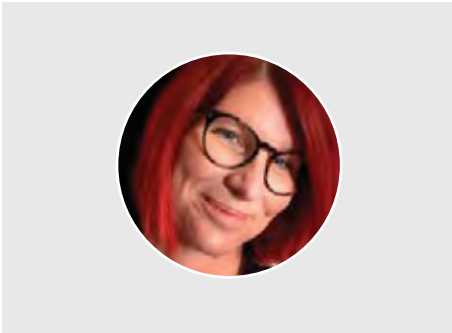




Easy Read

# Annual Report 2021 to 22

# Message from the president



This is a message from Samantha Connor.



I am the president of PWDA.

The **president** helps decide how PWDA is run.

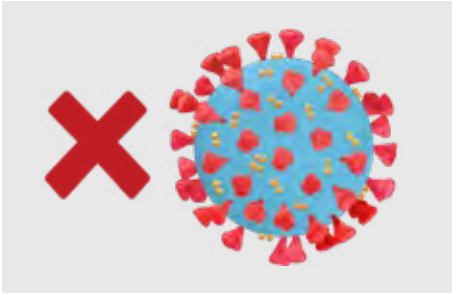


It has been a hard year for people with disability and for PWDA.

We showed the world that we are strong.



PWDA has been doing hard work for more than 40 years.



We could not have a party for 40 years of PWDA because of the COVID-19 pandemic.



We want to share some things that PWDA has done to celebrate the 40 years.



This year we made a lot of good things happen.



We helped people with disability in the COVID-19 pandemic to get their rights met.



We spoke up at the Federal Election.

The **Federal Election** is a big event that Australia has to vote for people they want to work in government.



We worked together to find the most important issues to tell the government about.



We did a lot of individual advocacy to make things better for people with disability.



**Individual Advocacy** is when someone with a disability is supported by a PWDA worker to get their rights met.



We spoke up for our rights at a big rights event.

It is called the **Convention of State Parties** in New York.



I want to say thank you to everyone for working hard this year.

# Message from the CEO

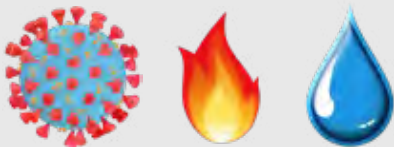


My name is Sebastian Zagarella.

CEO



I am the CEO at PWDA.



This year was hard for everyone because of

- COVID-19
- Bush fires
- Floods.



We did a lot of speaking up for people with disability.

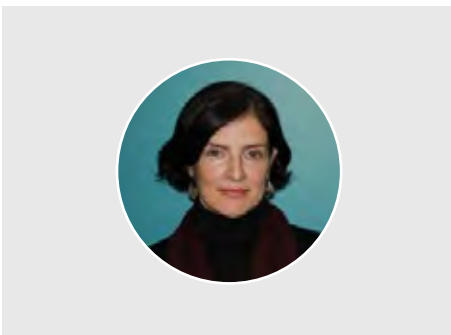


Thank you for all your work this year.



This year we got a new Deputy CEO.

A **Deputy CEO** is someone who supports the CEO.



Carolyn Hodge was chosen to be Deputy CEO.

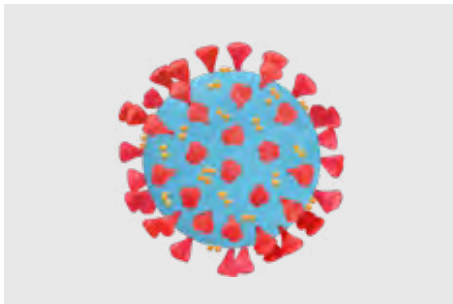
# What we did this year



This is the annual report for 2021 to 2022.

The **annual report** says what we did in the last year.

## COVID-19



This year we worked hard to keep people with disability safe in the COVID-19 pandemic.

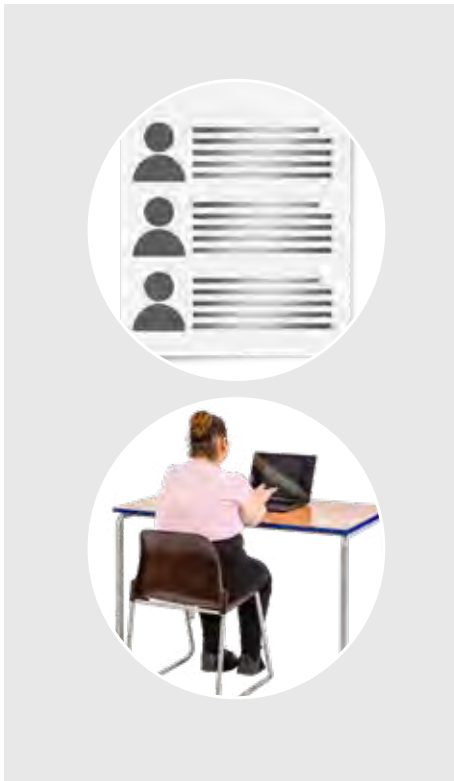


We spoke up about what the government can do for people with disability during COVID-19.



We told them we wanted more things that can keep people with disability safe like

- Vaccinations
- Masks
- RAT tests.



We shared information about COVID-19 and ways to keep safe and well with

- Our members
- People who follow our things online.



We worked out a plan to keep PWDA staff safe from COVID-19 in the PWDA office.



# Federal Election



The federal election was a big thing that happened this year.



We wanted to tell the government the most important issues for people with disability.



We asked the members to have their say.



We used what they told us to make an election platform.



An **election platform** is a list of the important issues we want the government to know.



We asked the government what they thought about our election platform.



We found people in government who supported our election platform.



We told the members who they were.



This helped members decide who to vote for in the federal election.



We have been working with the new government to make things better for people with disability.

# 15th Session of the Conference of States Parties



We went to the 15th Session of the Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disability.

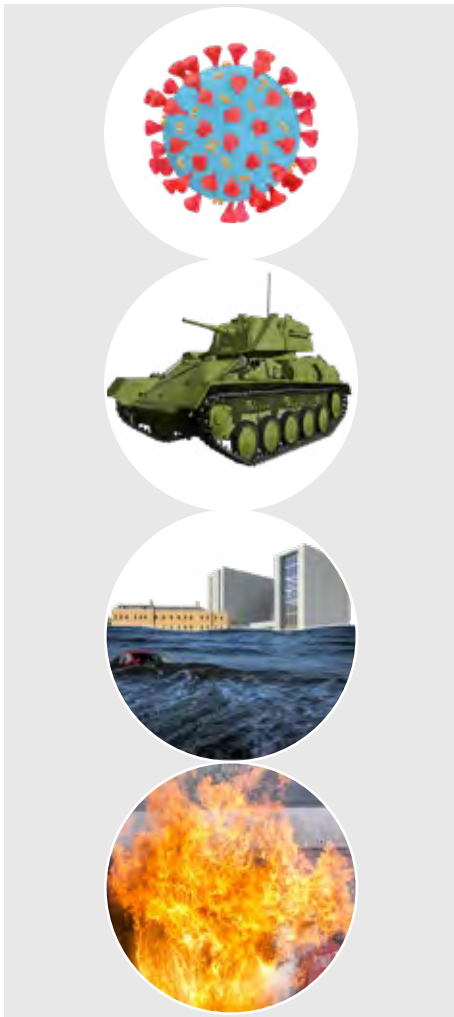
**COSP** for short.



This is a big meeting every year to talk about what is important for people with disability.



It was at the United Nations in New York.



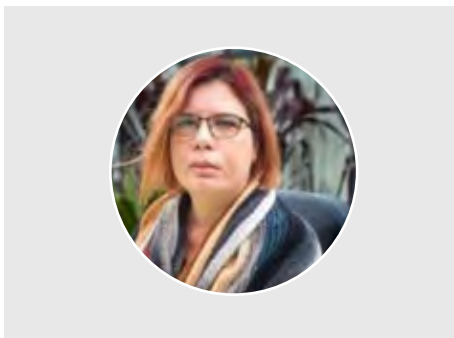
This year the big topic was inclusion for people with disability when things happen that can make them not safe like

- COVID-19

- War

- Floods

- Bush fires.



Kelly Cox gave a talk about what PWDA thinks about these big topics.



People from PWDA also gave talks on

- Business

- Jobs

- Life skills.

# Disability Royal Commission



We helped make things better for people with disability at the Disability Royal Commission.



The Disability Royal Commission hears stories from people with disability.

They want people with disability to have their rights.



We gave support to people with disability to tell their stories to the Disability Royal Commission.



We sent out information about the Disability Royal Commission so that people knew about things like

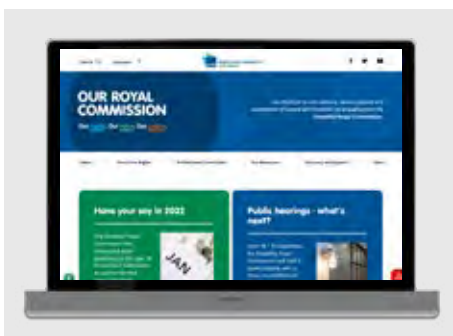
- When they were having a meeting
- What stories were being told.



We shared what they talked about on our Twitter.



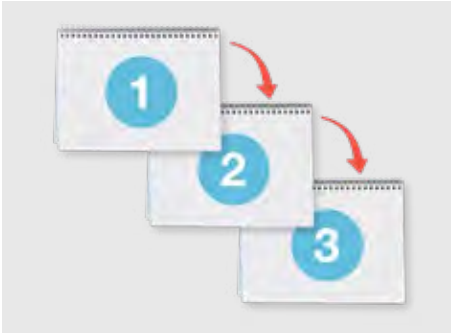
We also made sure our website on the Disability Royal Commission had all the important information.



To see the website go to

**[www.ourroyalcommission.com.au](http://www.ourroyalcommission.com.au)**

# Disability Rights



We wrote lots of reports for government on disability rights.

These are 3 topics we wrote about.



1. Making the way people get money from the government better.

This is called Welfare Reform.



2. People with disability from different cultures who might speak different languages.

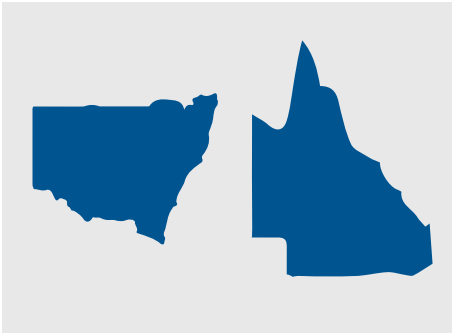


3. Australian Disability Enterprises

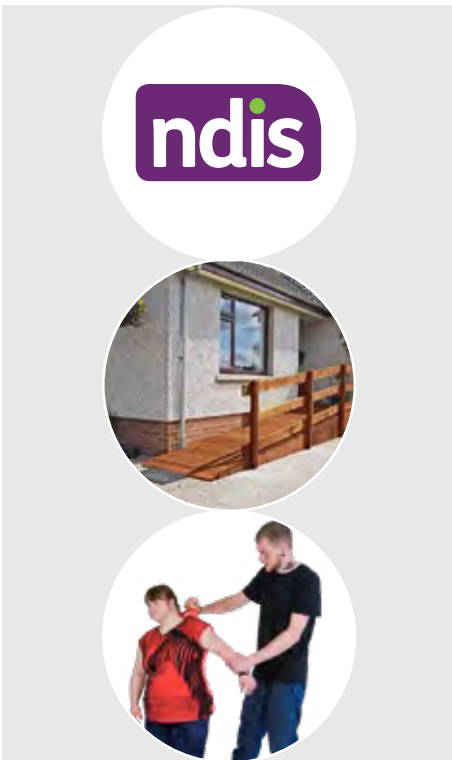
**Australian Disability Enterprises** are places that people with disability work with supports.



# Advocacy



PWDA gave individual advocacy to many people in NSW and QLD.



We supported people with disability with things like

- NDIS
- Housing and accommodation
- Abuse.



We got more money from the government to keep doing all our advocacy work.

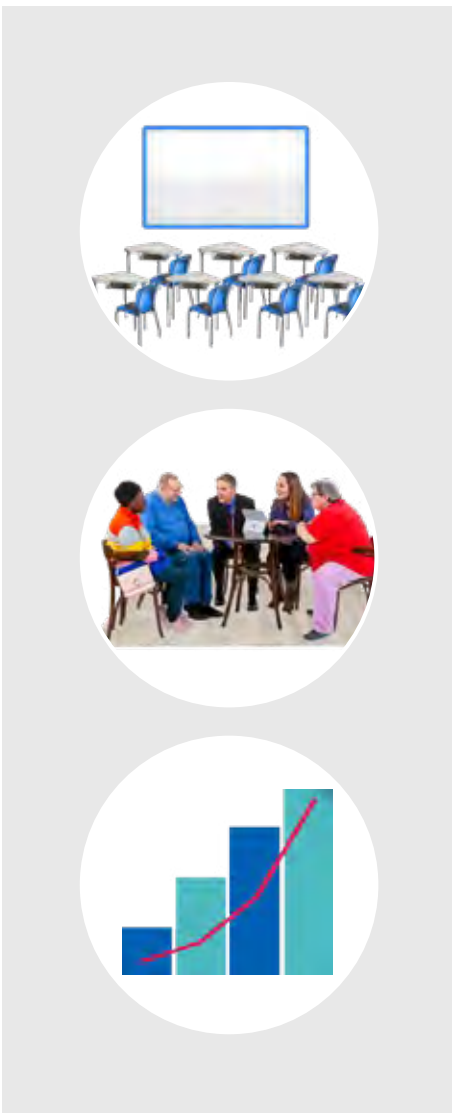


# Research projects and training



There are 3 teams at PWDA that

- Put together the information for government
- Teach other places about disability.



The teams are

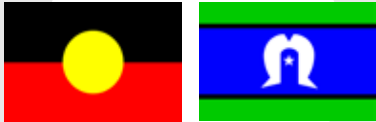
- Education
- Training
- Research.

**Research** is when we look into something to find out more about it.

Those teams also did a lot of work this year on



- Domestic violence



- First Nations peoples rights



- Institutions

**Institutions** are big places with many people like prisons.

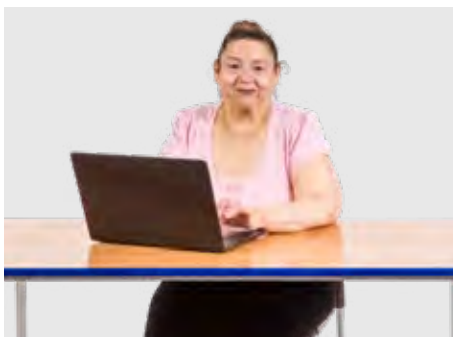


- Women and the COVID-19 pandemic.

# Making PWDA better



This year we built a new website.



Our new website is easier to use for people with disability.



We told a lot of people about the work we do by sharing information online like on

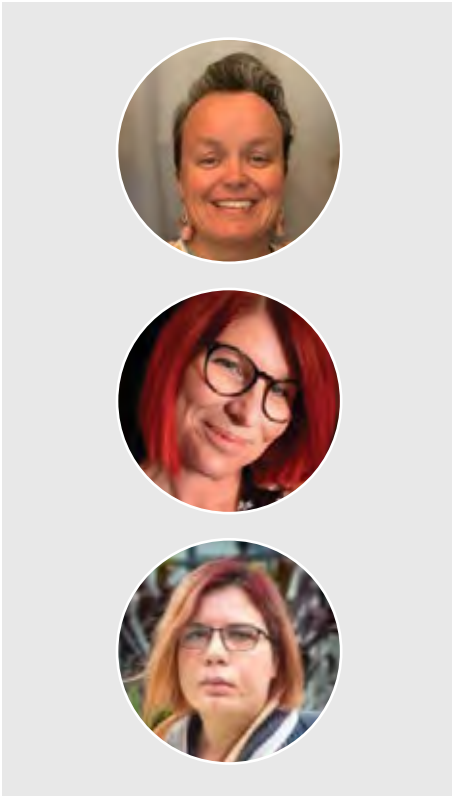
- Our website
- Twitter
- Facebook.



We got money from the government to do

- Support services
- Disability rights advocacy
- Make PWDA bigger.

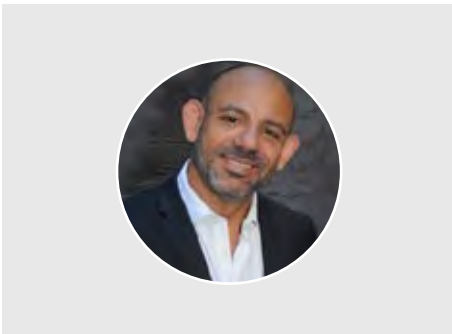
## PWDA leaders



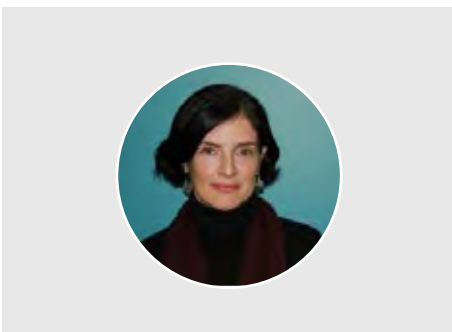
We chose 3 Board members this year.

They are

- Clare Gibellini
- Samantha Connor who is the President
- Kelly Cox who is the Vice President.



Sebastian Zagarella was chosen to be CEO.



Carolyn Hodge was chosen to be Deputy CEO.

A **Deputy CEO** is someone who supports the CEO.

# Thank you



PWDA wants to say thank you to our

- Workers



- Members

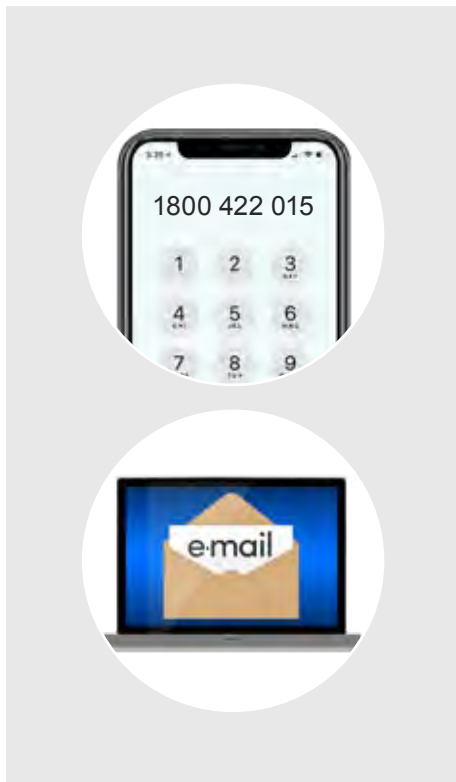


- Supporters



- Community.

## Contact us



Contact us if you need support.

- Call us on **1800 422 015**
- Email us at **[pwd@pwd.org.au](mailto:pwd@pwd.org.au)**

Council for Intellectual Disability made this document Easy Read. **CID** for short.  
You need to ask CID if you want to use any pictures in this document.  
You can contact CID at **[business@cid.org.au](mailto:business@cid.org.au)**.

 [pwd.org.au](http://pwd.org.au)

 [pwd@pwd.org.au](mailto:pwd@pwd.org.au)

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