

Independent Advisory Council to the NDIS

Meeting Bulletin 16 December 2021



Easy Read



Hard words

This book has some hard words.

The first time we write a hard word

- the word is in **blue**
- we write what the word means.

You can get help with this book



You can get someone to help you

- read this book
- know what this book is about
- find more information.



About this book



The **Independent Advisory Council to the NDIS** wrote this book.

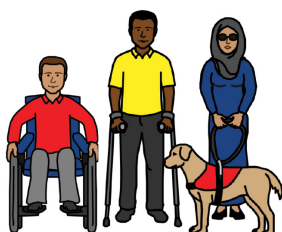
We will call it the Council.



The Independent Advisory Council to the NDIS gives advice to the **National Disability Insurance Agency**.



The National Disability Insurance Agency or NDIA manages the **National Disability Insurance Scheme**.



The National Disability Insurance Scheme or NDIS gives services and support to people with disability.



This book tells you what happened at our meeting on 16 December 2021.

Who was at the meeting?



The meeting was run by Robyn Kruk who is the Council's Principal Member and NDIA Board member.



Leah Van Poppel is the Council's Deputy Chair and helps the Principal Member run the meeting.



11 Council members and 1 expert adviser were at the meeting.

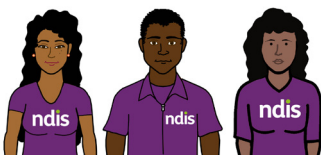


Other people at the meeting were

- Helen Nugent who is the NDIA Board Chair



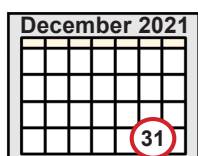
- Martin Hoffman who is the Chief Executive Officer of the NDIA



- NDIA managers.

What happened at the meeting?

Update from the Principal Member



The Principal Member Robyn Kruk will finish her work with Council and the NDIA Board on 31 December 2021.

This was Robyn's last meeting as Principal Member.



Robyn said Council

- worked really hard this year



- built a strong relationship with the Minister for the NDIS



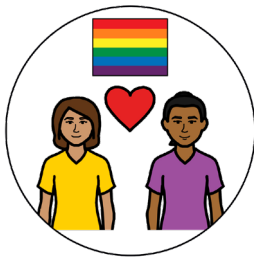
- will take more time to talk to leaders from **diverse communities** to help Council write its advice next year.

Diverse communities include

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities



- communities with people from different cultures and who speak languages other than English



- LGBTIQ+ communities.
 - LGBTIQ+ is a way to show sexual and gender identities and bodies in the community.



Judy Huett is leaving Council.

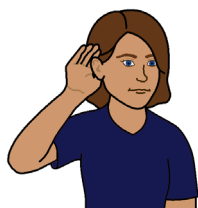


Next year Gavin Burner will go to some Council meetings instead of Judy to represent people with intellectual disability.



Gavin and Judy are members of the Intellectual Disability Reference Group.

Update from the Deputy Chair



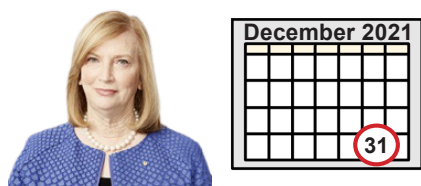
The Deputy Chair thanked

- the Board Chair for listening to Council's advice



- the Principal Member for guiding Council.

Update from the NDIA Board Chair



The NDIA Board Chair is leaving the Board on 31 December 2021.



In the 5 years she has been Chair, the Board and Council have worked together to grow and improve the NDIS.

Update from the NDIA CEO



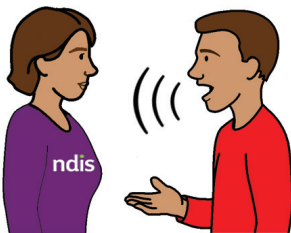
The government released information about how much money it will give the NDIA to run the NDIS over the next 4 years.



There has been positive feedback about the NDIA's **co-design** work.



Co-design means to work together to reach a goal.



For example, people who run services work with people who use the services to plan the services.



This co-design work is very important to the NDIA.



Update from the Minister for the NDIS

The Minister thanked



- Council for their advice about NDIS improvements



- the Board Chair and Principal Member who are leaving the NDIA Board for all their hard work.



The Minister said that Leah Van Poppel will be made a NDIA Board member soon.



The Minister talked about her work over the last 9 months to manage the NDIS.

Updates from Council members



Council members talked about the work they did in 2021.

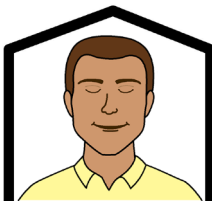


Members said

- Council has given the NDIA Board important advice



- they worked well under pressure to do their work.



Members feel safe to share their opinions with Council even if they do **not** agree on everything.

Members said

- the Board Chair, NDIA Board and NDIA staff have worked hard to make the NDIS better



- Council's Principal Member, Independent Consultant and Secretariat have done a good job.

Members have built strong relationships with state and territory **disability advisory councils** in 2021 because of their honest consultations.



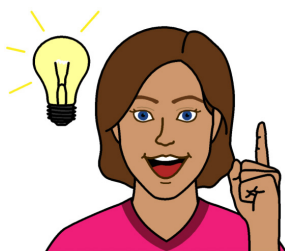
Disability advisory councils

- include people that know a lot about disability
- talk about their ideas to make things better for people with disability.

Feedback on co-design advisory group



The Deputy Chair is part of the co-design **advisory group** that has regular meetings with the NDIA.



Advisory groups talk about their ideas to make something happen.



The co-design advisory group will decide on work they will do together and how they will work with

- the NDIA

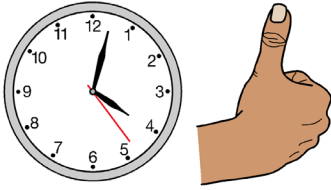


- Council



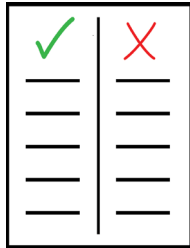
- **Disability Representative and Carer Organisations.**

Disability Representative and Carer Organisations help people with disability and their carers fight for their rights.

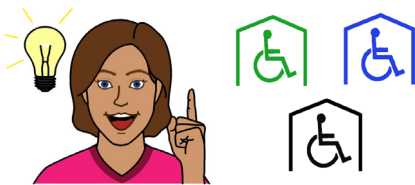


The Deputy Chair said

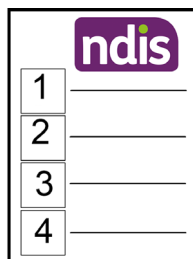
- work on co-design takes time but it gives better outcomes and will rebuild trust



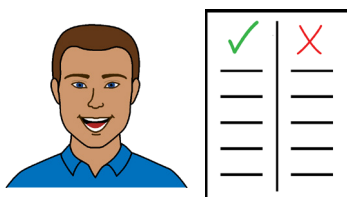
- the advisory group has made 3 documents that have
 - rules about ways they work



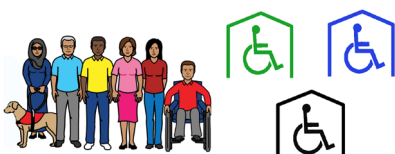
- ideas about ways to engage with disability organisations



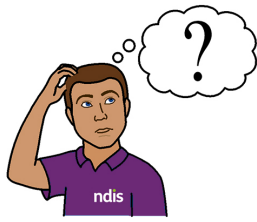
- plans for co-design work they will do together.



Members said they are happy with the rules about how the advisory group works.



Disability Representative and Carer Organisations want the NDIA to work more closely with disability organisations.

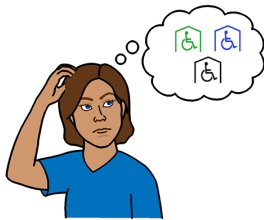


The NDIA should think more about how it will do co-design work when they already know about issues.



When the advisory group does engagement work they should

- tell people ways they decide on work to co-design



- think about other work disability organisations do.

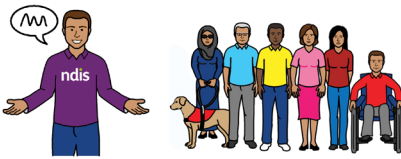


The advisory group's plans should include diverse communities to make sure co-design plans are culturally safe.

Ways NDIA gets information for access and planning



The NDIA is doing work on how it gets information about access and planning for participants.



The NDIA will co-design this work with the disability community.

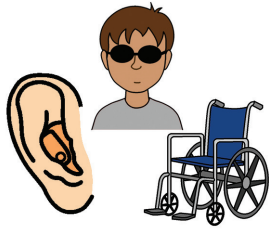
The work will have a **steering committee** that includes Council members.



A steering committee means a group of people who work together to guide the project.

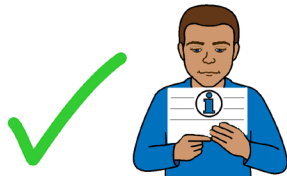


Council members said this project is really important for participants.



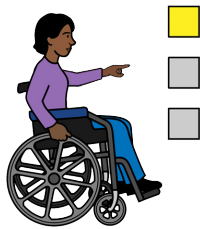
Council members also said the NDIA should

- think about ways it gets information about people with complex disabilities



- make sure the disability community has up to date information about this work.

NDIA work on Support for Decision Making



The NDIA is doing work to ensure people with disability can make their own decisions.



The decisions could be about

- your life

- your NDIS plan.

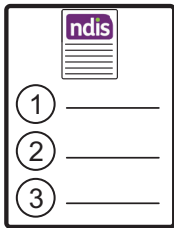


The NDIA had a Support for Decision Making **consultation**.

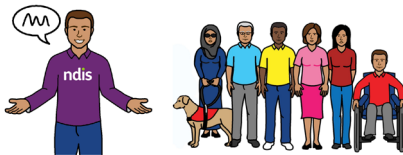


The consultation

- let people have a say on what the NDIA can do better



- will help the NDIA write a policy.



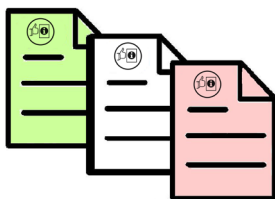
The NDIA will co-design this work with the disability community.



This work will have a steering committee that includes Council members.



Council members said the NDIA is doing good work on Support for Decision Making.



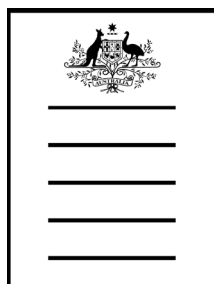
The NDIA should give people with disability easy to read information about supports that help them make their own decisions.

The NDIA's Support for Decision Making policy should

- use learnings from the **Disability**

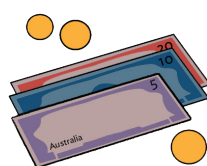
Royal Commission

- The Disability Royal Commission is an official way of looking into problems about the way people with disability are treated.

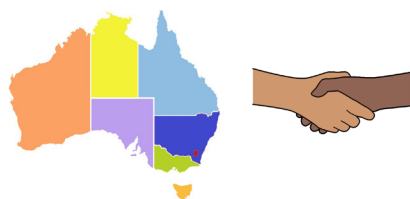


- include consultation with *public advocates* and *public guardians*.

- Public advocates and guardians protect adults who cannot make important decisions on their own.



Some Council members want more funding for services to support people with intellectual disability to make their own decisions.



Council members say state and territory governments should work together on ways to help people with disability get supports for decision making.

More information

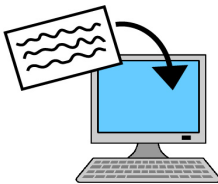


The next meeting is on **25 February 2022**.

For more information contact the
Independent Advisory Council to the NDIS.



Website [ndis-iac.com.au](https://www.ndis-iac.com.au)



Email advisorycouncil@ndis.gov.au

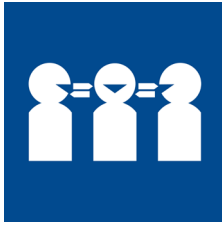


Call 1800 800 110



For more information about advice the Council
has given go to our website.

[ndis-iac.com.au/advice](https://www.ndis-iac.com.au/advice)



If you need help with English

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Call 131 450



If you need help to speak or listen

Use the National Relay Service.

nrschat.nrscall.gov.au/nrs/internetrelay

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