2025 Queensland Disability Conference — ‘Unlocking Potential: Reforms, Innovation and Inclusion’.
Friday 29 August 2025 - Agenda

9:30am
Acknowledgement of Country - Uncle Willie Prince

9:40am
Conference opening - MCs Paul O’Dea and Elisha Matthews

9:45am
Minister address - The Honourable Amanda Camm MP, Minister for Families, Seniors and Disability Services and Minister for Child Safety and the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence

10:00am
Keynote Speaker - Rosemary Kayess, Disability Discrimination Commissioner, Australian Human Rights Commission (digital presentation)

10:30am
Panel 1 - Employment and Social Impact

* Dominique Lamb – Queensland Small Business Commissioner
* Adele Laughton – Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Queensland Social Enterprise Council
* Shahram Jazan - President, AMPARO Advocacy
* Katherine Hayes – CEO, Youth Advocacy Centre

Facilitator: Nigel Webb, Board Member, Queenslanders with Disability Network (QDN)

11:30am
Morning tea

12:00pm
Innovation hub - Join us for a high-energy innovation session focused on building the future - Tackling system reforms, envisioning Brisbane 2032, boosting employment opportunities for people with disability, and sparking solutions with real social value.

1:00pm
Speaker - Dr Dinesh Palipana OAM, Doctor, Lawyer, Disability Advocate, in conversation with Michelle Moss, CEO, QDN

1:30pm
Lunch

2:15pm
Panel 2 - Disability Reforms

• Helen Missen – Acting Deputy Director-General, Strategy, Policy and Legislation, Department of Families, Seniors, Disability Services and Child Safety

• Natalie Lewis – Commissioner, Queensland Family and Child Commission

• Aaron Verlin – Acting Deputy CEO, Service Design and Improvement, National Disability Insurance Agency

• Hope Peisley – First Assistant Secretary, Disability and Carer Programs Division, Department of Health, Disability and Ageing

Facilitator: Dr Sharon Boyce, Chair, Queensland Disability Advisory Council and Chair, QDN

3:15pm
Comfort break

3:25pm
Panel 3 - Olympic and Paralympic Games

• Jen Williams – CEO, Committee for Brisbane

• Anthony Ryan – CEO, Brisbane Economic Development Association

• Michael Dobbie-Bridges – Director, Create Advisory, Board Member, Stadiums Queensland and Paralympian

Facilitator: Alison Barber, Board Member, QDN

4:15pm
Summary remarks - Michelle Moss, CEO, QDN

4:20pm
Conclusion

4:30pm
Networking event - Plaza Terrace

Jazz duo: Dr Jeff Usher and Ella Doneman

5:30pm
Finish