



2021-2022 ANNUAL REPORT

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Physical Disability Council of NSW Inc.
ABN 26 858 845 702

For the year ended 30 June 2022

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WHO WE ARE

The Physical Disability Council of NSW (PDCN) is the peak representative organisation of and for people with physical disability across NSW. PDCN has a majority of people with physical disability in its membership and its governance.

MEMBERSHIP

Individual membership of PDCN includes people with a range of physical disabilities 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 that have a commitment to people who have physical disability and to the work of PDCN.

VISION

As people living with physical disability we live in a society where our human rights are protected, our equality of opportunity is assured and our full participation is a reality.

PURPOSE

To build empowered, inclusive communities through:

- Information and education
- Engagement and participation
- Developing individual capacity and resilience

VALUES

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

Integrity	we are trustworthy, open and honest in all of our undertakings
Inclusion	we include people with physical disabilities in all that we do
Independence	we value our independence to remain true to our values
Innovation	we are committed to finding new ways to better support people with physical disabilities and the work we do
Collaboration	we work in partnership with our members, stakeholders and the broader community to achieve our purpose



JOHN MOXON

(VALE 2022) PDCN FOUNDING MEMBER
WITH WIFE, MARGARET TUCKER MOXON.
PDCN MEMBERS SINCE 1994



THE RYAN FAMILY

L TO R MATILDA, ROSIE, CORMAC, HANNAH
AND MATT. **PDCN MEMBERS** SINCE 2021



21-22

YEAR IN REVIEW

Secured long term funding for PDCN – NSW Dept. of Communities and Justice Disability Advocacy Futures Program – Systemic Advocacy Physical Disability

\$512K
per annum



NSW ROAD RULES

NSW Road Rules mass limits abolished for Motorised Mobility Devices (power wheelchairs and scooters)



EXEMPTION

Exemption to the Plastics and Circular Economy Act 2021 allowing for the continued supply of plastic straws for people with disability



72
Media
Appearances



276,741
Interactions



270

Members/Member
Organisations
+ 76% increase



35

Advisory Committees
- 106 Meetings



51

One off and specific
issue consultations





MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

MR CHRIS SPARKS


I am saddened to be composing this report in a week when we are mourning the tragic loss of a great Australian in John Moxon. John, with the support of a number of visionary individuals including Kevin Byrne and Fred Kaad, established PDCN in 1994. As one of our founding members, John's vision and intellect are embodied in PDCN's core values and his multi-decade contribution to disability reform must never be understated. John served on PDCN's Board for over 13 years and continued to support the organisation's work with his knowledge and insights. Many of us owe John a great debt of gratitude for making NSW a more inclusive and accessible place to live. John will be sorely missed by all who knew him and my condolences go to his wife Margaret and family.

This causes me to reflect on that old adage that there are only two certainties in life – those being death and taxes. However, I contend there is one more, and that is change. Change is feared by some, embraced by others and can go unnoticed until some less than desirable consequences start to materialise. An organisation's ability to flourish in an ever-changing world can depend substantially on how it navigates the potential minefield that can result from change.

In my years serving on the PDCN board, our organisation can hold its head high and be proud of how it has prospered in a dynamic, constantly changing environment. Not that long ago PDCN was facing the loss of its advocacy funding, fought a dire battle with the NSW Government to have it restored and then had to adapt to a new competitive funding model. Add in COVID, the constant evolution of the NDIS and a revolving door of NSW disability ministers and sometimes I get giddy just thinking about it. Serena and her team have excelled through all of this though I am sure they feel at times like the duck, seemingly calm moving across the lake whilst all the time paddling furiously underneath the water.

Now aged 63, my own life is changing as I charge head on into full time retirement having always worked since I was just a young lad of 19. This will also be my last President's report as I am standing down from the PDCN Board hoping to travel a bit more before age makes it all too difficult. I am also a great believer in organisational renewal and the need to continually refresh leadership by introducing new talent and ideas. In short, my time has come.

There are many positive reforms that PDCN has driven during my time on the Board that have delivered genuine benefit to those of us with physical disability. Fairer regulations on motorised mobility devices, cutting red tape for drivers of modified motor vehicles, the success of the #StandByMe campaign and getting lift access to the Sydney Harbour Bridge are just a few worth celebrating. However, those who know me well



are aware that I am fundamentally a glass half empty person who tends to focus on what still needs to be done and what we are yet to achieve.

I remain truly confounded and frustrated by the NSW Government's failure to mandate the new minimum accessibility standards in the revised National Construction Code. Surely developers and builders would want a consistent set of rules across all States and Territories as to what is mandated? Yet we have the absurd situation where NSW's requirements differ from those in Victoria, Queensland and elsewhere as to what is acceptable in terms of accessibility. I know PDCN will keep beating the drum loudly on this in the lead up to the next NSW election in March 2023. It really needs to change.

I also tend to go on like a broken record about a pet issue of mine and that is engagement with business, what I view as the real world. Disability organisations appropriately expend a lot of time and energy working with governments and engaging with similar organisations. I firmly believe there is much to be gained by engaging with businesses to open their eyes to the opportunities within the market demographic of people with disability. As an ageing traveller with disability, I find it astounding just how poor the majority of accommodation providers are when it comes to getting the basics right. There is a dearth of quality online information on room options and too many staff who act like a deer in the headlights once you start inquiring about wheelchair friendly accommodation. This is an industry who could win more business by implementing a few simple low cost initiatives and some training. It's just that someone needs to wake them up to the opportunity.

I am indebted to PDCN's members for affording me the privilege of serving on our Board for the past 6 years. It has been a wonderful experience engaging with so many insightful and talented individuals who make up both our Board and the PDCN team. Our office bearers have done much to guide and support me and I want to publicly thank Michael, Mary and Matt for always doing what was needed. I also want to acknowledge the valuable work done by our treasurer Simone and the countless hours she has dedicated to managing and safeguarding PDCN's finances. Along with Jacob, Rex and Diana, I can attest to calibre and commitment of all the PDCN Directors.

It was Serena who invited me to join the PDCN Board back in 2016 as I had known her for many years through our joint involvement in wheelchair sports. However back then I had no idea just what a capable, insightful, intelligent and connected woman she was. I have thoroughly enjoyed supporting Serena through my role as president and have great respect for her leadership. One last huge thank you to Hayley, Alice, Joshua, Wendy, Adrian, Heidz and Stuart for all you do to champion the interests of people with physical disability.

For me this is farewell but not goodbye, as I remain committed to supporting PDCN's work as best I can in the future. In closing, I would encourage anyone with a passion for disability reform to get involved with PDCN, perhaps nominate for the Board and continue John Moxon's extraordinary legacy.



REPORT FROM THE CEO

SERENA OVENS

The 2021 – 22 year has been yet another where we worked in a ‘new normal’! Going back into full lock down for the first three months of the year was tough, though having pivoted to online work for most of the previous year, the team were able to meet all expected delivery targets in our funded programs and have some significant wins to boot.

Following the announcement of NSW government funding for the disability advocacy sector in 2020, in late 2021 we finally successfully tendered for long term systemic advocacy funding for our core work. Significantly, we achieved a greater than 50% increase on our current level of funding through this tender. It is no minor relief to be able to put this uncertainty to bed and get on with focussing on what is our vision – full, equitable inclusion and opportunities in the NSW community for people with physical disability.

We’ve achieved some notable outcomes throughout the year. The policy team built significant relationships with government to achieve the funding of free RAT tests to people with disability; worked with partners in the sector to see the acceptance of no restrictions on the unladen mass of motorised mobility devices into the NSW Road Rules; and singlehandedly ensured the new Plastics and the Circular Economy Act 2021 had clear exemptions included for the supply and use of plastic straws by those with disability.

Our ILC team has once again surpassed all of its grant targets, assisting hundreds of people across NSW to build their own capacity to act, to better understand the NDIS and associated plan management, and delivered more than 600 one to one peer mentoring sessions – no mean feat when all of these needed to happen ‘virtually’!

We’ve remained in a strong position financially, increasing our equity, signing onto a further 3-5 year partnership with icare to deliver a fee for service ‘Wellbeing Visitor Program’ to their participants, contracted with two university research programs, bringing in \$36,500 for these contracts and nearly \$100,00 in untied funds in total over the year.

Subscribership and membership have both grown exponentially over the year, through some concerted initiatives on the team’s behalf, and it’s great to see so many of these new people so engaged with the work we do, joining consultations, responding to surveys and even stepping up to be media representatives when required.

None of our achievements would be possible without the support and dedication of the PDCN board and staff, I as ever I take this opportunity to recognise the time and effort they give to improve the lives of people with physical disability living in NSW. Thank you!



EXEMPTION TO THE PLASTICS AND CIRCULAR
ECONOMY ACT 2021 ALLOWING FOR THE CONTINUED
SUPPLY OF PLASTIC STRAWS FOR PEOPLE
WITH DISABILITY

MEET THE TEAM BOARD



CHRIS SPARKS
PRESIDENT



MICHAEL RABBITT
VICE PRESIDENT



SIMONE STANFORD
TREASURER



MATTHEW KAYROOZ
SECRETARY



MARY FLANAGAN
BOARD MEMBER



JACOB CROSS
BOARD MEMBER



DIANA FERNER
BOARD MEMBER



REX BETAR
BOARD MEMBER

BOARD ATTENDANCE RECORD

Chris Sparks	8/8	Matthew Kayrooz	8/8
Diana Ferner	4/8	Michael Rabbitt.....	7/8
Jacob Cross	5/8	Rex Betar	7/8
Mary Flanagan	5/8	Simone Stanford.....	8/8

MEET THE TEAM STAFF



SERENA OVENS
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



HAYLEY STONE
POLICY MANAGER



ALICE BATCHELOR
POLICY AND ENGAGEMENT OFFICER



JOSHUA RHODES
ONLINE AND SOCIAL MEDIA OFFICER



WENDY BANFIELD
EDUCATION AND ILC MANAGER



HEIDI HAYDON
ILC PEER FACILITATOR AND MENTOR



ADRIAN O'MALLEY
ILC PEER FACILITATOR AND MENTOR



STUART GREENFIELD
ILC PROJECT OFFICER

PEER GROUP FACILITATORS/SUPPORT STAFF

Astrid Bannah
Carolyn Campbell McLean
Debra Jefferis
Joanne Ryan

Laurece Keith
Pip Edgecombe
Renee Van Huisstede
Sean O'Neill

STRATEGIC FOCUS AREAS

PDCN works under set strategic focus areas as part of our strategic plan. These are reviewed and refined yearly, to ensure they are still aligned with the priorities of our members and reported to the Board bi-monthly to address progress against the Plan. Where we have achieved a specific outcome, we will once again look to our member's priorities to set the next focus area of work.

As ever we work under a Human Rights Framework and social model of disability, aligning what we do with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD), ensuring Australia continues to uphold its obligations to promoting the equal and active participation of all people with a disability in society and community life, having ratified the Convention in 2008.

We believe the work we do contributes to ensuring these rights particularly in line with UNCRPD Articles 8, 9, 11, 16, 17, 19, 20, 21, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29 and 30.



<https://www.un.org/development/desa/disabilities/convention-on-the-rights-of-persons-with-disabilities/convention-on-the-rights-of-persons-with-disabilities-2.html>

CHAMPION

Advocate for the full and equitable inclusion of people with physical disability in all parts of NSW society.

EDUCATE AND INFORM

Deliver innovative, outcomes focused programs that make a difference to the lives of, and develop the capacity of, people with physical disability.

CONNECT AND GROW

Develop and strengthen partnerships that enhance the work we do, and benefits people with physical disability.

Build a sustainable organisation that remains true to our vision and values.

CHAMPION

ADVOCATE FOR THE FULL AND EQUITABLE INCLUSION OF PEOPLE WITH PHYSICAL DISABILITY IN ALL PARTS OF NSW SOCIETY

2021-22 has continued to be a busy year for the policy team, successfully tendering for long term secure advocacy funding. We wrapped up commitments under the Transitional Advocacy Program in Dec 2021, then settled into our commitments under the Dept of Community and Justice's Disability Advocacy Futures Program (the DAFP) as the systemic peak for people with a physical disability.

We brought Alice Batchelor onboard in a new position, Policy and Member Engagement Officer, which increased team capacity. We also reinstated a student internship program and welcomed two social work students from Western Sydney University – Michaela Mead and Joza Cabral, into the team to work across our Housing Experiences Report. Michaela has continued to assist us on a part-time basis, since finishing her placement.

We've continued to operate with the ongoing threat of Covid19, and while public urgency has decreased, we know that the virus continues to have a negative impact across the lives of many of our members and their families. Higher costs of living and natural disasters have also been on our radar as issues that disproportionately impact the lives of many people with physical disability.

We are happy to report that we have again met all prescribed benchmarks, despite being understaffed for a significant part of the year and have continued to make significant headway across some of our proactive projects.

The formalisation of our position as systemic advocacy peak has given us the opportunity to finally start to contemplate how we want to position ourselves within the sector, and exciting new opportunities for collaboration and partnership. For the past six months in particular, the policy team has been focusing on connecting across Government departments, formalising mechanisms for our members to engage in decision-making, and building networks across the sector so we can accurately represent the collective interests of the physical disability community.

Sincere thanks to Serena, once again, for her support of the policy team over the last 12 months, particularly during the period where we were hiring for Alice's role. We are glad to report several strategic advocacy "wins" for our membership over 2021-22.



FREE RAPID ANTIGEN TESTS FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITY

With the onset of winter and the rolling back of free RATs for people on income support by the Federal Government, we were mindful that many people with physical disability might not be able to afford RATs for themselves or for those who care for them. We raised this issue with the Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services, with the result being that the NSW Government committed to trialing the provision of unlimited RATs to people at increased risk of Covid19 and their carers via local Neighbourhood Centres. The trial was successful and has now been extended, ensuring that people can continue to get the RATs that they need to keep themselves safe.

PARK'NPAY ROLLOUTS ACROSS METROPOLITAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS

PDCN has been working closely with the Department of Customer Service over the last 12 months, across several projects – a particular highlight of which is the PARK'nPAY app. This app allows people with disability who require accessible parking to locate spaces throughout metropolitan Sydney and also track available parking spaces in real time. PDCN, with the help of our members, has been involved in the co-design of the App, and has lobbied strongly for local councils to adopt the App – with the City of Sydney being the latest sign on.

We know that finding accessible parking can be a major challenge for people who require these spaces and is one more barrier to disability inclusion. Those who tested the App have universally described it as useful and easy to navigate, so we will continue our lobbying with the hope of getting all local councils to commit as soon as possible.

RIGHT TO PLASTIC STRAWS FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITY RECOGNISED IN AN EXPRESS EXEMPTION UNDER THE THE PLASTICS AND CIRCULAR ECONOMY ACT 2021

PDCN has been working to ensure that people with disability who require plastic straws for hydration and nutrition were not detrimentally impacted by the introduction of legislation across NSW banning the use of single use plastics. PDCN provided a submission to an NSW Government parliamentary inquiry into the phase out of single use plastics across NSW in 2020–21 and has been working with the Department of Primary Industry and the Environment (DPIE) and the Environmental Protection Authority (the EPA) on ensuring that there are exemptions around banning the supply and use of plastic straws for those in the disability community who need them.

We were able to work directly with DPIE and the EPA on the formulation of an exemption under the Act clauses that still allow for the supply and use of plastic straws for those with disability or medical needs and will assist DPIE and the EPA in developing resources to assist retailers to know about the exemption and what it will mean when providing service to people who require plastic straws.

NSW INTRODUCED NATIONALLY CONSISTENT REGULATION FOR MOTORISED AND PERSONAL MOBILITY DEVICES (MMD'S AND PMD'S) – AND ABOLISHED ANY WEIGHT LIMIT – IN THE NSW ROAD RULES

After numerous years of lobbying, the NSW government introduced nationally consistent weight regulations for MMD's and PMD's, ensuring all are legally able to be used on footpaths and roadways. This is a significant win, ensuring those with mobility issues who depend on these devices as their 'legs' are in no way penalised or prohibited from using them in the greater community, and can enjoy the same freedoms as users in other States and Territories.

TIFFANY MIDDLETON
WALTER AND ELIZA HALL TRUST RECIPIENT.
PDCN MEMBER SINCE 2018





CHAMPION OUTCOMES 21-22

1.1 Reforms to the NDIS, including the implementation of Independent Assessments, minimisation of State/Territory oversight, and changes to provisions around 'reasonable and necessary' funding and supports do not disadvantage people with physical disability across NSW

Following on from our previous year's lobbying around the NDIS, and the success of the sector in forcing the Coalition government to back down on introducing independent assessments, our key priorities were in ensuring that:

- Reasonable and necessary supports were not watered down within changes to the NDIS Act/legislation
- Reforms to the NDIS Act are only enacted where it adds benefit to people with disability
- People with disability can still appeal decisions made within the Act
- State and Territory Government oversight remains in its current form (or better!)

KEY OUTCOMES ACHIEVED

- Independent assessments formally quashed in the updated version of the Act
- Customer Service Guarantee included in the updated Act
- States and territories retain oversight into decision-making
- No changes to reasonable and necessary supports

1.2 NSW State Government commits to Silver Universal Design Standards within the National Construction Code, and proposes Gold Standard for certain types of builds

PDCN has continued to lobby for the NSW Government to adopt silver level minimum accessibility standards for all new home builds, in line with changes to the National Construction Code. Victoria, Tasmania, Queensland, South Australia, and the Northern Territory have all committed to incorporating the NCC changes at a jurisdictional level.

Our key priorities across 2021-22 have involved:

- Maintaining continued support from relevant stakeholders for the outcome proposed, including key government stakeholders
- Gaining ministerial support attained for Silver Universal Design standards, and if possible, Gold where appropriate

KEY OUTCOMES ACHIEVED

- Although we have not yet secured ministerial support for this issue, we have continued to raise this issue with the present government and shadow ministry and have gained the express support of the Greens
- PDCN is now part of a steering group for the Building Better Homes Campaign at NSW level and has been developing a campaign strategy for the 2023 election
- PDCN has managed to bring various key stakeholder organisations into the campaign, including NCOSS, the Tenants Union of NSW and Carers NSW
- We have had significant wins in promoting the need for minimum accessibility standards across all major media outlets, including the Guardian, ABC online and the Daily Telegraph

1.3 All Ticketek online bookings allow for booking of accessible seating

Currently, people requiring accessible seating are unable to book online via Ticketek, and must instead call the booking office during business hours or fill out an online request and wait for a call back. While we had previously tried to flag the inequity of separate processes for people requiring accessible seats with Ticketek direct, after very little buy in, this year we took a bolder approach and instead decided to investigate the possibility of lodging complaints with the Australian Human Rights Commission.

KEY OUTCOMES ACHIEVED

- PDCN has engaged with the Public Interest Advocacy Centre and have received advice that pursuing this issue via complaints at the Australian Human Rights Commission is a viable option moving forwards
- PDCN has been working directly with people with physical disability affected by the inequitable ticketing process with a view to assisting several people to lodge complaints as part of our strategic advocacy on this issue
- PDCN has been able to generate media attention on the issue, with a full-page article in the Daily Telegraph.



1.4 Hospital Admissions Care Plan

The Care Passport is a project by the Physical Disability Council of NSW (PDCN) and Health Consumers NSW (HCNSW) to develop a single state-wide resource to document the unique health care needs of an individual with disability across their hospitalisation journey, from the point that they engage with ambulance paramedics to discharge from hospital.

Our plan is for the Passport to be recognised and incorporated into standard admission processes for all patients with disabilities who attend NSW hospitals.

Over the last twelve months, we have solidified our ideas around the App and have identified new opportunities for partnership and funding.

KEY OUTCOMES ACHIEVED

- Designed, structured, and costed 'App' to wireframe stage
- Continued to liaise with NSW Health on partnership for development within Health processes (slow but progressing steps towards funded option!)
- We are currently discussing opportunities to collaborate with the Department of Customer Service and incorporate the Care Passport within the Department's planned 'Patient App'.

1.5 Consistent national standards and regulations in place for the use of motorised mobility devices (MMDs) and personal mobility devices (PMDs)

NSW Hand control licencing and rental vehicle hand control issues are reformed, and exemptions finalised to allow for equitable access to independent driving for those who require them

Consistent national standards and regulations for MMDs and PMDs is critical for ensuring that people who use these forms of assistive technology in NSW have certainty around legal weight-limits, particularly if they are importing newer technology from interstate or overseas.

At the same time, current rules around hand control licencing mean that people who have permanent functional impairment which requires the use of hand controls must be reassessed (at cost!) each time they change vehicles, causing unnecessary inconvenience and expense.

KEY OUTCOMES ACHIEVED

- NSW Government enacted National standardised regulations on weight restrictions for all MMDs into its NSW Model Road rules
- Transport for NSW moved to address hand-control issue for hire vehicles removing barrier for rental vehicles

EDUCATE AND INFORM

DELIVER INNOVATIVE, OUTCOMES FOCUSED PROGRAMS THAT MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO THE LIVES OF, AND DEVELOP THE CAPACITY OF, PEOPLE WITH PHYSICAL DISABILITY

PROVIDE INFORMED EXPERT COMMENTARY ON THE ISSUES THAT AFFECT PEOPLE LIVING WITH PHYSICAL DISABILITY

PDCN has continued to make great use of the Disabled Peoples and Families Organisations (DPFO) Information Linkages and Capacity Building (ILC) three year grant. The funding was initially provided by the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) and is now managed by the Department of Social Services (DSS).

Our partnerships with Noah's Inclusion Services (Noahs) and Muscular Dystrophy NSW (MDNSW) have continue to add value to the project and new partnerships have been formed with Spinal Cord Injuries Australia (SCIA). These partnerships provide an opportunity to offer support and capacity building activities to a wider range of people with a variety of lived experiences and where necessary, provide access to specialised knowledge.

Our peer group project expanded and changed in the year, with eight regular peer groups meeting monthly and three groups meeting periodically throughout the year. PDCN hosted two online social peer groups in the year with music, trivia, discussion, and laughter providing necessary connection and distraction from issues during the isolation periods brought about by Covid19. A total of 81 meetings were held throughout the year, with an average of 143 participants per month.

Peer mentoring sessions were also made available and conducted by people with disability or parents of children with disability. Over 600 peer mentoring sessions were conducted in the year, providing support to 351 people.

Our workshops on NDIS Self-Management, Speaking Up (Self-Advocacy) and Resilience have continued to be well received by those in attendance. PDCN facilitated 27 workshops with 84 people attending. The Covid pandemic and influenza has meant that most of our workshops have been delivered online though three face-to-face workshops were able to be delivered in regional areas.

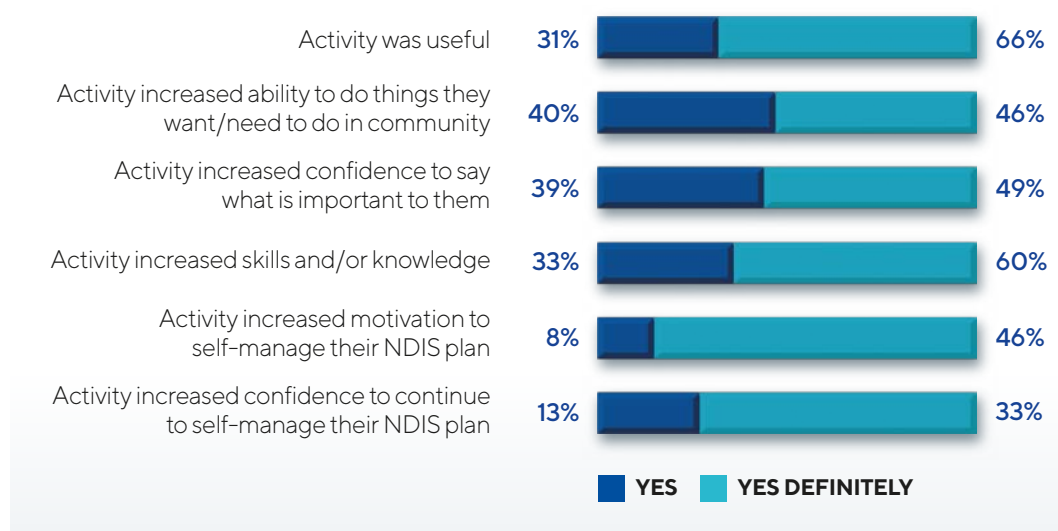
In the past year PDCN has dedicated significant time to the development of an eLearning Course on Disability Inclusion aimed at assisting workplaces in particular to understand disability inclusion. We've recently launched the platform and promoted to a variety of organisations, including local councils and recreation facilities, with some great initial interest and uptake. Wider promotion of this course will occur in the coming months.

All capacity building activities within the project continue to provide opportunities for connection, to obtain valuable information, learn new skills, develop self-advocacy skills, to have a voice and protect individual rights and to lead, shape and influence the broader community.

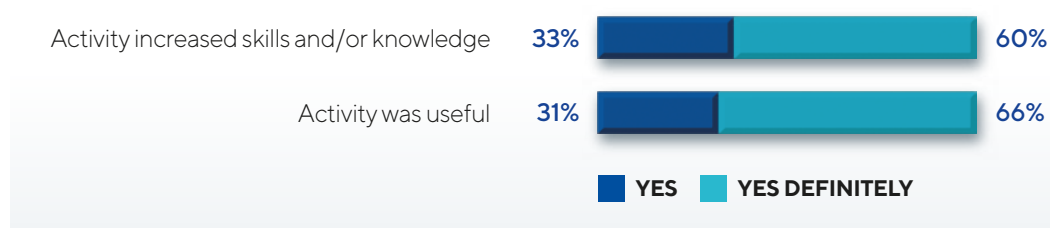
To understand the effectiveness and impact of the activities we provide, PDCN conducts regularly surveys, obtains verbal feedback, and works with an external evaluator to ensure objectivity when analysing feedback. Participant feedback and contributions ensure the activities we provide are meaningful and continuously improved.

CAPACITY BUILDING ACTIVITY OUTCOMES SURVEY DATA

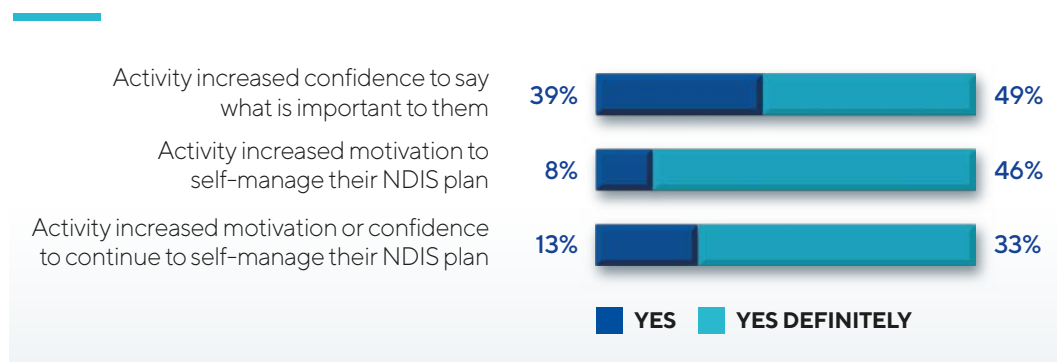
ALL OUTCOMES



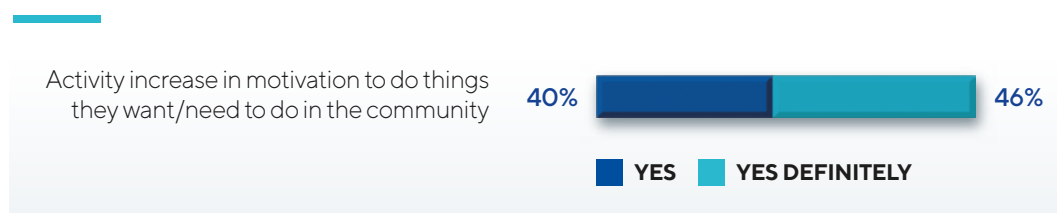
OUTCOME 1: DOES ACTIVITY INCREASE THE SKILLS AND CAPACITY OF INDIVIDUALS?



OUTCOME 2: DOES ACTIVITY INCREASE MOTIVATION, CONFIDENCE AND EMPOWERMENT TO ACT?



OUTCOME 3: DOES ACTIVITY INCREASE PARTICIPATION AND CONTRIBUTION TO THE COMMUNITY?



2.1 People with disability are connected and have the information to make decisions and choices

The capacity building activities offered by PDCN and our partner organisations provide opportunities for individuals to connect, to be provided with and to share information. Facilitators and mentors leading activities are resourceful and knowledgeable, are skilled in ensuring all voices are heard, and have an understanding that the information and connection provided by peers who have had similar lived experience are vital.

These activities provide opportunities to connect with peers, be they people with disability or parents of young children with disability. Participants also have connections with local councillors, ministers, supported disability accommodation providers, providers of assistive technology, mainstream service providers and various other useful and necessary connection.

The information provided in the capacity building activities assist individuals in choosing whether to self-manage a NDIS plan, in choosing accommodation/moving out of home, in the selection of assistive technology or service providers, in deciding whether they have all the information they need to speak up about something that is important to them or whether they need more information and support.

2.1 People with disability are connected and have the information to make decisions and choices (continued)

This information and connections made also assist individuals in understanding more about specific conditions, expectations, options and support available.

Examples of participant feedback:



"Thanks for organizing and leading this. I really enjoyed meeting everyone and the information exchange was very productive."

"I am feeling so much more supported and don't know what I would have done without Noah's. I felt completely lost and overwhelmed and didn't know what to do. Noah's has helped me so much and now I am feeling better and supported."



2.2 People with disability have the skills and confidence to participate, contribute and protect their rights

PDCN's peer groups, workshops and peer mentoring activities have assisted people in building skills and growing their confidence to participate in and contribute to community and to speak up for themselves where needed.

Participants have increased skills and confidence by gaining a better understanding of NDIS budgets and how to self-manage a plan, in understanding service agreements and their rights in this regard, in using assistive technologies, by learning more about housing options, in improving communication skills and other skills required to advocate for themselves, in understanding the importance of setting boundaries, in asking for help from peers when needed, in negotiating study and work options and in understanding the wellbeing created by engaging in and contributing to community.

Workshops and the support from peers have assisted people in sharing their experiences and in understanding their rights. The Speaking Up workshop assists people to develop strategies to improve on and apply skills to know their responsibilities and rights when speaking up. Peer groups have provided opportunities to practice voicing these rights with guidance from people in the groups.

Examples of participant feedback:



"I was angry and annoyed people weren't listening to or understanding me. The Speaking up workshop helped me speak up about a product I needed that was previously declined by my NDIS plan manager."

"The NDIS workshop clearly explained the most important things to know about the plan. The information was well presented and easy to understand. I liked the fact the moderator sought participants' opinion - whether they wanted certain topics discussed further or whether they want to move on --- that's effective engagement in my opinion."

"The meeting was the first time I had come into contact with others with Muscular Dystrophy. Hearing about the experiences of others, and the fact they are still getting about gives me a lot of courage. I am so glad Carolyn (the facilitator) called me to invite me along and I just said yes. Carolyn said 'it takes bravery to front up to your first Zoom meeting, and everyone was so pleased to meet you!'"

"In attending the resilience workshop and with the facilitator's expertise, I gained courage. I learned an extensive range of techniques that will greatly assist my resilience strength. I am amazed at what I did not know and did not realise that certain factors are equally important."

2.3 People with disability contribute to leading, shaping and influencing community

PDCN capacity building activities are led by people living with disability or with lived experience of disability. Facilitators and mentors have an awareness of individual and societal barriers that exist and are always open to learning more to assist people in leading, shaping and influencing community. Facilitators and peers create an environment of comradery where voices are heard and validated and where innovative ways of empowering and educating, shaping and influencing community are considered and encouraged.

PDCN peer groups continue to invite representatives from local councils, government departments, emergency services, local art and theatre groups to provide opportunities for people with disability to influence and bring about change.

The NDIS Self-Management workshops continue to help people take a lead in ensuring their plans are implemented in ways that best supports their needs. The Self-Advocacy workshop helps people develop a voice to lead, shape and influence change. The Resilience workshop helps people identify what is most important to them and develop ways to ensuring their wellbeing is maintained and increased whilst advocating for their needs and bringing about changes in their own lives and the community around them.

The newly created Disability Inclusion eLearning course is designed to educate all community by providing an interactive self-paced learning opportunity that people could easily schedule in around other commitments. We are hoping this will improve the engagement and inclusion of people in workplaces and community and lead to better outcomes for people with disability. This course was developed in this reporting period and was launched in July 2022.

Examples of feedback include:



"Hearing the stories of peers with similar lived experience is motivating and empowering. It builds confidence for people to seek solutions and support."

"I felt supported and validated which allowed me to think I could actually do something."

"Witnessing people doing and talking about things has made me realise I could have a go at that. This has been so beneficial and encouraging."

2.4 People with disability are provided with expert, accurate commentary on the issues that affect their lives.

PDCN provides commentary on systemic issues affecting people with disability when we have a policy position and believe that our input will further the civic discussion. We achieve this through a combination of social media, website blog posts, newsletters and media appearances.



This year was very busy for media appearances, as our work with Good Talent Media on key issues such as housing accessibility, access to rapid antigen tests, aged care inequities and online ticketing accessibility led to positive and consistent coverage in top-tier media outlets such as the Sydney Morning Herald, ABC News and The Guardian. Alongside coverage in second-tier outlets, these stories provided excellent content for PDCN's social media, as they allowed us to frame online discussion on key issues in a way that furthers our policy priorities. This formula resulted in some of the highest engagement posts and tweets of the year.

Regular website blog posts continued to focus on policy priorities such as NDIS reform and accessible online ticketing, alongside practical stories such as warnings about how to spot online NDIS scams. Blog posts were then shared on Facebook and Twitter and were consistently among the most engaging and far-reaching of our posts on both these platforms.

Social media also allowed PDCN to effectively promote ILC workshops and peer connections, with approximately 30% of workshops participants learning about workshops on Facebook. We also utilised social media as part of multi-organisation campaigns such as the Building Better Homes campaign. With all of PDCN's social media content there is a strong focus on monitoring and maintaining engagement rates as an indicator of the perceived relevance and usefulness of content to our subscribers. An annual Twitter engagement growth target of 5% was met and exceeded, however Facebook engagement rates continue to be a challenge in the light of continual Facebook algorithm changes resulting in a reduced impact of organisation pages.

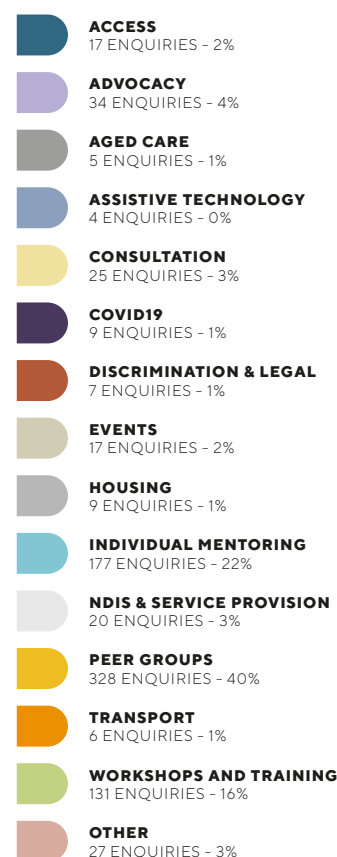
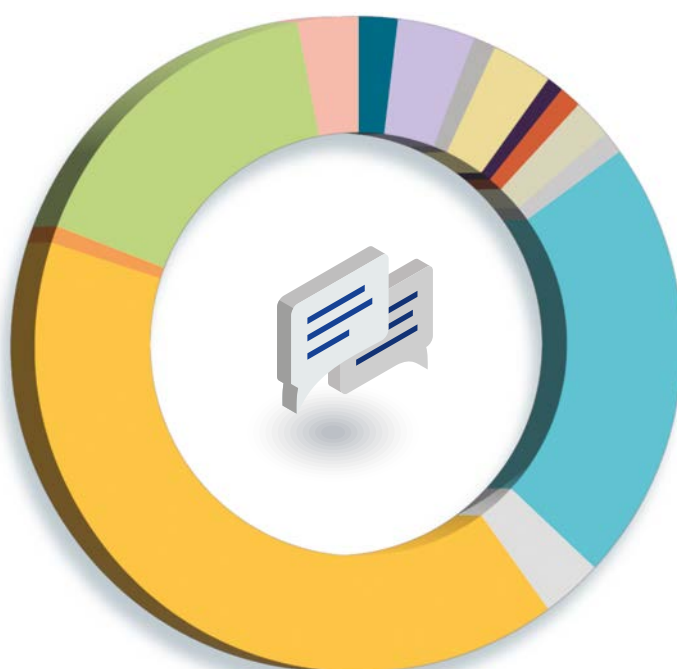
This year we expanded our Facebook presence considerably with an advertising campaign run by Devotion, commencing in August 2021. This ad campaign focused on generating leads from interested individuals in the form of names and email addresses, which facilitated the growth of our MailChimp audience, up by 157% to a total of 1990 subscribers over the course of the year. We were then able to send targeted membership drive emails which resulted in individual membership numbers increasing by 74, up to 194 Full members as of 30 June 2022. 22 of these new members were directly attributable to the Devotion ad campaign.

A perhaps unexpected benefit of the Facebook lead generation ad campaign was that these new email subscribers were highly engaged with all of our email campaigns, including monthly newsletters. This strong engagement pushed the monthly email Open Rate up over 41% on average, which is significantly higher than a NFP sector average Open Rate of 25.17%. PDCN Live, our quarterly paper newsletter formulated specifically for PDCN members, continues to provide a deeper look at key issues alongside PDCN's advocacy project work.

The PDCN website remains the foundation of our online presence, and as such it is important that it meets accessibility standards for people with disability as defined in the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG). Compliance with WCAG is an ongoing process and to this end in May 2022 we commissioned the Digital Access team at Vision Australia to conduct an audit of critical and high impact issues in relation to WCAG guidelines 2.1 Level AA, as well as to provide recommendations on how to resolve these issues. No critical accessibility issues were identified, and work is continuing to resolve the few high impact issues that were identified, as well as several medium and low impact issues.

Finally, PDCN provide a weekday (9am-5pm) phone information line service, assisting our members and the broader NSW public, who reach out to us for guidance on a myriad of issues – some of which can be seen in the chart below. Where we have the relevant expertise we will manage these requests to completion, however many involve linking the caller to more tailored advice, either relating to a specific disease base, or requiring individualised support via an individual advocate. In these cases we use our considerable links across the disability sector to guide callers to the most appropriate organisation to meet their needs. This year saw a considerable increase in enquiries, partly due to the promotion of our capacity building opportunities (peer mentoring, peer groups and workshops) however outside of these calls, requests for individual advocacy, NDIS and service provision issues, and general community access issues were among the most common call types.

INFORMATION LINE CALL BREAKDOWNS



MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS 21-22

Social media posts seen this many times*

240,872



3,577

Individual engagements



25,652**

Website page views

3,840***



Twitter followers

2,800



Facebook followers



23

Email and newsletter communications

72



Media mentions



126

Linked in followers



7

Blog posts

*Lifetime impressions for Facebook (67,084), Twitter (108,578) CEO Twitter (64,909) and Linked In (301) accounts

**a 40% increase on page views from 2020/21

*** (2719 @PDCNSW, 1121 @pdcnswEO)

2.5 NSW Government and the broader community are provided with expert, accurate commentary on the inclusive needs of people with physical disability

As the NSW peak organisation for people with physical disability our key objective is to ensure all parts of the NSW community, from NSW Ministries and government departments, local councils, community groups and the broader corporate and commercial landscapes continue to increase equitable access and inclusion for our members, and all people living in NSW with a physical disability.

We work towards achieving this through written submissions, the provision of expert advice on the many advisory boards and panels on which we sit, and the numerous one off consultations to which we are invited to participate.

To ensure we are speaking with the concerns, voice and lived experience of our members, we also consult directly with them throughout the year, gathering their perspective in member surveys and individual and groups consultations – all held via phone or online means in this year due to the continuing Covid19 environment.



SUMMARY OF SUBMISSIONS

July 2021

- Parliament of NSW – Disability Inclusion Action Plan Draft for Consultation 2021 – 2024
- Public Comment Draft on the National Construction Code – Endorsement of the Submission on Behalf of the Australian Network for Universal Housing Design (ANUHD)
- Submission to the Disability Royal Commission Issues Paper – Promoting Inclusion

Aug 2021

- Submission to the NSW Parliamentary Inquiry – Options to improve access to existing and alternate accommodation to address the social housing shortage

Sept 2021

- Joint Submission to the Australian Energy Regulator’s Developing the Better Bills Guideline

Oct 2021

- National Disability Insurance Scheme Amendment (Participant Service Guarantee and Other Measures) Bill 2021

Nov 2021

- Senate Standing Committee on Community Affairs – Submission on the National Disability Insurance Scheme Amendment (Participant Service Guarantee and Other Measures) Bill 2021
- Submission to the NSW Legislative Council – Committee on Law and Justice – Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill 2021

Jan 2022

- Submission in response to preliminary view –Application for temporary exemptions –Australian Railways Authority

Mar 2022

- Parliament of New South Wales Legislative Council – Inquiry into the privatisation of bus services
- Submission to the Productivity Commission – National Housing and Homelessness Agreement

May 2022

- Submission to the Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability – the Impact and Responses of the Omicron wave of the Covid19 Pandemic for People with Disabilities Issue Paper

Witness appearances (Government Inquiries and Royal Commissions)

16 Nov 2021

- Parliament of Australia, Senate Hearing into the purpose, intent, and adequacy of the Disability Support Pension

3 May 2022

- NSW Parliament Legislative Assembly Council hearing into privatisation of bus services

28 April 2022

- Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disabilities – Transport National Roundtable

19 May 2022

- Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disabilities – Economic Neglect National Roundtable

24 May 2022

- Productivity Commission Hearing into Housing Accessibility

ADVISORY COMMITTEE POSITIONS HELD

These are committees that the policy team attended on a regular basis representing the interests of our membership (a total of 106 meetings attended in 21-22)

- 1 Assistive Technology for All Campaign
- 2 Australian Communications Consumer Advocacy Network - Disability Advisory Forum
- 3 Australian Network on Universal Housing Design
- 4 Building Better Homes NSW Steering Committee
- 5 Central and Eastern Sydney Public Health Network - Disability Network
- 6 Council of the Ageing NSW - Policy Advisory Group
- 7 Disability Advocacy Network Australia Board Chair
- 8 Disability Advocacy Network Australia Advocacy Forum
- 9 Disability Policy Interagency Group - Convenor
- 10 Health Consumers NSW Advisory Group
- 11 Health Consumers NSW Covid19 Consultative Committee
- 12 ICARE - Lifetime Care Services Advisory Group
- 13 National Inclusive Transport Advocacy Network
- 14 NDIA - Community Update Forum
- 15 NSW Ageing and Disability Commission Expert Reference Group
- 16 NSW Ageing and Disability Commission Roundtable
- 17 NSW Council of Social Services - Forum of Non-Government Agencies
- 18 NSW Council of Social Services - Health Equity Alliance
- 19 NSW Council of Social Services - Peaks Advisory Group
- 20 NSW Council of Social Services - Policy Officers Group
- 21 NSW Dept of Communities and Justice - NSW Disability Stakeholders Committee
- 22 NSW Electoral Commission - Equal Access to Democracy Advisory Group
- 23 NSW Energy and Water Ombudsman Advisory Group
- 24 NSW Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services - Disability Sector Advisory Group
- 25 NSW Ministry of Health - Disability Community of Practice
- 26 NSW Ministry of Health - Admission to Discharge Working Group
- 27 NSW Ministry of Health - Non-Government Organisations Advisory Committee
- 28 NSW Ministry of Health - Disability Community of Practice
- 29 NSW Taxi Council - Disability Representative Group
- 30 PDCN Disability Interagency Policy Officers Group
- 31 Public Interest Advocacy Centre - Energy and Water Consumers Advisory Panel
- 32 Transport for NSW - Accessible Transport Advisory Committee
- 33 Transport for NSW - Taxi Transport Subsidy Scheme Smartcard External Stakeholder Advisory Group
- 34 University of Sydney - 'Leave No-one Behind' Emergency Preparedness ARC Project Advisory Committee
- 35 UNSW - Home Modifications Information Advisory Committee



GEOFF TRAPPETT OAM
PEER GROUP CONSULTATION. 2019



ONE OFF CONSULTATIONS ATTENDED

One-off invitations to provide expert member informed input across a broad range of issues – 38 in total

- 1** Ausgrid – consultation on energy needs for people with disability
- 2** Disability Advocacy Network Australia – advocacy intake consultation
- 3** Disability Council NSW – PDCN briefing
- 4** Disability Council NSW Chair (Jane Spring) disability sector briefing
- 5** Dept of Education (VIC) – Inclusive learning Spaces in Schools consultations x 3*
- 6** Federal Electoral Candidate (Kylea Tink) – disability briefing
- 7** Guardian Newspaper Australia – Disability Strategic Planning consultation
- 8** Health Consumers NSW – Prioritisation of Covid consumer Issues
- 9** National Transport Commission – Motorised Mobility Device & Personal Mobility Device update
- 10** NSW Dept of Customer Service – accessibility requirements for the Park'nPay app
- 11** NSW Dept of Planning, Industry and Environment – Disability exemptions for plastic straws consultation
- 12** NSW Dept of Planning, Industry and Environment – Plastics Ban Resource Session
- 13** NSW Dept of Planning, Industry and Environment – Request to review exemptions clauses in the new Single Use Plastics Act
- 14** NSW Dept of Premier and Cabinet (Regional NSW) – National Construction Code briefing
- 15** NSW Electoral Commission – inclusivity workshop
- 16** NSW Minister for Customer Service – Disability Briefing
- 17** NSW Minister for Customer Service and Minister for Disability – Supporting and mandating the PARK'nPAY app consultation
- 18** NSW Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services Briefing
- 19** NSW Ministry of Health Disability Policy team – member concerns re RATS and testing
- 20** NSW Ministry of Health – Aged Care vs NDIS inequity consultation
- 21** NSW Ministry of Health – Covid futures consultation
- 22** NSW National Parks and Wildlife 'Accessible Parks' consultations x 3*
- 23** NSW Parliament – Disability Inclusion Action Plan consultation
- 24** NSW Roads – Greater Western Highway update accessibility consultation
- 25** NSW Taxi Council – Issues Meeting
- 26** Physical Disability Australia – Board consultation
- 27** SAI Law – Strata issues for people with disability
- 28** Service NSW Accessible Parking Standards
- 29** Transport for NSW – Freshwater Ferry access consultation
- 30** Transport for NSW – Mariyung Intercity Rail fleet consultation
- 31** Transport for NSW – Whole of Journey workshop
- 32** University of Technology Sydney – Legal Bot consultation
- 33** University of Wollongong – Motorised Mobility Device consultation
- 34** Your Side – People with Disability on Boards consultation



SPECIFIC ISSUE MEMBER CONSULTATIONS

504 participants provided lived experience input to the following specific issue consults – with 182 responding to the Hospital Care experiences survey, and more than 100 engaging in our online Accessible Bathroom consultation alone, once again helping inform PDCN’s submissions, government consultation requests and advisory council positions.

- 1 Access in NSW National Parks consultation
- 2 Accessible Public Bathroom online survey
- 3 Accessible Public Bathroom user testing
- 4 Aged Care Reforms consultation
- 5 Dept of Customer Service Park’nPay user testing
- 6 Dept of Customer Service ‘One time proof of disability’ survey
- 7 Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport consultation
- 8 Frictionless Payment Options for Public Transport (member organisation consult)
- 9 Hospital Care Experiences online survey
- 10 Housing Experiences for people with disability online survey
- 11 Housing Experiences for people with disability consultation
- 12 UTS Legal Bot user testing
- 13 PDCN Member survey & calls
- 14 RAT user issues for Blind and Vision Impaired people consultation
- 15 Social Housing online survey
- 16 Universal Design consultation
- 17 Wheelchair Accessible Taxi regulation changes for mobility scooter users consultation

CONNECT AND GROW

DEVELOP AND STRENGTHEN PARTNERSHIPS THAT ENHANCE THE WORK WE DO, AND BENEFITS PEOPLE WITH PHYSICAL DISABILITY.

BUILD A SUSTAINABLE ORGANISATION THAT REMAINS TRUE TO OUR VISION AND VALUES.

Having our position as physical disability systemic peak for NSW confirmed has formalised our standing as a state leader, both within Government and across the disability sector. Whilst we now have a greater level of certainty than we have had in previous years, sustainability remains an ongoing priority of the organisation as we look to securing continuity across both our state and federal funding as well as identifying alternative funding streams.

We remain committed to ensuring that our systemic advocacy efforts are informed by the diverse experience of our members, including those from metropolitan, rural, and remote communities, both young and older citizens and people living with various kinds of physical disability.

Whilst the Covid19 pandemic continues to impact on our capacity to be face-to-face with our members, 2021-22 has provided some much-welcomed opportunities to travel and connect with the broader disability community once more – opportunities that we hope to build on across next year.

Across 2021-22, PDCN has continued to build our connections with other organisations across the sector and in doing so, has enhanced our knowledge and expertise across different cohorts within the physical disability community. We have linked with several campaigns on important issues to amplify our advocacy efforts, have made significant productive connections within Government and have continued to build on community partnerships which enhance our capacity to educate and inform our members.



CONNECT AND GROW

OUTCOMES 21-22

3.1 PDCN has developed and strengthened partnerships throughout NSW that broaden and enhance the work we do and benefits people with disability

As a relatively small organisation, PDCN uses partnerships to leverage our reach and influence, where alone we may not have capacity to do so.

This financial year we have developed two new partnerships within the ILC Project in order to deliver peer support and workshops to those in regional areas – with Spinal Cord Injuries Australia in the establishment of a peer group based in Lismore, and with Short Statured People of Australia to assist in developing their own peer mentors, and are soon to provide educational opportunities to a broad section of their members at their upcoming National Convention.

The sector wide policy working group established by our Policy Manager continues to attract new member organisations, and now has representation from 19 organisations, including: Action Advocacy, Australian Communications Consumer Advocacy Network, Assistive Technology Suppliers Australia, Australian Federation of Disability Organisations, Blind Citizens Australia, Cerebral Palsy Alliance, Children and Young People with Disability Australia, Council for Intellectual Disability NSW, Council of the Ageing NSW, Disability Advocacy NSW, Family Advocacy, Guide Dogs NSW/ACT, NSW Council of Social Services, People with Disability Australia, Spinal Cord Injuries Australia, Vision Australia, and Western Sydney Community Forum.

The group continues to be useful as a mechanism to discuss the systemic issues that each organisation's membership is experiencing and in facilitating collaboration across the sector. More recently, we have also used the meetings as a platform to connect with key decision makers and stakeholders and have hosted members of the Disability Council NSW and the Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Service's advisory team.

PDCN continues to be involved across several campaigns, including Assistive Technology for All, Disability Doesn't Discriminate and the Building Better Homes Campaign. We have recently become part of the steering group of the NSW branch of the Building Better Homes Campaign together with People with Disability Australia and Council of the Ageing NSW as we continue to lobby for NSW to join other states and territories in implementing minimum accessibility standards across all new builds.

We have continued our informal partnerships with PIAC and Health Consumers NSW. PIAC is assisting us in our systemic advocacy on online ticketing processes, providing invaluable support as we lodge applications to the Australian Human Rights Commission, whilst we continue to work with Health Consumers NSW across the Care Passport. Health Consumers NSW also partnered with us on a research project on the care experiences of people in NSW hospitals, which we have since published as a report.

Lastly, 2021-22 has been marked by some great inroads in partnering with different NSW Government departments across a range of issues of direct relevance to our members. We have worked closely with the Department of Communities and Justice and Minister Maclaren-Jones' office in securing free RATs for at risk community members; collaborated with the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment and the Environmental Protection Authority on the drafting of the Plastics and Circular Economy Act 2021;

continued to build our contacts across the Ministry of Health and kept up our strong relationship with key stakeholders including the Disability Council NSW and the Ageing and Disability Commission. We have also made solid connections with the Department of Customer Service, contributing to the development and testing of their PARK'nPAY App, which gives people who use accessible parking spaces the opportunity to locate vacant spaces in real time across their community.

3.2 PDCN has built a sustainable organisation that remains true to our vision and values

After successfully lobbying to secure long term funding for the whole NSW disability advocacy sector (announced in late 2020) PDCN was given the mammoth task of tendering for our systemic advocacy funding under the new 'Disability Advocacy Futures Program' (the DAFP) in October 2021. In December 2021 it was announced that we were successful in our tender, securing an annual amount of \$512,000 to deliver systemic advocacy for people with a physical disability for an initial 2.5 year period, through to June 2024. This funding constitutes a 60% increase on previous funding for our peak advocacy work.

We continue to deliver on our yearly \$10,000 Disability Royal Commission Grant, this year providing a number of written and oral submissions to the Commission. In addition, we successfully negotiated a new 3 (plus 2) year contract with iCare to continue to deliver the 'Well-being Visitor Program', again bringing in untied funds for the organisation.

We were also contracted on two university research projects over the year, with LaTrobe University on a Frictionless Transport proposal for Transport for NSW (\$16,500) and the University of Technology on their accessible bathroom project (\$20,000).

The policy team is also gradually educating external consultants on the need to pay for our expertise, and that of people with disability, and this too is slowly bringing in a small amount of untied funds as we generate consultancy fees for these types of requests.

Our talented peer facilitator (and IT genius) Heidi Haydon, with assistance from the education team, spent the greater part of the 21-22 year researching, designing and developing a disability inclusion eLearning course, no small feat! We will launch our eLearning platform early in the 22-23 year. As this develops, and we evaluate this platform and training, we will seek to build a suite of courses to better utilise the platform and broaden our fee for service offerings.

As can be seen from the year's financials, PDCN is in a strong financial position, with significant reserves behind us, however with only two major sources of income in the forms of grant funding, we will still continue to look to broaden our income streams wherever possible.

Income, of course, is only a part of the picture. We cannot be effective in our vision to make NSW a society where people with physical disability's equality of opportunity and full participation is assured if we don't have the voice and understanding of our membership behind us. To this end, PDCN continues to look to grow our membership – both in number and in reach and this year we made a concerted effort to do both – incredibly successfully!

Through a targeted, nearly year-long ad campaign, and through the promotion of membership to all those who interact with us (workshops, peer mentoring, enquiries etc) we grew our overall membership by a massive 76% this financial year. Alongside of this, our rural and regional members grew by 50% – ensuring we are representative of the whole of NSW.

DONATIONS AND FUNDING

MAJOR FUNDERS

Australian Department of Social Services (DSS)
NSW Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ)

DISABILITY ROYAL COMMISSION GRANT

Australian Department of Social Services (DSS)

ACCOMMODATION GRANT

City of Sydney

VOLUNTEER GRANT

Australian Department of Social Services (DSS)

SOCIAL SECTOR TRANSFORMATION FUND GRANT

NSW Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ)

IN KIND SUPPORT

Devotion (PDCN Facebook Ad Campaign)
Andrew Schipp (Annual Report Design)

ONE OFF DONATIONS RECEIVED

Jason Davis	Serena Ovens
Matthew Kayrooz	Kieren Sainsbury
Margaret Tucker Moxon	Janet West
Joshua Rhodes	Serena Corporate Photography

DONATIONS IN MEMORY OF JORDANA GOODMAN

Kath Herman	Sydney Church of England
Lynette Saville	Girls School, Darlinghurst

THANK YOU



AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2022

Physical Disability Council of NSW Incorporated
ABN 26 858 845 702

The following data is an excerpt from the 2022 Financial Statements only. To view a full copy of the Audited Financial Report please visit our website www.pdcnsw.org.au or call **1800 688 831** to request a hard copy via the post.

Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income For the year ended 30 June 2022

	Note	2022	2021
Income			
Revenue	3a	893,941	930,667
Other income	3a	118,996	150,934
		1,012,938	1,081,601
Expenditure			
Administration costs		91,009	71,965
Fundraising costs		25,290	9,019
Project expenses		820,493	786,346
	3b	936,792	867,330
Surplus (deficit) from ordinary activities before income tax			
		76,146	214,271
Income tax expense relating to ordinary activities		-	-
Net surplus (deficit) from ordinary activities after income tax			
		76,146	214,271
Other comprehensive income			
Other comprehensive income		-	-
Total comprehensive income for the year			
		76,146	214,271

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT 30 JUNE 2022

	Note	2022	2021
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	4	2,067,183	2,016,328
Trade and other receivables	5	5,085	388
Other current assets		-	-
Total current assets		2,081,268	2,016,716
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	6	51,264	69,153
Right of use asset	7	40,445	-
Total non-current assets		91,709	69,153
Total assets		2,172,977	2,085,869
Liabilities			
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	8	54,697	55,994
Provisions	9	47,186	41,468
Other liabilities	10	772,531	754,626
Total current liabilities		874,414	852,088
Non-current liabilities			
Provisions	9	-	-
Total non-current liabilities		-	-
Total liabilities		874,414	852,088
Net Assets		1,298,563	1,233,781
Equity			
Reserves	11	-	11,364
Retained surpluses		1,298,563	1,222,417
Total Equity		1,298,563	1,233,781

Note: The above data is an excerpt from the 2022 Financial Statement only.
For full audited financial statements please call 1800 688 831 or view at www.pdcnsw.org.au

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF PHYSICAL DISABILITY COUNCIL OF NSW INCORPORATED ABN 26 858 845 702

AUDITOR'S OPINION

We have audited the accompanying financial report of Physical Disability Council of NSW Incorporated (the 'Council') which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2022 and the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity, statement of cash flows for the year then ended, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the Declaration by Management Committee.

In our opinion:

- (a) the financial report of Physical Disability Council of NSW Incorporated is in accordance with Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not for Profits Commission Act 2012, including:
 - (i) giving a true and fair view of the Council's financial position as at 30 June 2022 and of its performance for the year ended on that date; and
 - (ii) complying with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 1, and Division 60 of the Australia Charities and Not-for-profit Commissions Regulations 2013

BASIS FOR OPINION

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the registered entity in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standard Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (the code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

EMPHASIS OF MATTER – BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the Council's financial reporting responsibilities under the Australian Charities and Not for Profits Commission Act 2012. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

COUNCIL MEMBERS' RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE FINANCIAL REPORT

The Council members of the Council are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with the basis of preparation as described in Note 1 to the financial report and the Australian Charities and Not for Profits Commission Act 2012, and for such internal control as the Council members determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the Council member are responsible for assessing the Council's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Council members either intend to liquidate the Council or to cease operations, or have no real alternative to do so.

AUDITORS' RESPONSIBILITY

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Those standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report is free from material misstatement. A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial report is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at: <http://www.auasb.gov.au/Home.aspx>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Name of Firm: Camphin Boston
Chartered Accountants

Name of Partner:


Justin Woods

Address: Level 5, 179 Elizabeth Street, SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dated this 28th day of September 2022

MR CHRIS SPARKS OAM
PDCN PRESIDENT & MEMBER OF THE
BOARD SINCE 2016. RETIRING NOV 2022
WITH OUR HEARTFELT THANKS.
PRESIDENT SINCE 2017



PHYSICAL DISABILITY COUNCIL OF NSW INCORPORATED

ABN 26 858 845 702

DECLARATION BY THE MANAGEMENT for YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

In the opinion of the Management Committee of Physical Disability Council of NSW Incorporated:

1. The financial statements and notes of Physical Disability Council of NSW Incorporated are in accordance with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012, including:
 - (a) Giving a true and fair view of its financial position as at 30 June 2022 and of its performance for the financial year ended on that date; and
 - (b) Complying with Australian Accounting Standards (including the Australian Interpretations to the extent disclosed in Note 3) and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission Regulation 2013; and
2. There are reasonable grounds to believe that the Physical Disability Council of NSW Incorporated will be able to pay all of its debts, as and when they become due and payable.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Management Committee.



Chris Sparks
President

Dated this 14th day of September 2022



Matthew Kayrooz
Secretary

Dated this 14th day of September, 2022





CONTACT DETAILS

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3/184 Glebe Point Rd
Glebe NSW 2037

T: (02) 9552 1606
1800 688 831 (Outside Sydney Metro)
E: admin@pdcnsw.org.au
W: www.pdcnsw.org.au

SPEAK AND LISTEN USERS:
1300 555 727