Minutes of the 2025 Annual General Meeting of Queenslanders with Disability Network Limited

ABN 26 364 844 700

held at City Hall, Brisbane and electronically via Zoom on Saturday, 25 October 2025 at 10.45 a.m.

1 Attendees

Sharon Boyce (Chairperson), Alison Barber, Danielle Brown, Talitha Kingsmill, Karen McCarthy, Des Ryan, Nigel Webb and Nerine Williams (Directors)

Peter Gesch (Haywards Chartered Accountants – QDN auditors)

Michelle Moss (Chief Executive Officer) and other QDN staff

Mark McKeon (Company Secretary)

Other QDN life and ordinary members, supporters and guests as listed in the Attendance Register

Amanda L. & Mikey (Deaf Connect – Auslan interpreters)

Donna (Bradley Reporting – transcription services)

Amanda C. & Phil (Staffing Options – personal care workers)

2 Welcome

Sharon Boyce (Chairperson) welcomed those present in person and online, introduced personal care workers Phil & Amanda C. and interpreters Mickey & Amanda L., gave an overview of various housekeeping matters, and introduced Uncle Willie Prince (Life member).

3 Acknowledgement of Country and of People with Disability

Uncle Willie Prince described himself, and spoke of his birth in Cherbourg on Waka Waka country and his spiritual connection to the Kalkadoon clan group in Mount Isa.

Uncle Willie then spoke in acknowledgement of country and of people with disability:

> We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which we gather here, the Turrbal and Jagera peoples. We recognise their continuous connection to the land and the waters of this beautiful place. As many of you know, this area by the river was a big meeting place, Kurilpa or Maiwar, for our mob. I wish the same spirit of cooperation for the good of all, and the enjoyment of each others' company for this gathering today. And I would also like to acknowledge any sorry business that may be happening within our communities.

> I'd like to acknowledge elders past, present, and emerging, and any First Nations people who may be joining us here today and online. And I acknowledge the lands which you guys are situated on.
>
> We take a moment to reflect and remember our brothers and sisters who have come before us and have died in institutional settings, as well as those still trapped in institutions or silenced by institutional practices and policies. We take on the responsibility of being clear about the rights of ALL people with a disability and, when necessary, speak in an informed manner for those who cannot speak for themselves.

In closing, Uncle Willie referred to the QDN motto '*Nothing about us without us*' and the importance of strengthening the voice of people with disabilities and advocating for the most vulnerable in our community to ensure the best outcomes for us all.

4 Attendance and Apologies

Sharon Boyce introduced Mark McKeon (Company Secretary). Mark described himself, advised that a list of those attending the meeting would be compiled from the register at the entrance to the meeting and asked if there were any apologies for absence. The apologies advised to the meeting were:

> Lisa Bagnall, Nadia Brady, Kevin Cocks, Alexander Cole, Nick Darby, Ted Jones, Alison MacLean, Sam Rowe, Bernadette Scalora, Linda Tully and Peter Tully (Members)

Mark then advised that no proxies had been received.

5 Minutes of 2024 Annual General Meeting

Mark McKeon read the minutes of the 2024 Annual General Meeting to the meeting, and advised that they were approved by the Board on 18 February 2025.

It was then **resolved** by show of hands

> That the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 9 November 2024 be accepted.

6 Chairperson's Address

Sharon Boyce (Chairperson) thanked Mark McKeon for reading the minutes of the 2024 AGM and acknowledged the achievements and growth of QDN and its members since that meeting. She then spoke to the Chairperson's Report included in QDN's *2024/25 Annual Report* and referred to:

- her pride in QDN's achievements in the three years she has been privileged to serve as chairperson
- 2024/25 has been a year of significant transformation, not only for QDN but across the broader disability landscape
- powerful conversations, led by QDN members, that are reshaping systems and changing lives since the Disability Royal Commission and the NDIS Review
- the co-design and implementation of the Queensland Disability Stakeholder Engagement and Co-Design Strategy
- the strength, resilience, and unwavering commitment of our community to ensuring our voices are heard and included every step of the way
- the leadership and support of the Board in carrying forward the mission and vision of our organisation, and directors' dedication, expertise, and passion
- QDN's state-wide membership network of leaders, advocates, and changemakers, and their rich lived experience, insight, and determination
- members' efforts, stories, and strong advocacy through which QDN continues to drive meaningful reform across housing, transport, health, employment, and beyond
- the loss during the year of some within our network and community – past members and contributors – whose efforts helped to lay the foundations for the progress we make today
- the QDN forums, events, and engagement platforms that have connected Queenslanders and ensure that lived experience continues to inform policy, reform, and service delivery at every level, and
- QDN's guiding principle: *Nothing about us without us*.

> This year's achievements are proof of what we can do when we work together. From our peer networks and regional communities to our Board, staff, and our partners across government and industry – each of you plays a vital role. Thank you for your work, your voice, and your belief in a fairer, more inclusive future.
>
> To our CEO, Michelle Moss, and the incredible QDN team – thank you for your leadership, your creativity, and your tireless commitment throughout what has been a demanding and impactful year.
>
> Together, we remain united in our shared purpose – to ensure Queenslanders with disability are not only included but leading the way.
>
> Thank you all for being part of this journey, and I look forward to continuing this important work with you in the year ahead.

The meeting responded to Sharon's address with applause.

7 CEO's Address – The Year in Review

Michelle Moss (CEO) described herself and then spoke to her report included in QDN's *2024/25 Annual Report*. Michelle likened QDN to an orchestra which pulls together the contributions of members, peer leaders, co-designers, QDeNgage consultants, QDN staff teams, directors and others into a symphonic whole with energy and impact, and referred to:

- QDN's stakeholder engagement and co-design strategy
- implementation of the Disability Royal Commission recommendations
- the federal election, and QDN's *It's time to act* campaign, which gave members the tools and confidence to speak directly with candidates and really put disability inclusion on the agenda
- QDN's instrumental leadership role in bringing together more than 30 organisations in the Queensland Disability Alliance
- the *Voices of Queenslanders with Disability* report and the *My Housing Options Toolkit*
- a range of initiatives, including *Queensland for the Games*, eSports and disability inclusive disaster risk reduction projects, and working with Manufacturing Skills Queensland and the Queensland Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- the 71 forums and workshops, 462 Zoom meetings and 56 formal events through Humantix in 2024/25, and QDN's engagement through that work with over 6,000 people, and
- the contributions of each of QDN's senior leaders and their staff and project teams.

> The goal is always about creating harmony, of listening to one another, how we stay in rhythm, how we respond and reflect, and how we work effectively together to make the music better.
>
> It really has been an enormous year. Orchestras never perform in isolation, but with and for their communities, and we've certainly seen that in our strength and relationships with governments — our new government in Queensland and at the federal level — and with our allies and partners.
>
> So today, as we reflect on the year that's been, I want to thank each section of our QDN orchestra. I think in this year we have composed something extraordinary: it's been a year of courage, collaboration, and change.
>
> So, let's look forward to the year ahead, the next movement in our symphony, and the work that we do to continue to inform, lead, connect, and influence. Thank you.

The meeting responded to Michelle's address, and to her acknowledgement of members, peer leaders, co-designers, QDeNgage consultants, staff and directors with applause.

8 Questions from Members

There were no questions from members.

9 Financial Report

It was then **resolved** by show of hands

> That the financial report of the Company for the year ended 30 June 2025 and the reports of the Directors and Auditors thereon be accepted.

10 Amendment of Constitution

Sharon Boyce advised that the Board has proposed amendments to QDN's Constitution as set out in Annexure A to the Notice of Annual General Meeting, and referred to the explanation of the changes included on pages 17–20 of the Notice of AGM.

It was then **resolved** by show of hands (27 in favour and none against)

> That the Constitution be amended in the manner set out in Annexure A to the notice convening this meeting in accordance with section 136(2) of the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth), with effect from the conclusion of the Annual General Meeting.

11 Meeting Close

Sharon Boyce and Michelle Moss thanked QDN members for their participation in and commitment to the meeting, Uncle Willie for his Acknowledgement, the QDN team for all their work for the AGM, and the teams from Deaf Connect, Staffing Options, Bradley Reporting and Brisbane City Hall for their help and assistance and support at the AGM. Sharon concluded:

> Thank you for being part of QDN, for your friendship, and for your support. How good it is to be part of Queensland leading the way across Australia, and being the voice of disability with our combined lived experience. Thank you again.

and closed the meeting at 11.45 p.m. Members then retired to lunch.

Confirmed by the Board

Talitha Kingsmill, Chairperson Date