



Lorna Sullivan is currently working as the Chief Advisor to the Royal Commission of Enquiry into Abuse in Care being undertaken in New Zealand.

Her role previous to this was as the Director of Mana Whaikaha responsible for the implementation of Enabling Good Lives, the New Zealand policy framework for the transformation of the disability service system. In order to take up the role with Mana Whaikaha, she returned from Australia where she was working as director of disability services to support UnitingCare Community to design its service models and approaches in preparation for the NDIS

She has a long history of working for change within the disability sector, mainly in New Zealand, and is dedicated to changing the power dynamics between service systems, people with disabilities and their families.

Lorna is committed to working directly with people, families and communities to develop approaches that support the lives of people with disabilities and reduce life-long dependency on funded systems. She played an instrumental role in developing the New Zealand's Individualised Funding scheme and the recent move to self direction through the Enabling Good Lives initiative.

Prior to this, her roles in New Zealand included chief executive of independent NGO ImagineBetter, NZCCS national services development manager, and has national Governance and advisory roles with DPA (Disabled Person's Assembly) and People First.

Bio: Eddie Bartnik



Eddie Bartnik has been passionately involved in the disability and mental sectors for his whole career. He has held senior state and national government positions across disability, mental health and community services in Australia and has extensive consulting experience across 14 countries. Eddie has a unique long-term view on human rights based and person-centred national disability and mental health reforms based on 35 years' experience in both design and implementation.

He is a practicing company director and graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors, has masters degrees in both clinical psychology and educational studies and is a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Management, Australian Society for the Study of Intellectual Disability and Salzburg Global Forum. Recent highlights include his jointly authored book with Ralph Broad "Power and Connection – The international development of Local Area Coordination" (2021) and in 2023, he was the independent expert and joint Reviewer with Dr Tim Stainton for a major systemic disability discrimination case and Court Remedy in Nova Scotia, Canada.

Dr. Tim Stainton, BSW, MSW, PhD

Tim Stainton is Professor at the School of Social Work and Director of the Canadian Institute for Inclusion and Citizenship, University of British Columbia. He holds a PhD from the London School of Economics on disability rights and social policy.

He was a service broker with the Community Living Society in Vancouver from 1980-1985 where he assisted individuals and families to return to the community from Woodlands institution and was introduced to the ideas of brokerage, individualized funding and social networks which have been the core idea of his work ever since. He was Director of Policy and Programmes for the Ontario Association for Community Living (now Inclusion Ontario) in the mid 1980s where he worked on institutional closures among other issues. After his transfer to University of Wales Swansea he continued his work on deinstitutionalization with the lead Welsh NGO supporting and planning for closures and consulting on processes. On his return to British Columbia (BC) he was appointed to the Transition Steering Committee by the Minister of Social Development where he chaired the committee charged with designing a new system for supporting people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) in BC. He was subsequently appointed to the interim board overseeing the transition to the new entity established in 2005 as a Crown agency known as Community Living British Columbia. He has consulted nationally with multiple Provinces and internationally on issues of system change.

He has worked with NGO's and Governments in the UK, Israel, Germany and done extensive work in Australia during their transition to the National Disability Insurance Scheme. He was invited as a 'thinker in residence' by the State disability services agency of Western Australia to provide training and consultation on the transition to the new system. He has published widely on individualized funding, rights based social service structures, disability rights, history, ethics and theory. He is also the proud father of four children, one of whom is a young adult with IDD.

Ralph Broad

Ralph is Director of Inclusive Neighbourhoods Ltd and Founder of the Local Area Coordination Network in England and Wales.

Ralph has more than 30 years experience in working in a wide range of statutory and voluntary sector organisations in England, Scotland and Western Australia. His work is underpinned by the belief that every person has the right to build and pursue their vision for a good life and that communities are stronger, more welcoming and more self-sufficient where all people have the opportunity to share strengths and expertise and contribute to local community life.

As Director of Inclusive Neighbourhoods Ltd, Ralph led the development of Local Area Coordination in England and Wales. Building on the original, groundbreaking developments and long term evidence in Western Australia, Local Area coordination has become an integral part of strengthening individuals, families, communities and wider service reform in an increasing number of local authority areas.

Susan Peden

Since moving to Western Australia in 1990 Susan has worked with West Australians with disabilities as a speech pathologist and a positive behaviour support practitioner. She has held executive and senior management roles with several disability service providers.

Susan led the development of the Positive Behaviour Support Framework in Western Australia and has been influential across Australia in numerous policy and management roles.

Susan continues to provide support and training to many organisations supporting people with a disability in Western Australia. She is a strong advocate of person-centred approaches and individualised solutions.

Professor Angus Buchanan DBA, DSM, BAppSci (OT), FIASSIDD

Professor Angus Buchanan commenced working at Curtin University in 2008, and is currently Head of School, Curtin School of Allied Health. Prior to this Angus held the role of Head of School, Occupational Therapy, Social Work and Speech Pathology (2015 – 2021). Before commencing at Curtin, Angus was a senior leader and Director at the Disability Services Commission of Western Australia implementing significant service developments and reforms in therapy and community coordination for people with disabilities. Angus graduated as an Occupational Therapist in 1985 and remains deeply committed to the

profession, its possibilities, and future. He holds academic qualifications in strategic leadership including a Doctor of Business Administration.

Angus passionately believes in working with people to reach their professional and personal potential in positive values driven environments and cultures.

Research interests reflect Angus' extensive background working with people with intellectual disabilities and their families and his personal commitment to the inclusion of people with disabilities in community.

Angus is currently a Fellow and President for the International Association for the Scientific Study of Intellectual and Developmental Disability, was the President of the Australasian Society of Intellectual Disability (ASID) from 2013-17, Past District Governor of Rotary, an Associate Editor on number of international journals and was a Director and Chairperson of Avivo, a major non-government service provider in Western Australia. He values spending time with his family and three grandchildren, being in his garden, is currently undertaking a Bachelor of Arts (Fine Arts) and is committed to community development and service through his ongoing work with Rotary International.