



INTRODUCING THE NOMINEES FOR ELECTED DIRECTOR

This 'Meet the Nominees' information package has been developed to give you as much information as possible about the Nominees who have put themselves forward for election at the 2018 Annual General Meeting.

Please consider voting for nominees who can enhance the skills and experience the Board can draw from, and who provide a balance of diversity and lived experience, including gender, age, cultural, (ethnic and indigenous) and geographical (living in urban, suburban, rural, regional, and remote Queensland). New members to the board bring exciting and needed skills and experience and directors renominating have cultivated an extensive executive memory.

The Call for Expressions of Interest for Nomination as Elected Director ran from 19th July to the 9th of September 2018. Four members have nominated for the position of elected director, including three nominees who are new to the board, and one is a former director.

QDN's current Board endorses the four nominees as people who can provide the commitment and skills that QDN requires to improve board capacity and strategic, diversified and representative leadership.

As this year, there are four endorsed nominees and four director position vacancies, the members will be asked to vote through ordinary resolution, rather than secret ballot. To be successful, each nominee must receive a simple majority of the vote in favour of their nomination as elected director.

It is hoped that the information provided in this document will help you in your decision making process. Please inform your vote, and make your choices work to improve QDN.

PREPARED STATEMENT OF PETER GURR



My name is Peter Gurr and I am standing for re-election to the QDN Board.

Most of you know me, but for those who don't, I was born in Cairns in 1965 and grew up in Townsville. I'm married to Joy whom I have been married to for 33 years. We have two great kids. Our daughter Emma is a chartered practicing accountant. Our son Lachlan owns/runs a steel fabrication business working in the housing industry.

I myself, became disabled about seven years ago when I was struck down with multiple sclerosis. Up to then I worked as a Boilermaker and a licensed building contractor, and I ran my own business employing a group of people in the building industry. Since then I have completed a diploma in community service with electives in disabilities, and have served as QDN regional facilitator and also a peer facilitator for the Ready to go workshops and the DSO Townsville support group. I was elected to the QDN Board in 2015.

I have now an extensive knowledge of NDIS both from lived experience and from my knowledge gained through QDN working with the NDIA and with the Queensland Disability Advisory Council (QDAC). During my time as Director I helped to bring the experience of North Queensland members with the implementation of the NDIS, and through that experience, I have helped to advocate the change we need to ensure that choice and control are afforded to people through NDIS planning.

When I first stood for the QDN I said that at the top of my bucket list is to help as many people with disabilities as I can whilst at the same time making lots of friends and learning more myself. I feel I am in the position to leverage on the knowledge and networks I have gained these last 4 years, and want to do more to serve the QDN and our members by continuing as an Elected Director.

I would appreciate your vote and support.

Thankyou - Peter Gurr

PREPARED STATEMENT OF GARY MATTHEWS



I have several years of experience as a Director and Company Secretary of MADEC, a company limited by guarantee. The experience has given me skills and knowledge in corporate governance and strategic planning including overseeing the development of several programs, including projects for people with disability.

I have knowledge of housing issues having worked with tenants, both public and private, while a Tenancy Advice Worker with a Tenancy Advice and Advocacy Service in Mackay. My knowledge of housing issues was further enhanced through working with Community Housing providers as the Regional Community Housing Resource Worker. The latter involved facilitating

communication between the Department of Housing and Community Housing organisations in the Mackay region, as well as helping to manage local housing organisations.

I'm a member of the Access and Inclusion Reference Committee of the Mackay Regional Council in my capacity as a QDN Regional facilitator. Membership means I have an opportunity to advise Council and businesses about access issues. The committee have collaborated with Council to promote good access for local business. Recently some members worked with Spinal Life Australia to help develop an electronic mapping system that shows slopes and gradients of streets in the central business district.

I have worked in a number of community organisations and on community projects in roles such as Website Administrator, Marketing Co-ordinator and Project Coordinator as well as serving on management committees. These positions have given me skills and knowledge I believe could be useful in my role as a Director.

I have an Arts Degree with majors in Social Science and Media and Communications.

I have been a member of QDN for about 8 years and a Regional Facilitator since 2013. I was a Peer Facilitator with the "Ready to go" project. I was appointed to the board this year to fill a vacancy and as such I have a sound understanding of the board's role and my duties as a director.

I live in Mackay in North Queensland. so I can bring a regional perspective and experience to the board's discussions. I also have a disability, having been born with Spina Bifida.

Gary Matthews

PREPARED STATEMENT OF DES RYAN OAM



I have been a board member of Spinal Life Australia's since 1996, and President 1999 – 2007, resigning in January 2018, and leading the transition from a community-based board to a mixed board with a diverse skill set from the business and corporate sector. I have a twenty-year history with not-for-profit boards in Central Queensland providing care services to people with disabilities or training.

My database development business Abled Disabled has been consulting throughout Queensland since the early 1990s and in continuing employment for the same period, with Community Solutions supporting people with disabilities and now as Community Relations Ambassador.

I hold an Associate Diploma in both Information Technology and Community Services Work. I was a recipient of the Rotary Paul Harris Fellow in 2000 and 2012, a Companion of Central Queensland University and a recipient of the Order of Australia Medal in 2013 for service to people with disabilities.

Personal highlights occurred in;

- 2001, supporting 23 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Legal Services across Queensland (every ATSICS Service in QLD) in the process of my part-time job.
- 2008, honoured with a local landmark named after me – the Des Ryan Pier at Rockhampton's Riverbank.

What do I bring to the board? My experience of 50 years with a disability surviving still working and enjoying life. I've luckily fitted within the constraints of the NDIS parameters so that I have a package of support. I have been able to build on my own experience of work so that I self-manage my complete package.

Hopefully, I can influence change driven by the members of this network so that we can influence the direction of the NDIS into the future. In my mind, the highlight of my life as a person with a disability has been employment and volunteering. These are the two areas in my mind that put the cream on the cake. I would like to be able to maximise that opportunity for many others now and into the future.

Thank you - Des Ryan

PREPARED STATEMENT OF HAYLEY JAYNE WESBRO



To whom it best concerns

Though I am new to QDN, I have worked in the community services sector for 15 years, in various roles with a range of people demographic. This has included; youth, families, corrections, homeless, training/assessor and disability. My last contract role was with NDS as a co-ordinator on their Workability project. This role gave me great opportunity to work across all elements of the Disability sector in Ipswich, and to work with NDIA and NDIS to understand the new scheme and identify the opportunities for both customers and providers.

Since completing the contract with NDS in March of this year, I have created a small business as an Aboriginal Disability service provider in Ipswich and the surrounding regions. The company is named Wesbro Services and we are currently supporting 13 customers.

I myself have a disability, and feel that my personal experience with my own challenges is helping me to guide my team to deliver service to our customers in the most respectful and accepting manner. We are gaining great reviews from not only our customers and their supporters, but also other stakeholders in community.

Further to this, I have previously supported the board of directors for NATSIC (National ATSI Corporation) Community transport network. My role included facilitation of 3rd party verification and creation of all processes required to pass (with flying colours).

I will work to represent people with disability and Aboriginal people with disability in my region, and help to strengthen the QDN's collective voice.

Hayley Wesbro