in 1950 in Dubbo. He is currently experiencing the Late Effects of Polio. Neil's profession is education where he taught for over thirty years including twenty years as a Primary School Principal. His professional qualifications include a Teaching Certificate, Bachelor of Arts Degree (UNE) and Certificate of Leadership and Management at Masters Level (CSU).

Following the onset of the Late Effects of Polio Neil joined the Post-Polio Network (NSW) Inc in 1992 and became Convenor of the Albury/Wodonga Support Group. In 1999 Neil was elected to the Management Committee and for twelve years has been Support Group Co-ordinator for the State. For the past seven years he has also been the Secretary of the Network.

Neil was instrumental in the formation of Polio Australia in 2007 and is currently Treasurer of that organisation. He has undertaken seven lobbying trips to Canberra to seek federal funding for Polio Australia.

In 2007 Neil joined the Committee of Management of the Physical Disability Council of NSW and is currently Vice President. In 2008 he was involved in designing and promoting a survey which canvassed the needs of people who are Ageing with a Disability. During 2008-11 Neil has assisted with facilitating community consultations and presenting a course for people with a disability titled *Defining Pathways*.





**ANDREW LONGHURST**

Secretary

Andrew Longhurst is currently Secretary of the PDCN Committee of Management. Andrew has Osteogenesis Imperfecta (OI or Brittle Bones) and he uses a manual wheelchair for mobility. Andrew works as a Community Worker with the Adult Outreach Team at Northcott Disability Services. The Adult Outreach team is a multi-disciplined team which assists Adult Clients with primarily physical disabilities to pursue goals they have for their life. In the past he has worked in the Open Employment sector with people who have acquired disabilities and for DADHC with people who have intellectual disabilities.

Andrew has a Bachelor of Social Science (Psychology) and a Graduate Diploma in Counselling from Charles Sturt University in Bathurst, as well as a Certificate IV in Assessment and Workplace Training. Andrew is also a current board member of the OI Society of Australia, and a current board member of Community Connections Australia (CCA).



**PETER A SIMPSON**

Treasurer

Peter A Simpson has a physical disability and is currently the Treasurer of the PDCN Committee of Management.

Peter's main area of interest is issues associated with access to the built environment. He has also been involved in wheelchair sports, where he competed in wheelchair rugby for over 12yrs. Throughout his life Peter has advocated various issues on behalf of people with disabilities, from built environment issues, transport, to participation in sport/recreation.

Sitting on various community/access committees, Peter loves being able to contribute his knowledge/experience to help facilitate changes in policy and organisational development.

Peter has previously served as a Director of Wheelchair Sports NSW.



**PATRICIA DAVIES**

Committee Member

Pat was born in 1946, contracted poliomyelitis during the last epidemic in 1954. After 40 years of 'passing' as an able body, marrying and rearing 3 sons Pat joined St George Association for people with physical disabilities and the fledgling Post Polio Network in 1990.

In 1992 Pat was recruited to administer funds for participants in Allowance Incorporated which, at the time, was a revolutionary Attendant Care program funded by Commonwealth/State governments. She retired as General Manager in 2009 when the organisation was described as the 'exemplary' service of its type. Her experience was drawn on by the Department of Ageing and Disability to set up the Direct Funding model of Attendant Care.

While having no formal tertiary schooling beyond administration, Pat has developed a strong desire to improve the lot of people with physical disabilities using the experience gained mixing with strongly motivated people. Her special interest is for accessible domestic building standards.



**KEVIN FINLAYSON**

Committee Member

Kevin was born with Multiplex Congenita, in Armidale in 1952. He has worked for Australia Post and Telstra. Kevin moved from Sydney to Yamba where he was involved in access issues and successfully lobbied the local council in Maclean Council for, access ramps and a wheelchair mooring to fish from. Kevin returned to Sydney in 1999.

Kevin joined Penrith Disability Resource Centre Inc and held several positions (Information Officer, Fundraising, Chairperson, Secretary, and Committee member). He raised access and equity issues for people with a disability, and in July 2006, Penrith City Council acknowledged his work in the local community by recognising him on the Wall of Achievement within the Council.

Kevin has previously been involved in a number of other organisations including: Penrith City Council Access committee, Sports Council of NSW, Penrith Disability Action Forum (PDAF), taking on such issues as wheelchair access for Penrith Plaza, lifts for Penrith Railway Station, Hoyts access, EMLAC keys for accessible toilets, laybacks in pedestrian footpaths in Penrith LGA. Kevin has completed courses relating to disability advocacy, and access auditing at TAFE, and has presented disability awareness training within schools.

Kevin's current roles include: Chairperson of Nepean Disability Social Group (Recreational activities) for people with all types of disabilities; management committee member of PCYC Penrith; and a committee member of PCDN.

# APPENDIX A

## EXECUTIVE MEETINGS AND MANAGEMENT MEETINGS OF THE COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT: ATTENDANCE OF INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

	MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE	EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE	TOTALS
<b>ANN-MASON FURMAGE</b> President	10 (of 10)	2 (of 2)	12 (of 12)
<b>NEIL VON SCHILL</b> Vice President	9 (of 10)	2 (of 2)	11 (of 12)
<b>ANDREW LONGHURST</b> Secretary	7 (of 10)	2 (of 2)	9 (of 12)
<b>PETER SIMPSON</b> Treasurer	7 (of 10)	2 (of 2)	9 (of 12)
<b>JENNY KAPP</b> Member (July 2010 - October 2010)	0 (of 2)		0 (of 2)
<b>PATRICIA BYRNE</b> Member (resigned in October 2010)	1 (of 2)		1 (of 2)
<b>SONIA MARKOFF</b> Member (July 2010 - October 2010)	0 (of 2)		0 (of 2)
<b>WENDY POTTER</b> Member (July 2010 - October 2010)	1 (of 2)		1 (of 2)
<b>KEVIN FINLAYSON</b> Member (Since October 2010)	8 (of 9)		8 (of 9)
<b>JOANNA NICOL</b> Member (July - October 2010)	0 (of 2)		0 (of 2)
<b>JOHN MORGAN</b> Member (Resigned in April 2011)	2 (of 7)		2 (of 7)
<b>EDDIE MCINTOSH</b> Member (July - October 2010)	0 (of 2)		0 (of 2)
<b>WAYNE NEVINSON</b> Member (July - October 2010)	0 (of 2)		0 (of 2)
<b>PATRICIA DAVIES</b> Joined Committee in casual vacancy in April 2011	2 (of 3)		2 (of 3)

Note: Change to Constitution at AGM in October 2010 reduced the number of Committee members to seven.



# APPENDIX B

FINANCIAL REPORTS ABN: 26 858 845 702

## INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30th JUNE 2011

	2011 \$	2010 \$
<b>PROFIT/(LOSS) FROM ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE INCOME TAX</b>	(18,575)	(25,486)
Income tax expense attributable to operating profit	-	-
<b>PROFIT FROM ORDINARY ACTIVITIES AFTER INCOME TAX</b>	(18,575)	(25,486)
Retained profits (Accumulated losses) at the beginning of the financial year	61,137	86,623
<b>RETAINED PROFITS (ACCUMULATED LOSSES) AT THE END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR</b>	42,562	61,137

## BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 30th JUNE 2011

	NOTE	2011 \$	2010 \$
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	2	42,501	76,391
Trade and other receivables	3	23,427	839
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>		65,928	77,230
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Property, plant and equipment	4	7,804	16,323
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>		7,804	16,323
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		73,732	93,553
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Trade and other payables	5	17,180	18,950
Interest bearing liabilities	6	-	935
Provisions	7	13,990	12,531
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		31,170	32,416
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		31,170	32,416
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		42,562	61,137
<b>MEMBERS' FUNDS</b>			
Retained profits		42,562	61,137
		42,562	61,137

**1. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

This financial report is a special purpose financial report prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act 2009 (NSW). The committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity.

This financial report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Association Incorporation Act 2009 (NSW) and the following Australian Accounting Standards:

- AASB 110: Events after the Balance Sheet Date
- AASB 116: Property, Plant & Equipment
- AASB 1031: Materiality

No other Australian Accounting Standards, Australian Accounting Interpretations or other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board have been applied.

The financial report is prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historic costs and does not take into account changing money values or, except where specifically stated, current valuations of non-current assets.

The following material accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period unless otherwise stated, have been adopted in the preparation of this financial report:

**Income Tax**

The association is exempt from income tax under s50-100 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.

**Property, Plant and Equipment**

Property, plant and equipment are carried at cost or independent valuation. All assets are depreciated over their useful lives to the association.

**Employee Benefits**

Provision is made for the liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to balance date. Employee benefits expected to be settled within one year together with benefits arising from annual leave and long service leave which will be settled after one year, have been measured at their nominal amount. Other employee benefits payable later than one year have been measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made for those benefits.

Contributions are made to an employee superannuation fund and are charged as expenses when incurred.

**2. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS**

	2011 \$	2010 \$
St George Bank	6,569	5,768
St George Bank - Term Deposit	-	54,049
ING Business Optimiser A/c	30,332	4
Westpac Banking Corporation		
Cheque A/c	4,999	8,757
Westpac Banking Corporation		
Reserves A/c	56	7,275
Westpac Banking Corporation		
Gift Fund A/c	534	534
Westpac Banking Corporation		
Mastercard	11	4
	<b>42,501</b>	<b>76,391</b>

**3. TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES**

CURRENT		
Trade Debtors	842	67
Other Debtors	22,585	772
	<b>23,427</b>	<b>839</b>

**4. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT**

Plant & Equipment	42,921	42,921
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	35,395	26,928
	<u>7,526</u>	<u>15,993</u>
Office Furniture & Equipment	10,009	10,009
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	9,731	9,679
	<u>278</u>	<u>330</u>
<b>Total Property Plant and Equipment</b>	<b>7,804</b>	<b>16,323</b>

**5. TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES**

CURRENT		
PAYG withholding payable	2,286	6,016
Trade Creditors	1,570	6,356
Superannuation Payable	1,929	3,842
Income In Advance	5,205	-
Input Tax Credits		1997
GST Payable	6,190	739
	<b>17,180</b>	<b>18,950</b>

**6. INTEREST BEARING LIABILITIES**

CURRENT		
Payroll Clearing Account		935

**7. PROVISIONS**

CURRENT		
Provisions for Holiday Pay	13,990	12,531

The committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

In the opinion of the committee the financial report:

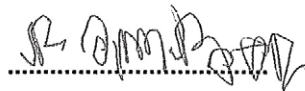
1. Presents fairly the financial position of The Physical Disability Council of NSW Inc. as at 30th June 2011 and it's performance for the year ended on that date;
2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Physical Disability Council of NSW Inc. will be able to pay it's debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Committee and is signed for and on behalf of the Committee by:

President:



Treasurer:



Dated this 20th day of September 2011

**Scope**

**Report on the financial report.**

I have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of The Physical Disability Council of NSW Inc (the association) which comprises the balance sheet as at 30th June 2011, and the income and expenditure statement, a summary of significant accounting policies, other explanatory notes and the statement by members of the committee.

**The financial report and committee's responsibility.**

The committee of the association is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report and has determined that the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, which form part of the financial report, are appropriate to meet the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act 2009 (NSW) and are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The committee's responsibility also includes establishing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

**Auditor's responsibility**

My responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on my audit. I have conducted my audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Those standards require that I comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend upon the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view, in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the association's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the committee, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

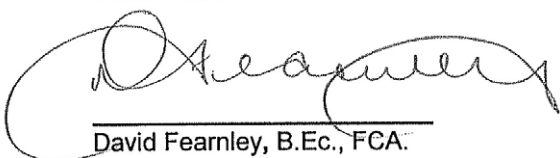
**Audit Opinion**

In my opinion, the financial report of The Physical Disability Council of NSW Inc presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the association as of 30th June 2011 and of its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies disclosed in Note 1 to the financial statements, and the Associations Incorporation Act 2009 (NSW).

**Basis of Accounting and Restriction on Distribution**

Without modifying my opinion, I draw attention to Note 1 in the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared to assist the association to meet the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act 2009 (NSW). As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose.

**D.A. FEARNLEY & CO**



David Fearnley, B.Ec., FCA.

20th September 2011

**DETAILED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT**  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30th JUNE 2011

	<b>2011</b>	<b>2010</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>INCOME</b>		
Donations - Public	-	5,034
Ageing & Disability Dept	225,435	224,619
Members' Contributions	3,432	2,800
Workshop Income	3,295	-
Other Income	2,574	6,033
Community Grants	9,169	-
	<b>243,905</b>	<b>238,486</b>
<b>OTHER INCOME</b>		
Interest Received	2,895	2,534
Profit on Sale of Non-current Assets	-	953
	<b>2,895</b>	<b>3,487</b>
	<b>246,800</b>	<b>241,973</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Advertising	2,081	1,067
Auditor's Remuneration	4,000	4,205
Bank Charges	1,182	1,110
Bookkeeping Fees	903	5,888
Carer Costs	-	23
Computer Expenses	6,987	7,217
Consultancy Fees	1,006	2,049
Committee Expenses	4,705	9,621
Depreciation	8,519	10,838
Grant Expenses	12,433	-
Holiday Pay Provision	1,459	3,641
Insurance	6,795	5,590
Internet Expenses	899	996
Leasing Charges		
Media Releases	251	344
Permits, Licences & Fees	89	-
Postage	1,475	1,534
Printing & Stationary	4,301	4,728
Rent	12,731	12,731
Repairs & Maintenance	285	-
Salaries & Wages	120,224	130,672
Staff Training & Amenities	3,168	862
Strategic Planning	5,189	-
Subscriptions	325	859
Superannuation Contributions-		
Compulsory	8,274	7,832
Superannuation Contributions - Salary		
Packaged	50,000	50,000
Telephone	5,529	5,039
Travelling Expenses	868	613
Volunteer Expenses	1,064	-
Workshop Expenses	633	-
	<b>265,375</b>	<b>267,459</b>
<b>Net Profit/(Loss)</b>	<b>(18,575)</b>	<b>(25,486)</b>



**Physical Disability Council of NSW**  
Ordinary People Ordinary Lives

St Helens Community Centre  
3/184 Glebe Point Rd. Glebe 2037

T: (02) 9552 1606  
1800 688 831(freecall outside  
the Sydney metropolitan area)

E: [Admin@pdcnsw.org.au](mailto:Admin@pdcnsw.org.au)

F: (02) 9552 4644

National Relay Service

TTY users:  
1800 555-677 then ask  
for (02) 9552 1606

Speak and Listen users:  
1300 555-727 then ask  
for (02) 9552-1606