September 2022 Newsletter



Update from the Commissioner

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Welcome to our September newsletter.

This month saw us host our webinar - Disability worker registration – who, why, when and how? On Thursday 18th August. We had a great number of you tune in to hear about how registration can work for you, including from one of our registered disability workers. If you missed the chance to watch live, you can watch the recording in your own time on our <u>webinar page</u>.

Registration recognises you for the crucial work you do as a disability worker. So, if disability worker registration is something you've been thinking about, now is the perfect time to get your application in. The good news is that registration continues to be free in this second year and your skills, experience and track record are all taken into account. You can find out how to register at the <u>registration page</u>.

Renewals are now open

For those already registered, your chance to renew your registration for the 2022-23 year is now open. With applications closing at the end of September, now is the best time to renew your registration. You can read more about how to prepare your renewal application on our <u>renewal page</u>.

We're confident you'll find the renewal form straightforward to complete, but if you do run into any problems, you can call our registration team on 1800 497 132 or email registration@vdwc.vic.gov.au.

A new prohibition order

This month I have issued a prohibition order, effective from 9th September 2022. This is one of three orders recently issued. A prohibition order stops a person from being able to lawfully practise as a disability worker due to serious misconduct. The order is publicly available at: https://www.vdwc.vic.gov.au/prohibition-orders.

As the Victorian Disability Worker Commissioner, I am able to issue prohibition orders to avoid a serious risk to the life, health, safety or welfare of a person with disability or the health, safety or welfare of the public.

Regulating the conduct of disability support workers through prohibition orders is one of the ways in which the Commission is continuing to safeguard and protect people with disability in Victoria.

You can sign up to receive direct email alerts when there is an update to the <u>public</u> <u>prohibition orders page</u> of the Commission website.

If you have a concern, you can tell us

If you have any concerns about a disability worker, our team is here to listen, help and guide you as we understand it can be difficult to take the step of contacting us. Just give us a call on 1800 497 132. You can also make a complaint via our <u>online form</u>.

Do you or your organisation want to know more about how to make a complaint, lodge a notification or register as a disability worker?

We can help with that. We provide free, accessible, and tailored education sessions for your organisation, community group, advocacy group or network about any aspects of the Commission's work. If you're interested, please get in touch with our education team at <u>education@vdwc.vic.gov.au</u>.

Please let friends and colleagues know that they can subscribe to receive updates at <u>www.vdwc.vic.gov.au/subscribe</u>.

Events



We will be presenting at the Virtual Disability Conference 2022

You can join us as part of the Virtual Disability Conference: Raising Expectations on 21st September 2022.

Registrations are now open. This fully online conference will feature a great program exploring the theme of 'Raising Expectations'.

All sessions will be captioned and Auslan interpreted. The recording will be available for delegates for 12 months.

Please register by Tuesday 20th September 2022 See program at <u>https://vdc.delegateconnect.co/program</u> For more information and to register, please go to <u>https://vdc.delegateconnect.co</u> Enquiries to: <u>nvd-conference@unimelb.edu.au</u>

Resources

New disability worker in-language stakeholder resources now available

You can now download a stakeholder pack about disability worker registration translated into Arabic, Chinese (Traditional), Chinese (Simplified), Filipino, Hindi, Punjabi, Sinhalese

and Vietnamese. These packs have resources available to download in-language and sent to your networks including:

- Email to your network
- 400-word news article
- Social media text
- Brochure about the Disability Worker Regulation Scheme
- Links to fact sheets and videos

News and updates



Winners have been announced for the 2022 Victorian Disability Awards

We congratulate the winners of the 2022 Victorian Disability Awards.

The awards have a strong focus on recognising and honouring the achievements and contributions of individuals, teams and organisations that promote the rights and inclusion of people with disability.

Our very own Victorian Disability Worker Commissioner, Dan Stubbs, was in attendance on 24 August to congratulate some very deserving winners, recognised for their contributions.

You can read more about the winners and nominees at: <u>https://www.dffh.vic.gov.au/victorian-disability-awards</u>.

Keep in touch

If our e-newsletter was forwarded to you and you'd like to subscribe please go to: <u>https://www.vdwc.vic.gov.au/subscribe</u>

If you have any questions or comments, please get in touch via our website <u>Contact us</u> page, send an email to <u>info@vdwc.vic.gov.au</u> or call us on 1800 497 132.

For more information visit vdwc.vic.gov.au

Our mailing address is: Level 20, 570 Bourke Street, Melbourne, VIC 3182

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