



Professional Association of Nurses in Developmental Disability Australia (PANDDA Inc)

Response to the DRC Report.

On 29 September 2023, the Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect, and Exploitation of People with Disability (DRC) released its final report, containing a total of 222 recommendations. We eagerly anticipate the implementation of recommendations to ensure the well-being and human rights of people with intellectual and/or developmental disability are fully realised.

The members of PANDDA Inc. extend our heartfelt appreciation to the courageous individuals and groups who bravely shared their experiences, so that recommendations for change could be made to improve the lives of people with intellectual and/or developmental disability.

PANDDA Inc is unwavering in its commitment to the fundamental principle that people with intellectual and/or developmental disability have the right to make their own decisions. We are dedicated to actively listening to the voices and experiences of individuals and their families who have firsthand experience with intellectual and/or developmental disability. We will be agents of positive change in the field of intellectual and/or developmental disability services and healthcare support.

We are diligently reviewing the DRC report recommendations and we are ready to collaborate with government entities, nursing and healthcare professions, individuals with intellectual and/or developmental disability, their families, and other stakeholders to bring about meaningful change.

PANDDA stands in agreement with the DRC recommendation for the creation of a new Minister for Disability Inclusion in Australia and also the recommendation that each state and territory appoint a Senior Practitioner for the purpose of monitoring and reducing restrictive practices in disability service provision.

What Happens Next:

The Australian Government has six months to consider the Recommendations. During this period, PANDDA will remain dedicated to its mission, advocating and collaborating with nurses, organisations government bodies and with people with Intellectual and/or developmental disability or lived experience to ensure that the voices and needs of people with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities remain at the forefront.

We will continue to review the DRC recommendations and actions arising, providing comments, advocating as necessary and taking affirmative action when appropriate. Your feedback and engagement are crucial to our mission, if you would like to be involved with this process, please contact Sue Easton on sue.easton@pandda.net

If you wish to delve deeper into the details of the report, you can find more information on the Disability Royal Commission website.

[#DisabilityRC](#) [#DisabilityRoyalCommission](#) [#DRC](#)

Thank you for your ongoing support and shared commitment to people with intellectual and/or development disability; and to nursing and healthcare.

Gail Tomsic, PANDDA President and the PANDDA Committee