



# physical disability

## A U S T R A L I A

*“Nothing about us without us!”*

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*2020 Annual General Meeting  
Official Notice and Invitation*

## Greetings!

Welcome to the Summer 2020 Physical Disability Australia (PDA) Newsletter! Since our last publication, a lot has happened at PDA. We have:

- Participated in regular Disability Support Services Committee meetings with our partner organisations and representatives of government agencies to ensure pandemic-related restrictions did not impose too much hardship on our members;
- Made submissions to government that argue for significant improvements to the National Disability Strategy; and
- Worked on our soon-to-be-published self-management how-to website.

More details of these will be included in PDA's Annual Report... coming soon!

## 2020: A Year Like No Other!

There is no doubt that the challenges and changes that have seen us locked down and distanced and talk of “the new normal” has caused a great deal of concern to Australians with physical disability and our fingers are crossed that a way out of the COVID-19 pandemic allows us to resume some of our “old” ways of being.

Of course, many members are used to a life where health and circumstance mean isolation is the way that things just are, so it's hoped that this pandemic has provided society with greater awareness and hopefully greater understanding of the difficulties and sacrifices experienced by segments of the disability community.

We have witnessed changes in the way in which we work, study, interact, access services, socialise and spend our time as a result of our efforts to make our country safer

and stronger coming out of COVID. It has been difficult for everyone, but now that infection rates are more controlled, with hope we can look forward to a future that is safer and more optimistic for all of us – the lucky ones who live in Australia.

2020 has also seen PDA work to implement a number of new initiatives for our members, including our popular fortnightly online Social Hours and the establishment of the PDA Youth Alliance, a group for young Australian adults aged 18 to 30 living with physical disability. It's been wonderful to see the numbers involved in both grow and we look forward to seeing more and more of you get on board and help us steer PDA forwards in representing and supporting Australians with physical disability.

Invitations and links to register for PDA's general and Youth Alliance social hours are regularly posted on our social media pages:

- PDA's main Facebook page ([facebook.com/physicaldisabilityau/](https://facebook.com/physicaldisabilityau/))
- The Facebook Discussion Group ([facebook.com/groups/physicaldisabilityaustralia/](https://facebook.com/groups/physicaldisabilityaustralia/))
- The Youth Alliance Facebook group for members 18-30 years ([facebook.com/groups/pdayouthalliance/](https://facebook.com/groups/pdayouthalliance/))
- PDA's Instagram page ([instagram.com/physical\\_disability\\_australia](https://instagram.com/physical_disability_australia))
- PDA's Youth Alliance's Instagram page ([instagram.com/pda\\_youth\\_alliance](https://instagram.com/pda_youth_alliance))
- PDA's Twitter feed ([twitter.com/PDA\\_AU](https://twitter.com/PDA_AU))
- PDA's LinkedIn community ([linkedin.com/company/physical-disability-australia-ltd/](https://linkedin.com/company/physical-disability-australia-ltd/))
- PDA's website blog ([www.pda.org.au/blog/](http://www.pda.org.au/blog/))

If you haven't bookmarked all these links we encourage you to do so as our promotion officer, Natasha Nobay provides fresh and engaging posts on a daily basis!



We are especially proud of the great blog articles that have been published this year by our directors and associates, so if you haven't read them yet, please check them out.

Behind the scenes the PDA Team has been working on a number of other exciting projects that we look forward to revealing to you all in the not too distant future. They will provide our network and the larger disability sector with opportunities to expand possibility and assist in improving lives.

One of the wonderful things about PDA is the feeling of community that comes from being involved and part of something that works to enhance the lives of our members. Built around a fabulous team that volunteers their time, experiences and ideas, the energy and sense of family that keeps PDA going is beautiful to see and provides a promise of support and representation of not just PDA members but also all Australians living with physical disability.

Extensively involved and represented in many important key disability conversations and collaborations (both nationally and internationally), PDA remains an important, current and relevant voice for consideration and change in the disability sector and those who are part of it.

As an organisation that prides itself on a free membership program, we greatly value our members who kindly volunteer their time in helping PDA forge forward in highlighting, questioning and advocating for issues of importance to our disability community. The commitment, strengths and abilities of these

individuals is paramount to the presence and recognition of PDA as one of our country's key peak Disability Representative Organisations run by people with physical disability for people with physical disability.

## Getting Involved

With this in mind, we invite and encourage you all to become involved in some way. Whether you have an interest in becoming involved on the Board (we are looking to fill Associate Director positions in most jurisdictions) or would like to share your ideas, skills, experiences and networks in helping PDA continue to flourish, we encourage you to get in touch with us and become an active part of our community. If this sounds like you, please email us at [manager@pda.org.au](mailto:manager@pda.org.au) and let us know how you want to play a part in PDA's future.

## 2020 Annual General Meeting

Previous PDA Annual General Meetings (AGMs) have been held by teleconference. This year we are stepping it up and holding it via Zoom video conference. This means if you want to be able to see as well as hear what's going on you will need to have a computer, phone or tablet with the Zoom app installed on it. Information about how to do this is on the Zoom website ([support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/categories/200101697](https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/categories/200101697))

The meeting itself will be held on Saturday 5th November at 2:30pm AEST, we invite all of our Members to attend. The meeting will be run online via Zoom Videoconference and we encourage you to join us to find out what PDA has done in the 2019-2020 financial year and our plans for the year to come. There will also be a short presentation by our Ambassador Dr Dinesh Palipana OAM.

Details on how to pre-register (compulsory), assign a proxy or nominate for a position on the Board of Directors are on the following pages.

We look forward to seeing you at the AGM. If you are unable to attend but would like to have your apologies noted, please email [manager@pda.org.au](mailto:manager@pda.org.au) or call 1800 732 674.

**NOTICE TO MEMBERS**  
**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**Saturday 5 December 2020**

**3:30pm Australian Eastern Daylight-Saving Time**

Physical Disability Australia (PDA) will hold its 2020 Annual General Meeting (AGM) by Zoom Video Conference.

All members are invited to register their intent to attend by clicking this registration link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEvdeqqgj8vHN2KTYutqbP2wIJ8oPNvfNXe>

Once you have registered, you will receive an email with details of the AGM and an link to the meeting. Make sure you have the latest version of the Zoom app installed on your computer, tablet or phone.

Alternately, if you would like to attend by phone, please call the PDA Manager, Simon Burchill by close of business (5:00pm AEDT) **Thursday 3 December 2020** so that an accurate attendance list can be made and so that we can forward further meeting related documents to you. PDA's contact details are listed in the header of this letter.

At this year's AGM, the TAS Directorship of Tim Marks is reaching the end of his first 3 year term. We are also hoping to recruit Associate Directors for most jurisdictions<sup>1</sup>. Full members wishing to nominate for either of these roles need to complete and return the 'Nomination Form' (next page) by close of business on **Thursday 3 December 2020**. Similarly, if you wish to appoint a proxy to vote on your behalf you need to complete and return the 'Appointment of Proxy Form' (below) by the same date.

We look seeing you at the meeting!



**Proxy Appointment Form**  
**2020 Physical Disability Australia Ltd AGM**

I, \_\_\_\_\_  
of (address) \_\_\_\_\_

being a full member of the Physical Disability Australia Ltd (PDA) appoint:

- \*Ms Liz Reid, President; or
- \*(other PDA member) \_\_\_\_\_  
of (address) \_\_\_\_\_

as my proxy to vote for me on my behalf at the Annual General Meeting to be held on **Saturday 5 December 2020** and at any adjournment thereof.

My proxy is authorised to vote \*in favour of/\*against the following matters:

1. Election of new and/or renominating PDA Directors; and
2. Any other motions and or resolutions put to the quorum.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_  
(Member)

Note: It is the appointing member's responsibility to communicate his or her preferences to the proxy. Otherwise, the proxy may vote as he/she thinks fit.

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<sup>1</sup> Information about what is involved in being an Assistant Director is provided on request from Simon Burchill, PDA Manager ([manager@pda.org.au](mailto:manager@pda.org.au) or 1800 PDA ORG)

## Nomination form for Directors / Associate Directors

I, \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ ,  
(Full name of Nominee) (Nominee's address)

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_ ,

Signature of Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_ ,

Wish to nominate for the role of Director / Associate Director of Physical  
(Delete or circle as appropriate)  
Disability Australia Ltd (PDA) for the 3 year term: December 2019 to November  
2022.

This nomination is proposed and seconded by the following PDA members:<sup>2</sup>

Proposer : \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_  
(Full name of Proposer) (Proposer's address)

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Proposer: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

Secunder: \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_  
(Full name of Secunder) (Secunder's address)

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Secunder: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

All nominations must be received by the PDA Manager by close of  
business **Thursday 3 December 2020**

Mail: PO Box 345, Toowong QLD 4066

Email: [manager@pda.org.au](mailto:manager@pda.org.au)

<sup>2</sup> If you don't know any other PDA members, please return the form anyway and we will assist you in finding proposers and seconders.

# AGENDA



Meeting Name:		Date	Time
Annual General Meeting of Physical Disability Australia (PDA)		Saturday 5 December 2020	3:30pm AEDT 3:00pm SA 2:00pm NT 2:30pm QLD 12:30pm WA
Location: Zoom Videoconference			
Agenda Items for Discussion			
Item	Subject	Presenter	
1	<b>Welcome</b> <i>PDA acknowledges the traditional owners of the lands in which we dwell and pays its respects to elders past and present. We also acknowledge people with disability, past and present, those who are living full and complete lives and those who have needs that are not yet being met. We ask you to reflect on this and to work with us to bring about the changes that will give ALL people with disability an opportunity to live an ordinary life.</i>	Chair	
2	<b>Apologies and Attendance</b> <i>Declaration of quorum</i>	Chair	
3	<b>Declaration of Proxies</b>	Chair	
4	<b>Minutes of Last AGM</b>	Chair	
5	<b>President's Report</b>	Chair	
6	<b>Manager's Report</b>	Manager	
7	<b>Promotion Officer's Report</b>	Promotion Officer	
7	<b>Treasurer's Report</b>	Treasurer	
8	<b>Appointment / Election of Directors (TAS) and Associate Directors</b>	Manager	
9	<b>Other Business</b> - Presentation by Dr Dinesh Palipana OAM	Chair	
10	<b>Meeting Close</b>	Chair	
<b>Meeting Papers:</b> PDA AGM Papers 05Dec20			

Meeting Registration Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEvdqgqj8vHN2KTYutqbP2wIJ8oPNvfNXe>