



# **ANNUAL REPORT 2009/10**

PHYSICAL DISABILITY COUNCIL OF NSW



# CONTRIBUTORS

*Thank you to all who have supported the work of PDCN during 2009-2010*

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## FINANCIAL SUPPORT

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

**City of Sydney**

for support through their Accommodation Grants program

**Individual donation of \$5,000**

(donor asked that his/her name be withheld)

## IN-KIND SUPPORT

**Members of the Committee of Management**

for their time and governance of the organisation. The names, and roles of Committee Members are identified in the following section.

**Luke Morris (Graphic Artist)**

for the design of the PDCN logo and the 2008-2009 Annual Report

**Helen Woodman**

for her role as the Returning Officer for the 2009 Annual General Meeting

**Sara Coutino and Kristie Brown**

for catering assistance before and during the 2009 Annual General Meeting

## COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

**Ann-Mason Furmage**

President

**Neil von Schill**

Vice-President

**Andrew Longhurst**

Treasurer prior to December 2009, when he was elected as Secretary.

**Peter Simpson**

Member prior December 2009, when he was elected as Treasurer

**Jenny Kapp**

Member (held position of Secretary prior to December 2009)

**Patricia Byrne**

Member

**Sonia Markoff**

Member

**Wendy Potter**

Member

**John Morgan**

Elected to Committee as a Member in October 2009

## COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT...cont

**Kevin Finlayson**

Elected to Committee as a Member in October 2009

**Wayne Nevinson**

Elected to Committee as a Member in October 2009

**Eddie McIntosh**

Member until October 2009.

Appointed to Committee again in February 2010 as a Member

## EMPLOYEES

**Ruth Robinson**

Executive Officer

**Craig Andrews**

Resource Development Officer (resigned in October 2009)

**Lachlan Hazelton**

Media Officer

**Jordana Goodman**

Policy Officer

**Annette Mitchell**

Research Officer

**Ben Williams**

Policy Assistant

**Alison Vella**

Accounts and Membership

## CONTRACTED SERVICES

**Jodie Were**

website design and support from Sanifu Designs

**Bootstrap**

computer support

**Anna Musico**

financial support from Numbers Business

**Colin Slattery**

governance education from Semann & Slattery

**David Fearnley**

auditing services from DA Fearnley & Co

## STUDENT PLACEMENTS

**Christine Chau**

Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN, USA. Christine spent part of her internship with PDCN



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

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# PHYSICAL DISABILITY COUNCIL OF NSW

## ORGANISATION PROFILE

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### WHAT IS THE PHYSICAL DISABILITY COUNCIL OF NSW (PDCN)

PDCN 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 organisation who have a commitment to people who have physical disability and to the work of PDCN.

### OBJECTS OF PDCN

1. To educate, inform and assist people with physical disabilities in NSW about the range of services, structure and programs available.
2. To develop the capacity of people with physical disability to advocate for themselves.
3. To educate and inform stakeholders about the needs of people with a physical disability.

### PHILOSOPHY

People with physical disabilities: ordinary people; ordinary lives.

### VISION

Effecting change through collaborative leadership.

### MISSION

Using a community development approach, representing people in NSW who experience physical disabilities.

## CONTACT

**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:  
phone 1800 555-677  
then ask for (02) 9552 1606

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

# REPORT

## FROM THE PRESIDENT AND EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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*The 2009-2010 financial year has been a time of focused work, high energy, and progress. Sometimes it seems that progress may be much slower than we would prefer, yet progress it is.*

Some of the work conducted by PDCN during 2009-2010 has built on previous work of this and other organisations to bring about change that will provide people with physical disability greater opportunities to live inclusive lives. These include: voting in government elections, adjustable height examination tables, assistive devices and equipment, health, transport, the impact of ageing, the built environment, individualised support, and the National Disability Strategy, human rights, transport and community education. PDCN has used strategies that included: working collaboratively with other individuals and organisations; participating in advisory committees etc; preparing submissions and reports; giving presentations and interviews; conducting research and involvement in forums. Detail relating to each of these areas is included within this Annual Report.

As reported in our last Annual Report, PDCN has re-focused on the work of building the capacity of people with physical disability throughout the state. This was achieved through the development and delivery of a workshop called Defining Pathways, which has been presented in three rural locations. As reported last year this proved to be a very effective initiative, and during 2009-2010 PDCN continued work in this area. PDCN has also sought new funding sources to augment this area of work, with a mentoring program for students with physical disability, and with workshops to assist people with physical disability to build their capacity to be safe in the case of emergency and disaster. The planning for the new initiatives has been completed, we anticipate that they will be available during the 2010-2011 year.

As the peak body for people with physical disability PDCN believes that it is essential to consult with people with physical disability throughout the state on a regular basis. During the 2009-2010 year we utilised a number of strategies to gain knowledge of the thoughts and concerns of people on issues affecting their lives: face-to-face community consultation, specific issue consultations, and organised focus groups. Technology currently available to PDCN, including e-mail, telephone linkup, Facebook and PDCN's e-mail discussion group, as well as one-to-one interviews, has assisted in these strategies. We believe that the information we have gathered has improved PDCN's ability to be an effective organisation.

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

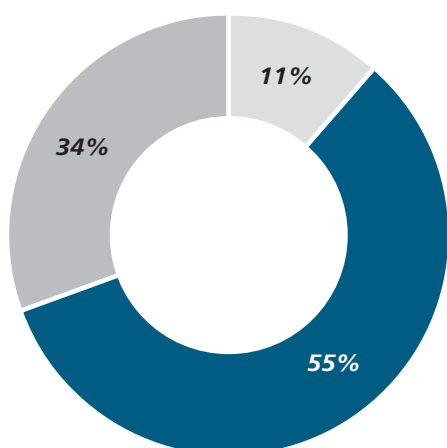
*One of the objects of The Physical Disability Council of NSW (as identified in its Constitution) is to educate, inform and assist people with physical disabilities in NSW regarding the range of services, structures and programs available that enable their full participation, equality of opportunity and equality of citizenship. During 2008-2009, 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 access to the built environment, voting in elections, human rights, and the availability and use of adjustable height examination tables in general practitioners rooms.

## E-MAIL DISCUSSION GROUP

During the year, the discussion group provided a vehicle for providing information, and consulting with people with disabilities. Approximately half (55%) 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. During the year, the discussion group use reflected the following:



- **Having A Say**  
trains, planes, taxis, buses,  
premises, human rights, energy
- **Sharing Info**  
products and events (eg expos),  
about each other, about PDCN
- **Opportunities**  
for accommodation and work

## 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 2009-2010 PDCN participated in two Expos: a Disability Expo at Central Railway Station and a Disability Expo at Chatswood.



## FACEBOOK

In February 2010 PDCN launched its Facebook fan 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 fan page contains information about workshops, community consultations, specific-issue consultations, and provides opportunities for interaction via discussion/comments. At the end of the financial year PDCN had 65 people who had joined the Facebook site.

Analysis of Facebook activity during the five months it has been operating in the financial year shows that:

- 67% of the people were female, and 33% were male
- The greatest percentage of males (11%) were aged 35-44
- The greatest percentage of females (28%) were aged 25-34

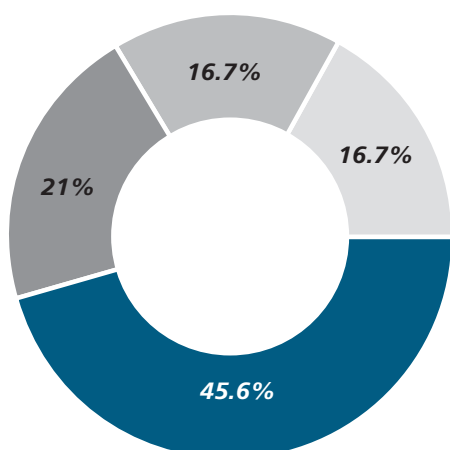


# OBJECTIVE 1

Continued

## INFORMATION SERVICE

During the 2008-2009 year PDCN provided an information service to people who contacted us. The requests were received by telephone, e-mail and fax. The service operates from Monday to Friday, during business hours. The requests received from the Information Service during the year reflected the following:



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

## NEWSLETTERS

During the year PDCN prepared and distributed four newsletters to its membership via e-mail 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); invited 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, and distributed in Information Bags at Expos and when PDCN gave presentations.

## WEBSITE

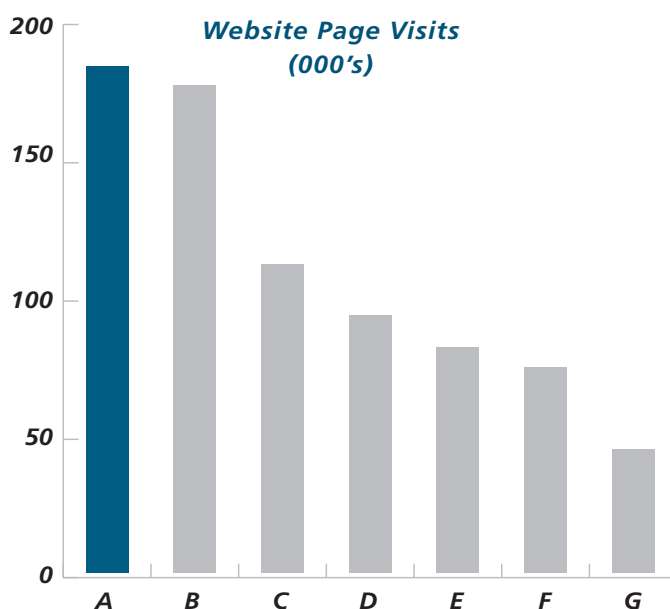
***In October/November 2009 PDCN developed and launched a new website.***

The reason for the new design was to develop a communication tool that:

- Reflected the PDCN logo that was developed in 2009
- Provided a more professional website that better reflected the organisation
- A user friendly website that has W3C ranking for disability (as identified under the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines)
- An easier and speedier website to maintain and update

The Website is an important tool of the organisation. 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.

In the nine months of the 2009-2010 financial year that the new website has been operational the site has had 777,472 people visiting different pages and files within the site. The seven most visited sections within the website represented 34.18% of the total visits, and listed in a descending order from the most viewed have been:



- A. Adjustable height beds in General Practice initiatives
- B. Physical Disability Council of NSW... AGM, Contact and What is life-long physical disability
- C. Supporting the Work of PDCN...
- D. Publications (prepared by PDCN)
- E. Consultations (to inform the work of PDCN)
- F. Educational Information for Students
- G. Information guide

# 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 2009-2010 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. During the 2009-2010 financial year Community Consultations were held in:

- Burwood in September 2009, where PDCN facilitated two separate consultations
- Penrith in November 2009
- Nowra in March 2010
- Batemans Bay in March 2010

### 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 using a number of different avenues including using: newsletters; e-bulletins, surveys, expo bags, targeted conversations with members, PDCN email discussion group and facilitated consultations by telephone conference link-up. Examples include: conducted disaster planning for vulnerable communities, chronic pain, provision of education to students with disability, clothing design for people who use wheelchairs, recreation and leisure, out of hours care support, and driver rehabilitation and independence.

### 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 explore possibilities for collaborative work. For example, at the Forum held in September 2009 links were established, developing into the creation of a joint submission about Adjustable Height Examination Tables in General Practice, which was one area of focus for PDCN work in 2009-2010. This submission was then forwarded to the Royal Australian College of General Practice.

## 'DEFINING PATHWAYS' WORKSHOP

As part of the Physical Disability Council's policy to develop the individual capacities of people with physical disabilities, a workshop was developed in 2008-2009 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 workshop focuses on empowerment, person centred planning, and mainstreaming. The workshop is designed to offer participants skills and strategies 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 for participants to get to know themselves better as well as providing support and the opportunity to celebrate success as they achieve their personal objectives.

The Workshop provides a natural opportunity for participants to become connected to supporting peers and mentors. By the conclusion of the Workshop each participant was: supported by their peers who have also been participants; able to identify peers in their community to support them in achieving their goals; and mentored by PDCN facilitators and/or others in their communities. Each participant acquired the knowledge and experience at the associated skills of gathering peer support.

During 2009-2010 Workshops were conducted in Burwood, and Batemans Bay. An evaluation completed by participants at the conclusion of the Workshop indicated the majority of participants believed: the Workshop was relevant to their needs; they had identified a goal that was important to them; and 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.

## 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. During the 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 website. Support provided to organisations during 2009-2010 included: Multicultural Disability Advocacy Service (Managing their own website since January 2010); Australasian Network of Students with Disabilities (ANSWD) (Managing their own website since October 2010); Supported Living Forum; and IMPACT.

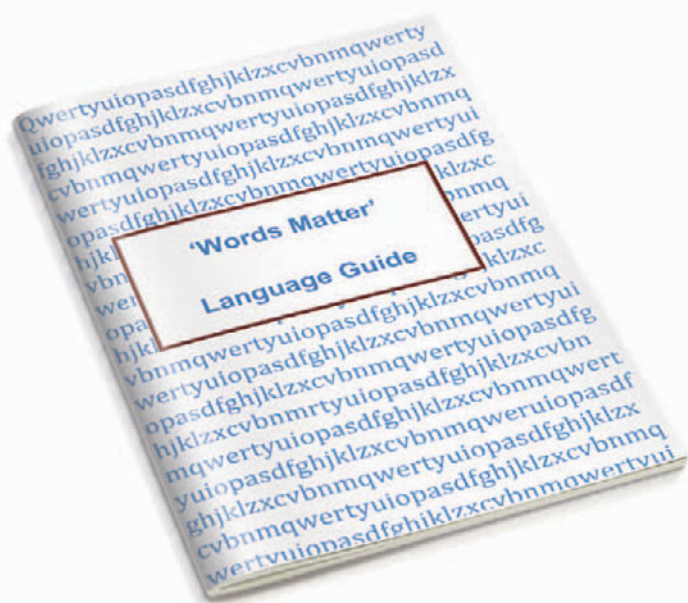
## OBJECTIVE 2

Continued

### 'WORDS MATTER' LANGUAGE GUIDE

'Words Matter' was originally developed in the 2006-2007 year and was developed 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 the 2008-2009 year PDCN changed the format to an A5 "pocket-sized guide" and directed the text to a more general readership. In addition, 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, whilst 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 2009-2010, PDCN has used a number of strategies in relation to this objective:

- PDCN built on previous strategies and work to seek the equitable health outcomes for people with physical disability including research, working collaboratively with others, participating in advisory committees and working parties, attending forums, giving presentations and participating in interviews.
- During 2009-2010 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 the membership of PDCN.
- PDCN developed 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.

### HEALTH: 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. The work of PDCN continued during 2009-2010 financial year, and the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) has now published the draft of the new Standards, and adjustable height beds are identified as a 'flagged' ie mandatory item. Activity in 2009-2010 included:

1. Worked collaboratively with others
  - Royal Australian College of General Practice
  - Women with Disabilities Australia
  - Australia Human Rights Commission
  - NSW Council on the Ageing
  - People with Disabilities Australia
2. Participated in advisory committees etc
  - Provided information to the Standards Committee of the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners
3. Prepared submissions and reports
  - Involved in the preparation of a joint submission for the

## OBJECTIVE 3

### Continued

RACGP Review, with People with Disabilities, Women with Disabilities Australia, and NSW Council on the Ageing. Final submission was signed /endorsed by more than 130 organisations/people

#### 4. Gave presentations and interviews

- The PDCN Research was the subject of a presentation by Graeme Innes AM from the Human Rights Commission at PDCN's Annual General Meeting in October 2009
- Issued media releases and raised issues with a number of state and commonwealth government agencies
- Provided information to people with disabilities about the survey results, and the RACGP review via newsletters, website and community consultations
- Promoted the value of height-adjustable treatment beds to General Practitioners using wide distribution of a flyer, and information to Divisions of General Practice.

#### 5. Involved in research

- Prepared a Report identifying the issues and the findings of the PDCN research

## VOTING

PDCN continues to believe that a person's right and obligation to vote applies to all citizens of Australia. During previous years PDCN has encouraged government to utilise accessible polling places during elections by placing submissions, working on the Electoral Office's community reference group, and conducting surveys. During the 2009-2010 financial year PDCN has continued to focus attention on voting:

#### 1. Worked collaboratively with others

- Supported (not financial support) an individual who placed a complaint with the human Rights Commission about inadequate access a Polling Place at the 2008 Local Government Election
- Initiative by Mayors to identify accessible building suitable for use as Polling Places, and provide that information to the NSW Electoral Office
- Meeting with the Disability Discrimination Legal Centre seeking advice regarding a formal complaint about access to a Polling Place at the 2008 Local Government Elections

#### 2. Participated in advisory committees etc

- NSW Electoral Office's Equality to Democracy Reference Group Gave presentations and interviews
- Local Government and Shires Association, Operations and Reform Committee regarding accessible polling places

#### 3. Involved in research

- Used information gained from PDCN survey which was conducted about the 2008 Local Government Elections

## 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.

Community education enables PDCN to facilitate social change within the broader community. 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.

Activity in 2009-2010:

#### 1. Worked collaboratively with others

- New South Wales Council for Social Security (NCOSS) Profile of the Sector Working Party
- Disability Advocacy Network Australia
- NCOSS Social Inclusion Working group
- Women with Disabilities Australia
- Fair Go for Pensioners Alliance
- CityRail regarding International Day of Disability

#### 2. Participated in advisory committees etc

- PDCN presence on the Board of Management of the Association for Children with a Disability in NSW

#### 3. Prepared submissions and reports

- Reviewed and updated parts of 'Through the Maze' for the Association for Children with a Disability NSW
- Submission to NSW Liberals & Nationals Social Policy Framework: Smarter Stronger Healthier Safer

#### 4. Gave presentations and interviews

- Presentation about PDCN to the Penrith Disabilities Action Forum
- Interviewed by Phil Mercer from the BBC (Channel 4) about inclusive recreation/leisure for people who have disability
- Presentation to the Access Committee of the Blacktown City Council
- Presentation to a government and disability sector delegation from Thailand
- Presentation to students from the Australian Catholic University
- Network 10: Enquiry about the number of people with physical disabilities in Australia
- Prepared a synopsis for the 75th NCOSS Conference which was accepted "Learning from our experience to build a strong platform for advancing social justice"

#### 5. Attended forum

- Commonwealth Government Ombudsman's Roundtable
- TAFE regarding the review of a textbook
- Non- Government Peaks Research Forum
- HACC PEAK Issues Forums (NCOSS initiative)



## OBJECTIVE 3

### Continued

#### IMPACT OF AGEING ON THE NEEDS OF PEOPLE WITH PHYSICAL DISABILITY

PDCN participated in an inquiry investigating options and services for people with a disability as they age. The Commonwealth Government conducted this inquiry with the aim of ensuring a continued quality of life, and to identify any inadequacies in current service provision.

A joint submission was prepared by the Council on the Ageing (COTA) and PDCN highlighting the assumptions: that service delivery should not depend on the availability of a carer; that an acceptable quality of life is not necessarily experienced by younger people with a disability; and that the need for service supports will probably increase as a result of the impact of ageing on disability. Additional comment was made on the following five issues: housing; independence (service delivery); financial affairs; access to the community; and transport.

In 2009-2010 PDCN:

1. Worked collaboratively with others
  - Disability and dementia training Project. PDCN continued to be active on the Steering Committee including providing materials to inform the development of the package and the development of scenarios that for inclusion in the package. PDCN will also be involved with facilitating the Workshops in the two pilot workshops
2. Participated in advisory committees etc
  - Steering Committee for the development of a Disability and Dementia training package
3. Prepared submissions and reports
  - Senate Community Affairs Inquiry into Planning Options and Services for People Ageing with a Disability. Joint Submission to the Inquiry by: Council on the Ageing (NSW) and Physical Disability Council of NSW
4. Gave presentations and interviews
  - Presented at the Disability Studies Conference at the University of NSW on the "Impact of Ageing on the Needs of People with Physical Disability"
5. Involved in research
  - Ageing with a Lifelong Disability Project. PDCN participated in a joint research project with the University of New South Wales with student researchers, overseen by academics from the School of Social Sciences and International Studies and the Social Policy Research Centre. The focus of the research PDCN was involved in was Economic Issues

#### ASSISTIVE DEVICES AND EQUIPMENT

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.

PDCN has pro actively 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. During 2009-2010 PDCN has:

1. Worked collaboratively with others
  - Attended meetings of the PADP Community Alliance
  - Provided verbal feedback on Draft Code of Practice for the Australian Healthcare and Assistive Technology Products and Services Industry
2. Participated in advisory committees etc
  - A member of PDCN's Committee of Management continued her appointment on the EnableNSW Advisory Council as a 'consumer'
3. Prepared submissions and reports
  - A PADP Community Alliance Position Statement on the Final Report of the Legislative Council's Inquiry into the Program of Appliances for disabled people (PADP).
  - PADP Community Alliance Submission to the Royal Australian College of General Practice regarding adjustable height examination tables
4. Gave presentations and interviews
  - Met with the NSW Shadow Health Minister, Jillian Skinner MP with representatives from the PADP Community Alliance

#### HEALTH: OTHER

As an organisation representing lifelong disability the relevant health issues depended significantly on age. Over the past year PDCN has provided feedback to State and Commonwealth Governments via roundtable discussions, parliamentary inquiries and submissions, on a range of issues:

1. Worked collaboratively with others
  - NCOS: Health Policy Advisory Group
2. Participated in advisory committees etc
  - Member of the NSW Health NGO Advisory Committee
  - Ageing, Disability and Home Care NSW Department of Human Services- Health Therapy Taskforce
3. Prepared submissions and reports
  - Submission about Health Care Identifiers and Privacy to the Department of Health and Ageing
  - Submission to NSW Health Community Review, from the Health NGO Advisory Committee
  - Submission Draft National Pain Strategy
4. Attended Forum
  - Healthcare Identifiers and Privacy Regulation Consultation and Forum

## OBJECTIVE 3

### Continued

#### ACCESS TO THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

With the launch of the 'Premises Standards' in March 2010, the disability community is finally closer to having a mechanism that will provide greater consistency between building legislation and discriminatory legislation, providing greater accessibility for new buildings and where an older building is extended or renovated, that the new or modified part of the building will need to comply with the new standards.

The Premises Standards will be incorporated into the 'Building Code of Australia', and become operational from May 2011. PDCN remains concerned about some of the compromises that the disability community has needed to make to obtain approval for these standards, but PDCN will continue to work for improved access to community facilities.

Strategies used in 2009-2010:

1. Worked collaboratively with others:
  - NSW Council on the Ageing
  - Local Government and Shires Association
  - Australian Network for Universal Housing Design
  - Home Modification Information Clearinghouse Advisory Committee
  - Liveable Communities: Better practice initiatives (initiative of Local Government and Shires Association)
  - Initiated 'Somewhere to Sit' initiative which will be a focus of collaborative work in 2010-2011
  - RSL & Services Clubs Association about the use of scooters in club premises
2. Prepared submissions and reports:
  - Position Statement: Access All Areas – a national summit of peak disability and ageing, advocacy organisations and official Disability Advisory Councils.
  - Submission about the Technical Directions Footpath Parking Scheme for the Roads and Traffic Authority
  - Developed materials for the RSL and Services Clubs Association, regarding patrons who use motorised scooters
  - City of Canterbury Access and Mobility Control Plan, Prepared for the City of Canterbury
  - Draft Guideline for Accessing Compliance of Bus Stops with the Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport 2002
3. Gave presentations and interviews
  - Interviewed by the Sydney Morning Herald, about Access to entertainment/ theatres
  - Interviewed for Channel 10 news about misuse of the accessible parking scheme
4. Attended forum
  - Redesign of open spaces at Chinatown
  - IPART Information Session about Energy issues
  - City of Sydney Access Forum
  - Access to Metro stations
  - Energy Information Forum

#### TRANSPORT

Whilst the 2007 Commonwealth Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport report has still not been finalised, the disability community has learnt many important lessons about timelines and the review process, and these have been invaluable for establishing effective timelines for the Premises Standards.

As part of the transport portfolio PDCN has focused on providing feedback on taxi services to a number of State Government authorities, including discussions regarding the current design of Wheelchair Accessible Taxis. PDCN has also provided input into a NSW Taxi Industry Parliamentary Inquiry on the adoption of a universally accessible taxi fleet, increased availability, regulatory reforms, improved staff training and the review of the Taxi Transport Subsidy Scheme:

1. Worked collaboratively with others
  - Initiated a joint Expression of Interest to the Department of Transport and Infrastructure to deliver disability awareness education to employees of rail, bus, ferry etc.
  - Public Interest Advocacy Centre (PIAC)
  - Stakeholders regarding the WAT Measurement Protocol
2. Participated in advisory committees etc
  - Member of the NSW Ministry of Transport- Accessible Transport Consultative Group
3. Prepared submissions and reports
  - Joint Submission with Disability Discrimination Legal Centre on Taxi Industry Inquiry
  - Report on the Outer Metropolitan Bus Service Planning Guidelines , Ministry of Transport
  - Draft Guideline for Assessing Compliance of Bus Stops with the Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport 2002, Australian Human Rights Commission
  - Comment for the City of Canterbury – Draft Access and Mobility Development Control Plan (2009)
  - Report on the Outer Metropolitan Bus Service Planning Guidelines prepared for the Ministry of Transport
  - Submission on the 2010 IPART Taxi Fare Review NSW
  - Taxi Transport Subsidy Scheme (TTSS) Draft Compliance Policy Revisions, NSW Ministry of Transport
4. Gave presentations and interviews
  - Appeared before Parliamentary Inquiry: Taxi Industry Inquiry and responded to 'questions on notice' following appearance
  - Interview with journalist (from ABC) about accessible taxis

## OBJECTIVE 3

### Continued

#### INDIVIDUALISED SUPPORT

Recently a National Disability Insurance Scheme was proposed by the Disability Investment Group as part of an initiative suggested at the Australia 2020 Summit. The model currently being investigated would provide a long-term entitlement based funding option for the provision of disability supports. PDCN believes that a program providing self-directed funding would be significantly better than the inadequacies in currently experienced in service delivery. PDCN supports a scheme that provides a wide variety of options to assist with the additional responsibilities that a self directed model would impose, including service brokers, personal agents, fiscal intermediaries and voucher mechanisms.

In 2009-2010 PDCN:

1. Worked collaboratively with others
  - 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
  - Spinal Cord Injuries Australia regarding Out of Hours Services
  - 'In control' (policy change in Australia to enable individuals with disability and their families to self manage their support)
2. Participated in advisory committees etc
  - Vulnerable Communities Project – Disaster Planning. Provided input via findings of a specific issue consultation organised by PDCN
3. Prepared submissions and reports
  - Submission: Substitute Decision Making for People Lacking Capacity for the NSW Legislative Council Standing Committee on Social Issues
  - Submission: Draft Lifestyle Planning Policy
4. Gave presentations and interviews
  - Consulted by KPMG regarding the Industry Development Fund
  - Interview by a journalist (from 2SM) about reducing the number of people receiving the disability pension
  - Enquiry from Canberra based journalist about National (Disability) Insurance Scheme
5. Attended forums
  - Forum: From institutions to community living
  - Dubbo and Parramatta ADHC Forums: Services for People with Disability

#### HUMAN RIGHTS

Following the preparation of a paper for the National Human Rights Commission in 2008, PDCN has continued to actively advocate on issues regarding human rights. The Commonwealth Government sought feedback on human rights compliance as part of a United Nations four yearly review. As part of this review PDCN submitted a paper stressing the impact of inequalities and discriminatory

practices, and incorporating many issues common to PDCN such as: the lack of appropriate care of young people living in nursing homes and supported accommodation; limited access to legal aid; vulnerability of women with disabilities with regard to violence and abuse; inability to access all modes of public transport, residential options, and the built environment; and limited access to aids and equipment.

In 2009-2010 PDCN:

1. Prepared submissions and reports
  - Submission to Inquiry into the provision of education to students with a disability or special needs. NSW Legislative Council General Purpose Standing Committee no 2.
  - United Nation's Universal Periodic Review on human rights 2011 undertaken by the United Nations Human Rights Council: Initial Views of the Physical Disability Council of NSW
  - Campaigning for Consumers in Communications – Consultation Paper
  - NSW State Plan 2009 Review
2. Attended Forum
  - Keep Them Safe: Cross Sector Peaks Forum

#### NATIONAL DISABILITY STRATEGY

The National Disability Strategy was developed by the Commonwealth Government with the aim of reducing social exclusion through a whole-of-government, whole-of-life approach to disability issues. The following government initiatives have been adopted as part of this strategy:

- Adoption of the Optional Protocol to the international Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, providing individuals with a mechanism to make complaints,
- Inclusion of the National Disability Strategy as part of the Council of Australian Governments reform agenda, to ensure that relevant issues are discussed at a strategic level,
- Implementation of a feasibility study into the provision of a long-term entitlement based self directed care model, currently being determined by the Productivity Commission
- Revision of the Commonwealth Disability Strategy to ensure that all Australian Government agencies are compliant with the Disability Discrimination Act (1992)
- Increases to the Disability Support Review in recognition of the additional costs of disability
- Strategies aimed at developing increased employment opportunities within the Australian Public Service.

The work of PDCN during 2009-2010:

1. Prepared submissions and reports
  - Submission to Productivity Commission Inquiry: Revision of the National Standards for Disability Services
2. Attended forums
  - Accessible Arts about participation in music
  - Young Person's Forum on Mainstream Employment



# GOVERNANCE

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*During the year PDCN has continued to execute its Strategic Plan 2008-2011. The Plan, which was developed by the PDCN membership, has continued to be a valuable tool for both focusing the work of the organisation and evaluating the organisation's performance.*

*The Committee of Management has a vital role regarding governance of the Physical Disability Council of NSW. During 2009-2010 the Committee of Management again received training on Governance, and this is now an annual event for Committee Members. It is clear that the Committee of Management is respected for its work to ensure good governance, and during the year the President of the Committee (Ann-Mason Furmage) appeared in an educational video that is being used as part of an Ageing, Disability and Home Care, Department of Human Services initiative. The DVD, titled *It's Your Business*, is used to encourage good governance and management in not-for-profit organisations.*

*The Committee of Management has continued to be proactive about the effectiveness of the Committee and organisation. During the year, a risk management analysis was completed, policies were reviewed and new policies were initiated, the financial management practices related to banking were modernised, and the Committee reflected on their own performance during a self evaluation process.*

*In terms of risk, the most pressing risk to the work of PDCN is 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. To assist in addressing this situation PDCN sought, and gained, Tax Gift Recipient Status, and has placed applications for financial grants to assist with the core work of the organisation. A copy of the financial reports for 2009-2010 are shown at Appendix 2.*

*To enable all of this important work to occur, 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).*

*The individuals who have been members of the Committee during 2009-2010 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 2010 follow:*



### **ANN-MASON FURMAGE**

President

Ann-Mason was born and grew up in the United States of America. In 1950, she contracted poliomyelitis, 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 along with her (former) husband and two daughters. 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. Professionally, Ann-Mason has been an accountant or financial controller for a number of organisations, including an accounting firm, a firm that handled foreclosed real estate for banks (in the USA), a national labour union, a group of retirement homes and a not-for-profit group representing people who have a liver disease.

In 1996, physical problems associated with the late effects of poliomyelitis resulted in Ann-Mason to leave 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, 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 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 where he was hospitalised in isolation for six months. 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).

Neil was forced to take medical retirement from the NSW Department of Education because of the onset of the late effects of polio twelve years ago. He 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 ten years have been Support Group Coordinator for the State. For the past five years he has also been the Secretary of the Network.

Since 2003 Neil has conducted Country Conferences in different locations around the state and assisted with the organisation of metropolitan seminars. He organised the Polio Australasia Conference in Sydney in May 2007 and was instrumental in the agreement at that forum to form Polio Australia and is currently on the Management Committee of that organisation.

In 2007 Neil joined the Management Committee of the Physical Disability Council of NSW and is currently Vice President. In 2008 Neil was involved in designing and promoting a survey which canvassed the needs of people who are Ageing with a Disability. During 2008/9 he travelled NSW carrying out community consultations and presenting a course for people with a disability titled 'Defining Pathways'.

Neil joined the Albury City Access Committee in 2009, and is now Chairperson of that group.



**ANDREW LONGHURST**

Secretary

Andrew Longhurst has Osteogenesis Imperfecta (OI or Brittle Bones) and is currently Secretary of the PDCN Management Committee.

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.

He has a Bachelor of Social Science (Psychology) and a Graduate Diploma in Counseling 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.



**PETER A SIMPSON**

Treasurer

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

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.



**EDDIE MACKINTOSH**

Committee Member

Ed's physical disability is as a result of a spinal injury at L3, and also a stroke he experienced following an assault.



**JOANNA NICOL**

Committee Member

Joanna Nicol has a strong passion for inclusive practise in all aspects of life. Her studies and then 20 year career in both the public and private sectors have focused largely on the development of strong policy to enable participation by all, regardless of ability. She believes that once you enable participation, the other parts of cohesion and equity can happen organically.

Joanna enjoys cooking, writing, technology, jazz music and all aspects of social enquiry. Joanna has both lifelong and acquired disability and uses a wheelchair. She lives in Sydney



**WAYNE NEVINSON**

Committee Member

Wayne has a physical disability and uses a wheelchair for mobility.



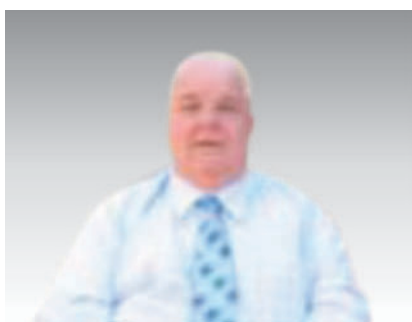
**JENNY KAPP**

Committee Member

Jenny is a freelance educator and writer with over ten years experience in presenting and facilitating workshops for a range of community and government organisations. In the past she has produced a selection of radio documentaries for ABC Radio National and Triple J and coordinated training for a Sydney-based not-for-profit organisation. Jenny has a particular interest in teaching people about communication, computer and technology-based subjects and working with disadvantaged students.

Jenny has a BA (Communication) from the University of Technology, Sydney – majoring in Radio Journalism – a Certificate IV in Assessment and Workplace Training, an International Computer Driving License qualification and she is currently undertaking a Master of Education (Adult Education) degree at UTS.

Jenny previously served as a Director on the Board of The Spastic Centre (between 1999 and 2003).



**KEVIN FINLAYSON**

Committee Member

Kevin was born in Armidale, in 1952 with Multiplex Congenita.

Kevin completed training at Mt. Wilga for open employment and started work at Australia Post at Railway Square Post Office in Sydney in 1973 and worked there for 5 years. He then worked at Telstra in Penrith from 1978 to 1994. In 1994 after leaving Telstra Kevin moved to Yamba on the far north coast, 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 moved back to Sydney in 1999.

Kevin joined the Penrith Disability Resource Centre in 1999 and worked tirelessly to raise access and equity issues for people with a disability, and in July 2006, Penrith City Council recognised his work in the local community by recognising him on the Wall of Achievement within the council chambers.

Over the years Kevin held several positions at Penrith Disability Resource Centre Inc (PDRC): in 1999 as an Information Officer assisting people with a disability and able bodied people alike; in charge of fundraising for PDRC for 5 years, raising funds to purchase goods for the office or pay for training courses for people with a disability; he was Chairperson of PDRC for 1 year; Secretary for PDRC for 7 years; and a Committee member for 4 years. Kevin is still on the PDRC management committee.

Kevin has also been involved in a number of other organisations including: Penrith City Council Access committee in 2001 remained on that committee for 4 years; Sports Council of NSW -Committee Member 4 years; Penrith Disability Action Forum (PDAF) Chairperson 7 years – taking on such issues as wheelchair access for Penrith Plaza, lifts for Penrith Railway, Hoyts access, EMLAC keys for accessible toilets, laybacks in pedestrian footpaths in Penrith LGA (specifically Mulgoa Rd).

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

Kevin has completed Disability Advocacy Course Cert II -TAFE, and received TAFE -Directors Exemplary Achievement Award. He delivered Training and undertook Public Speaking within schools and businesses about Disability Awareness Training. Kevin has also completed the TAFE course Access Auditing in a Built-up Environment.





**WENDY POTTER**

Committee Member

At the age of two Wendy was diagnosed with Juvenile Arthritis. She has used a wheelchair from the age of 18, but this has not stopped her from leading a full and productive life.

Wendy spent approximately 24 years working in the private sector in positions ranging from reception to accounts work and finally in human resources. In her final year at work Wendy experienced a major spinal accident and spent several months in RPA hospital undergoing spinal surgery.

At the conclusion of her working life, Wendy undertook study at the South Western Institute of TAFE and currently holds a Certificate 1V Community Service Welfare, Certificate 1V Workplace Training and Assessment and a Diploma with Distinction in Community Service Welfare.

Wendy has been a long term member of the Physical Disability Council of NSW and currently the Chairman of ParaQuad NSW. Wendy is a past Board Director

and President of People with Disability Australia for 9 years, as well as being a committed member of several high profile Government committees.



**PATRICIA BYRNE**

Committee Member

After the establishment of PDCN Patricia became a member, and has been interested in the organisation ever since. She joined the Management Committee early in 2007 and is committed to the ideals and objectives of PDCN.

Patricia is also Hon. Secretary of the St. George Association For People With Physical Disabilities Inc. and has filled this role for many years. Previously she was a State Councillor with Disabled Peoples International (now People With Disability Australia Inc.) also serving on their Administrative Committee and their Policy Planning Committee. Prior to, and during 1981 (International Year of Disabled Persons), she was elected Secretary of the St. George IYDP Committee and was involved in the establishment of the Post-Polio Network NSW serving for a few years on their Management Committee and filling the role of Secretary in the early years.

Her particular areas of interest are the built environment and the need for physical access, independent living (encompassing attendant care, housing,

transport/mobility), appropriate funding for PADP, income security etc. In June 2010 Patricia was awarded an OAM- Medal of the Order of Australia in the General Division, for service to people with disabilities, and to the community.

Patricia has always worked in the private sector and is employed on a full time basis as a Secretary/Credit Manager with a wholesale company supplying equipment to the boating industry. She has been in this current position for the past 28 years. Her interests include painting, music, theatre, embroidery and enjoying the company of family and friends. Patricia had polio as a child and needs to use a wheelchair for mobility.



**SONIA MARKOFF**

Committee Member

Sonia is an above right amputee as a result of a childhood osteo sarcoma.



**JOHN MORGAN**

Committee Member

John Morgan has a physical disability. He has been married for 36 years and he and his wife have twins. John's wife Cheryl has cerebral palsy and his daughter has an intellectual disability (not related to her parents disability). John's daughter lives out in the community.

John was employed with the Spastic Centres of NSW for 49 years starting in 1961. During that time he: worked on a lathe for 13 years where John was paid full award wages while he was still walking; was the Liaison Officer at a Hostel for people with disabilities for 8 years; supervised and managed a team of up to 20 people with and without a disability on an assembly line on various products such as ear muffs, electrical heat control for water beds and aeronics which also involved training, monitoring and quality control as well. John obtained his Rehabilitation Supervision Certificate at Seaforth TAFE, where he was one of three to pass the course (out of 26 who started it). This was a one-off three years course in 1989. John also held various Project Officer positions to improve the

rights of people with disabilities. He has also implemented and carried out surveys, including one nationally. The results of two of these have been published.

John has been involved in a number of organisations giving him a good grounding in understanding what the issues are for people with disabilities, including: one of ten directors of the Spastic Centres of New South Wales in Australia. (Retired after 18 years); member of the board of The Physical Disabilities Council NSW (3 different times amounting to 8 years); member of the Advisory Council on Access to the Built Environment for the local council for 7 years. John has also contributed on numerous other management committees over the last 35 years. For example, advocacy groups, complaint authorities, and advisory groups. He was also Chair Person of one for 4 years and Vice Chair Person of another for 2 years.

Since 1990 John has also played a major role in getting the issues associated with ageing with a disability on the agenda within the Spastic Centre of NSW and State / Federal government. He has also had a significant role in forming the Future Alliance (FA) which has involvement of aged care, disability services providers and consumer advocates. The aim is to explore availability of options to enable people with disabilities who are ageing to continue living in their own homes.

John is currently working on a major project about spinal cord compression caused through disability. It took him 8 years to get people to be aware of this, and as a result of this many lives have been saved. John presented his findings at an International Conference held in Sydney Feb. 2009 with 1,400 people from 43 countries.

In June 2010 John was awarded an OAM Medal of the Order of Australia in the General Division, for service to people with disabilities through the Spastic Centre of NSW.

# 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	6 (of 6)	6 (of 6)	12 (of 12)
<b>NEIL VON SCHILL</b> Vice President	6 (of 6)	6 (of 6)	12 (of 12)
<b>ANDREW LONGHURST</b> Treasurer (June - December 2009) Secretary (December 2009 - June 2010)	5 (of 6)	5 (of 6)	10 (of 12)
<b>PETER SIMPSON</b> Member (July - December 2009) Treasurer (December 2009 - June 2010)	4 (of 6)	1 (of 3)	5 (of 9)
<b>JENNY KAPP</b> Secretary (July - December 2009) Member (December 2009 - June 2010)	4 (of 6)	3 (of 3)	7 (of 9)
<b>PATRICIA BYRNE</b> Member	5 (of 6)		5 (of 6)
<b>SONIA MARKOFF</b> Member	4 (of 6)		4 (of 6)
<b>WENDY POTTER</b> Member	4 (of 6)		4 (of 6)
<b>KEVIN FINLAYSON</b> Member (Elected to Committee in October 2009)	4 (of 4)		4 (of 4)
<b>JOANNA NICOL</b> Member (Elected to Committee in October 2009)	2 (of 4)		2 (of 4)
<b>JOHN MORGAN</b> Member (Elected to Committee in October 2009)	4 (of 4)		4 (of 4)
<b>EDDIE MCINTOSH</b> Member (July - October 2009) (Joined in casual vacancy in February 2010)	3 (of 5)		3 (of 5)
<b>WAYNE NEVINSON</b> Member (Elected to Committee in October 2009)	1 (of 4)		1 (of 4)



# APPENDIX B

## FINANCIAL REPORTS

ABN: 26 858 845 702

### INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30th JUNE 2010

	2010 \$	2009 \$
<b>PROFIT FROM ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE INCOME TAX</b>	(25,486)	(37,547)
Income tax expense attributable to operating profit	-	-
<b>OPERATING PROFIT/(LOSS) AFTER INCOME TAX</b>	(25,468)	(37,547)
Retained profits at the beginning of the financial year	86,623	124,171
<b>RETAINED PROFITS AT THE END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR</b>	61,137	86,624

### BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 30th JUNE 2010

	NOTE	2010 \$	2009 \$
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	2	76,391	83,127
Trade and other receivables	3	839	-
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>		77,230	83,127
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Property, plant and equipment	4	16,323	23,743
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>		16,323	23,743
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		93,553	106,870
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Trade and other payables	5	19,885	11,356
Provisions	6	12,531	8,890
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		32,416	20,246
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		32,416	20,246
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		61,137	86,624
<b>MEMBERS' FUNDS</b>			
Retained profits		61,137	86,624
		61,137	86,624

**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 Incorporated 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 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 Standards, Australian Accounting Interpretations 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 are charged as expenses when incurred.

**2. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS**

	2010 \$	2009 \$
St George Bank	5,768	7,868
St George Bank - Term Deposit	54,049	54,049
ING Business Optimiser A/c	4	21,210
Westpac Banking Corporation Cheque A/c	8,757	
Westpac Banking Corporation Reserves A/c	7,275	
Westpac Banking Corporation Gift Fund A/c	534	
Westpac Banking Corporation Corporate Mastercard	4	
	<b>76,391</b>	<b>83,127</b>

**3. TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES**

**CURRENT**

Trade Debtors	67	-
Other Debtors	772	-
	<b>839</b>	<b>-</b>

**4. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT**

Plant & Equipment	42,921	40,815
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	26,928	17,461
	<b>15,993</b>	<b>23,354</b>
Office Furniture & Equipment	10,009	10,009
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	9,679	9,620
	<b>330</b>	<b>389</b>
<b>Total Property Plant and Equipment</b>	<b>16,323</b>	<b>23,743</b>

**5. TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES**

**CURRENT**

PAYG withholding payable	6,016	883
Trade Creditors	6,356	5,718
Superannuation Payable	3,842	2,128
Input Tax Credits	1,997	1,923
Payroll Clearing Account	935	-
GST Payable	739	704
	<b>19,885</b>	<b>11,356</b>

**6. PROVISIONS**

Provision for Holiday Pay	12,531	8,890
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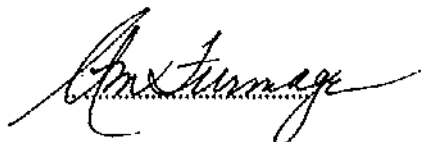
The committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

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 2010 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 21 day of September 2010

## **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 2010, 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 preparation 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, selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies, and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

### **Auditor's responsibility**

My responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on my audit. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used, as described in Note 1, are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. I conducted my audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These Auditing 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 depends upon the auditors judgement, including the assessment of the risks or 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 entities preparation and fair presentation of the financial report 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 entities 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.

The financial report has been prepared for distribution to members for the purpose of fulfilling the committee's financial reporting obligations under Associations Incorporations Act 2009 (NSW). I disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance of this annual report or on the financial report to which it relates to any person other than the members, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

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

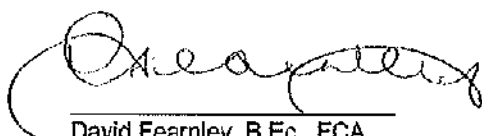
## **Independence**

In conducting my audit, I have complied with the independence requirements of Australian professional ethical pronouncements.

## **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 2010 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).

**D.A. FEARNLEY & CO**



David Fearnley, B.Ec., FCA.  
24th September 2010

**DETAILED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT**  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30th JUNE 2010

ABN: 26 858 845 702

	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>INCOME</b>		
Donations - Public	5,034	20
Ageing & Disability Dept	224,619	219,312
Members' Contributions	2,800	1,373
Other Income	6,033	4,656
	<b>238,486</b>	<b>225,361</b>
<b>OTHER INCOME</b>		
Interest Received	2,534	4,753
Profit on Sale of Non-Current Assets	953	-
	<b>3,487</b>	<b>4,753</b>
	<b>241,973</b>	<b>230,114</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Advertising	1,067	500
Auditor's Remuneration	4,205	3,225
Bank Charges	1,110	791
Bookkeeping Fees	5,888	7,033
Carer Costs	23	-
Computer Expenses	7,217	7,057
Consultancy Fees	2,049	4,987
Committee Expenses	9,621	9,435
Depreciation	10,838	10,804
Holiday Pay Provision	3,641	14,965
Insurance	5,590	5,730
Internet Expenses	996	1,199
Leasing Charges		
Media Releases	344	269
Permits, Licences & Fees	-	20
Postage	1,534	1,208
Printing & Stationary	4,728	6,799
Rent	12,731	11,213
Salaries & Wages	130,672	70,862
Staff Training & Amenities	862	4,915
Subscriptions	859	515
Superannuation Contributions-		
Compulsory	7,832	7,586
Superannuation Contributions - Salary		
Packaged	50,000	92,094
Telephone	5,039	4,531
Travelling Expenses	613	1,174
Volunteer Expenses	-	749
	<b>267,459</b>	<b>267,661</b>
<b>Net Profit/(Loss)</b>	<b>(25,486)</b>	<b>(37,547)</b>



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

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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

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then ask for (02) 9552-1606