

# ANNUAL REPORT

For the period 1 February 2016 - 31 January 2017

**Integrated disAbility Action Inc (IdA)**



A voice and support network for people with a disability



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## **Our mission**

To help empower people with disability, to improve the quality of their own lives and to look at and improve the professionalism of the disability sector.

## **Our vision**

With a strong united voice people with disability will see significant improvements in facilities and services. This will enable them to achieve equality of life in the community and society in general.

**SECTION 1****AN OVERVIEW OF INTEGRATED DISABILITY ACTION INC (IDA)****ABOUT US**

Integrated disAbility Action Inc (IdA) was formed in 1996 as the Northern Territory (NT) Peak Consumer Organisation for Territorians with disability. IdA actively supports and represents the views of people with disability and those of their family members, carers and guardians (paid and unpaid).

IdA's aim is:

- through consultation with relevant stakeholders, to identify issues of interest for people with disability, their family members, carers and guardians
- to campaign for positive change on identified issues of interest, which may be specific to an individual and / or systemic in nature
- to distribute information and promote public awareness of issues that impact people with disability through the development and publishing of resources for members and the broader community
- to ensure that the views and opinions of people with disability, their family members, carers and guardians are represented on government and non-government organisations committees and boards, particularly those where decisions and policy directions are set that impact the lives of the person with disability and those of their family members, carers and guardians.

IdA is funded through a small grant from the Department of Health which is supplemented through individual, family and organisation memberships and donations. We are also supported by our Patron His Honour, the Honourable John Hardy AO Administrator of the Northern Territory

IdA representatives work with all levels of government and service providers across the Northern Territory in the development, promotion and review of numerous policies and programs related to the sector.

IdA hosts members meetings as required, where guest speakers are invited to present on and discuss issues of interest and share information. The meetings also provide an opportunity to develop support networks and socialise. Relevant information is also regularly distributed via our weekly e-bulletin, where we also welcome contributions from our members.

IdA firmly believes that it is only through our membership that we are able to gather the information needed to present a confident and coherent message to all levels of government. So we ask, if you are a person with disability, a family member, carer or guardian or are interested in the issues that impact people with disability that you become a member.

## OUR PEOPLE

### Patron

His Honour the Hon John Hardy AO Administrator of the Northern Territory

### Management Committee

Name	Position	Dates acted
Sue Shearer	Chair	2015 - Present
Noel Land	Treasurer/Vice Chair/Public Officer	2015 - Present
Deborah Bampton	Secretary	2010 - 2016
Elizabeth Reid	Committee Member	2015 - 2017
Lachlan Peattie	Committee Member	2016 - present
Kate Ganley	Committee Member	2016 - 2017
Angela Teasdale	Committee Member	2016 - present

### Employees

Name	Position	Dates acted
Sara Braines-Mead	Executive Officer	2011 - Present
Belinda Mawby	Project Officer	2016 – Present

### Honorary Life Members

Name	Year
Joyce Deering	2014
Robyne Burrige	2016

### Recognised Volunteers

Name	Position
Michael Burge	IdA Member
Izzy Dak	IdA Member

**OUR SUPPORTERS**

## CORPORATE SPONSORS

Anglicare NT Ltd  
Anti Disc Commission  
Carers NT  
Catholic Care NT  
City of Darwin  
COTA

Dept of Infrastructure, Planning and  
Logistics  
DCLS: Aged & DisAbility Rights Team

Darwin Skills Development Scheme  
Forrest Parade School  
Golden Glow Nursing  
Guide Dogs Association of SA & NT

Henbury School

ITeC Health  
Keep Moving  
Life Without Barriers  
Helen and Frank Lo Castro  
MJD Foundation  
New Age Mobility

NT Friendship & Support Inc  
Northern Territory Mental Health  
Coalition Inc  
People with Disability Australia

Somerville Community Services  
Step Out

TCASS  
Territory Sports Medicine  
Total Recreation  
Venture Housing Company Ltd  
Youthworx NT



**SECTION 2****GOVERNANCE****STRUCTURE & MANAGEMENT**

Integrated disAbility Action Inc is registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC).

ABN 75 183 351 648

Integrated disAbility Action Inc (IdA) ceased to be registered for GST purposes from 1 February 2017.

## CHAIR'S REPORT

I am pleased to present my third Annual Report as Chair on the activities of the Management Committee and Members of Integrated disAbility Action Inc. (IdA) from 1<sup>st</sup> February 2016 to 31<sup>st</sup> January 2017.

IdA has carried out the following activities in accordance with its Funding Agreement with the Department of Health, to operate as the Peak Consumer Body for Territorians with a disability, their carers, families and guardians.

With extra funding for the appointment of a Project Officer IdA continues to go from strength to strength. The Project Officer's role has been to work closely with the Department and NDIA to assist participants in finding out information on the NDIS as the scheme is rolled out as well as increasing awareness and membership of IdA. Already the Project Officer has developed and formulated a forward action plan for discussion with the IdA Committee as well as and hosting a number of project introductory and background meetings and attendance at NDIS forums and meetings. With the appointment of a Project Officer it has also been possible to have the office staffed five days a week.

Our hardworking Management Committee have also continued to meet monthly and members of the committee are involved in regular interviews in local media to discuss issues of concern to our members. They have also attended numerous functions and events representing IdA.

Throughout the reporting period IdA hosted 7 Members Meetings and/or Events.

- In April we held our AGM. This was very well attended and many new members joined on the day.
- In June we held a members meeting and mixer at the Darwin Trailer Boat Club. We were pleased to have our Patron Honourable John Hardy AO and Mrs Hardy attend.
- During Seniors Month in August we again hosted our popular Know Your Rights Forum. Public attendance was up significantly on last year. Corporate members and organisations within the sector presented and gave information and advice to IdA members and the general public. Organisations represented included Anglicare, Carers NT, Anti-Discrimination Commission, Darwin Community Legal Services and NT Consumer Affairs. A number of new members also joined up on the day.
- Also during August as part of the Disability Awareness Festival and in conjunction with Somerville Community Services and the NDIA, we presented three workshops in Darwin, Palmerston and Katherine providing information to participants transitioning to the NDIS.
- In November we held our annual Trivia Night. This was a great fundraising opportunity with many of our corporate members donating goods for silent auction and raffle prizes.

- Also in November we held a morning tea at the IdA office to celebrate International Day of people with a disability. We were pleased to have representatives from Minister Fyles office attend and talk with members.

Management Committee Members and members have attended the following Meetings, Forums, Consultations, and Events on behalf of IdA, supporting and promoting services and raising the various concerns of IdA members at every opportunity:-

**Meetings attended:**

- NT Electoral Commissioner
- Palmerston Regional Business Meetings (PRBA)
- Uber in Canberra
- Director Building Control
- Department of Housing Representatives
- Senior Manager NDIS Implementation Office of Disability
- Senior Director Office of Disability
- KPMG
- PwC Indigenous Consulting
- NDIA
- Palmerston Adult Guardianship Consultation
- Brightsky
- Anti Discrimination Commissioner
- Guide Dogs SA and NT
- Department of Health
- PRBA Presentation by Leader of the Opposition and Chief Minister
- Fire Safety Training
- NDIA
- Territory Housing
- Up for the challenger co locating workshop
- Palmerston Adult Guardianship Consultation
- NDS Darwin Regional Forum
- Brightsky
- Anti Discrimination Commissioner
- WWDA National Forum for Women and Girls with Disability 2016
- Guide Dogs SA and NT
- Department of Health
- Nexia Edwards Marshall Financial & Corporate
- Governance Best Practice event
- Sex abuse in disabled children
- NDIS essential briefing
- Friday Forum – Daryl Manzie – Mornings 104.1
- Access to Premises Standards Workshop
- Equal Remuneration Order workshop
- Up for the Challenge – Co locating workshop
- NDS Regional Forum
- Premises Standards Workshop

**Meetings attended with Ministers and Local Members:**

- Lauren Moss (then) Shadow Minister for Disability and Mental Health
- Meeting with Natasha Griggs and Christian Porter
- Minister for Health and Disability Services Hon Natasha Fyles MLA
- Assistant Minister for Disability Ngaree Ah Kit
- Federal Member for Solomon

**Forums attended:**

- Friday Forum – Daryl Manzie – Mornings 104.1
- NDIS Forum
- Premises Standards
- Volunteer Awards
- Barry Hanson sunset cruise
- PRBA cruise crab claw island with talk by Chief Minister
- PRBA Dinner Royal Flying Doctors/Bombing of Darwin Exhibition
- Disability Service Awards
- HM Queen Elizabeth II 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday reception at Government House

**Representation on Boards and Committees:**

IdA representatives act on issues of interest identified by members through representation on various organisation and government committees and liaise with other organisations within the sector or arrange meetings with various local and territory Government officials where necessary to achieve the best outcome for our members.

- NT Rehabilitation Network,
- Disability Awareness Festival Planning Committee,
- Human Services Training Advisory Council,
- National Disability Services (NDS) Work Health and Safety Committee
- DS NT Communities of Practice
- NDS
- NDS Work Health & Safety
- NDIA,
- Commercial Passenger Vehicle CPV
- Physical Disability Australia (PDA) and representation of PDA on
- NDIS CEOs forums,
- Australian Federation of Disability Organisations (AFDO),
- Disability Australia
- Ministerial Advisory Council on Disability Reform (NT) Darwin Regional Community Advisory Group
- PHN Community Advisory Council
- Katherine Regional Economic Development Committee
- NT Ridesharing Uber steering Committee

- NT Primary Health Network Advisory Council
- Interview Panel Public Guardian committee
- Judging Panel Disability Service Awards
- Interview Panel for IdA Project Officer
- City of Darwin Disability Advisory Committee

The Management Committee believe that membership and representation on other relevant organisations is necessary to ensure currency of information sharing and knowledge. As such IdA has membership with the following organisations:

- NDS NT
- NTCOSS
- Palmerston Regional Business Association PRBA
- Down Syndrome Association

#### **Queries received :**

IdA continues to receive numerous queries from members, the general public (local and interstate), other non-government organisations and government departments. Queries and assistance covered a broad range of topics including but not limited to:

- Assistance in transporting children with special needs to school
- Client requiring assistance with day to day duties while caring for wife
- Workplace issues
- Assistance in transporting father to Anzac Day parade
- Issues with Centrelink
- Information on better Start program
- Assistance in providing members to participate in taxi surveys
- Centrelink issues
- Housing issues
- Support for an amputee
- Assistance with selling of a wheelchair
- Access issues to public buildings

Where possible IdA try to solve the query themselves but where specialist knowledge or expertise is required referral of the query is passed onto the relevant department or organisation.

## Information Sharing

Our Weekly E Bulletin continues to be invaluable. Distributed by email every Thursday to all members it brings information to our members as it happens, and has proved to be a powerful tool in highlighting concerns and issues and bringing them straight to the attention of Ministers, organisations and Heads of Department.

During the reporting period IdA produced and distributed 37 issues of our weekly E Bulletin. We continue to have very positive feedback from members and sector groups on the E Bulletin, with requests to be added to the mailing list received regularly by our Executive Officer. The E Bulletins cover current news and views, issues of interest and 'hot topics' within the National and Territory disability sector and highlight forthcoming functions and events both hosted by IdA and other organisations within the sector.

The E Bulletin is disseminated broadly across the Territory and interstate going to Ministers, Media, Department Heads and Senior Staff and a wide cross section of people and organisations working in the sector. Many of these recipients in turn contact us to ask whether they can put information in our E bulletin. We are currently examining funding opportunities to enable us to update our website and make it more interactive whilst at the same time adhering to disability standards. We are also planning on raising our social media profile.

## Looking To The Future

As Chair I firmly believe that the next 12 months will be a time of immense growth for IdA. We have many exciting plans ahead of us. Just some of the events that have already happened or are planned for this year include:

- Cartooning workshop for young people with a disability as part of Youth Week
- Expo at Henbury School
- IdA's 21st birthday reception at Government House in May
- Know Your Rights Forum during seniors month in August
- Participation in Disability Awareness Festival (date to be confirmed)
- Membership drive in Alice Springs
- Visits to Barkly Trial Site
- Information sessions for NDIS participants

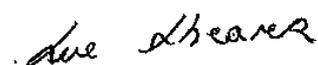
## Acknowledgments & Thank You

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank the members of the Management Committee for their contributions throughout the year to ensure that IdA continues to grow and develop. It is important to remember that all work done by the Committee is in a voluntary capacity and is in addition to their roles in other organisations.

Thanks also must go to our Project Officer Belinda and our Executive Officer Sara who go above and beyond to ensure that IdA continues to thrive and is a success, all IdA volunteers who have given up their time to help IdA this year in whatever capacity, Barry Hansen our Honorary Auditor and his team for their continued professional support, our Returning Officer and the Department of Health for their ongoing funding and advice.

Finally and most importantly I would like to thank you. Our members. Without you, there would be no IdA. I thank you on behalf of us all, for all your support both over the last 12 months and indeed since IdA's inception. Together we must keep fighting and working hard to ensure that people with a disability are not forgotten, that the contribution they make is recognised and that they are seen as an asset to society and not a burden, that they receive the same rights and opportunities as everyone else, and above all that they are heard.

Thank you.



**Sue Shearer**  
**Chair**

**SECTION 3****OUR FINANCES****TREASURER'S REPORT**

There was a significant change in July 2016 as a result of IdA being successful in its submission to fund our Project Officer position. Although we did not receive our requested level, the outgoing NT CLP Government committed an extra \$100,000 p.a for three years.

Over the years, IdA has managed on a “shoestring” budget and has had to access meagre reserves to provide services to members and the community at large.

It is pleasing to see that we were able to secure this vital extra funding and we look forward to continuing our partnership with the current NT ALP Government.

The Office of Disability was very proactive in assisting us with extra funding in December 2016 to upgrade our computer facilities.

With the NT's full NDIS rollout upon us now we will also be keen to seek out any other grants and funding opportunities as they arise.

**NOEL LAND  
TREASURER**

## AUDITOR'S REPORT

I have audited the financial statements being a special purpose financial report for the year ended 31 January, 2017 of INTEGRATED DISABILITY ACTION INC.

The Committee is responsible for the financial statements and have determined that the accounting policies used are consistent with the reporting requirements of the association and are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. I have conducted an independent audit of the financial statements in order to express an opinion on them to the members of the association. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used are appropriate to the needs of members.

The financial statements have been prepared for distribution to members. I disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial statements prepared as a special purpose 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.

My audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. My procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial statements, and significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion as to whether, in all material respects, the financial statements are presented fairly in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements (These policies do not require the application of all Accounting Standards and U1G Consensus Views).

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

### Audit opinion

In my opinion the financial statements present fairly, in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, the financial position as at 31 January, 2017 of INTEGRATED DISABILITY ACTION INC and the results of its operations for the year then ended.

Barry Hansen  
Registered company Auditor

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

These are able to be viewed at the AGM and upon request.



**SECTION 4****OUR OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION****HOW YOU CAN HELP****Become a member**

Membership Fees:

Individual \$15 Family \$20 Concession Card Holder \$10 Corporate \$100

Contact the office or download a membership form through our website.

E: [office@idainc.org.au](mailto:office@idainc.org.au) P: 08 8948 5400

W: [www.idainc.org.au](http://www.idainc.org.au)

**Volunteer your time**

Contact Sara [office@idainc.org.au](mailto:office@idainc.org.au) or Belinda on [project@idainc.org.au](mailto:project@idainc.org.au) or ph: 08 8948 5400 to see how you can help.

**Make a donation**

Bank details are on our membership form or contact the office for more information 08 8948 5400

**Support an event or fundraising activity**

Subscribe to our e.bulletin to see what events are coming up and how you can help.

**Other ways you can help our cause**

Promote IdA wherever you go! If you become aware of any issues you think we should know about let us know either through email or phone or drop in to the office Tuesdays to Thursdays between 9am and 2pm or Mondays and Fridays by appointment.



## CONTACT US

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W: [www.idainc.org.au](http://www.idainc.org.au)

