



"The Wheel Continues to Turn"

And the philosophical division that must be addressed

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"Accommodation Models for People with Disabilities: The Past, The Present - and The Future?"

Following an enthusiastic response to the proposed one-day seminar on future supported accommodation models for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, the NSW Parliament House theatre has been booked for **Thursday 21 July, from 10am to 4pm**. Expressions of interest in presenting at or attending this seminar have been received from people with disabilities, academics, federal and State MPs, Federal and State public servants, disability service providers and advocacy organisations, community-based groups and families of people with intellectual disabilities from Queensland, Victoria, South Australia, the ACT as well as from NSW. (Suggestions have also been made already to stage similar seminars in Adelaide and Brisbane.)

I am pleased to advise that the NSW Minister for Disability Services, Andrew Constance MLA, has accepted an invitation to open and attend this seminar,

and that Professor Christine Bigby from Latrobe University, whose recent thought-provoking article - contending that there should be "limits to consumer choice" in supported accommodation models funded under any future NDIS - has also accepted an invitation to deliver the key-note address. This seminar is designed to provide an opportunity for an informed, stimulating and in-depth discussion between those who share Professor Bigby's concerns about the potential for re-institutionalisation under new accommodation models, such as "villages" and intentional communities; those who support or are involved in the development of such models for some people with disabilities; and those who just want to explore the latest research, evidence and arguments, for and against, before making up their minds.

Bookings

As the NSW Parliament theatre only seats 170 people, it will be essential for anyone interested in attending to book as early as possible.

Other than for those who will be presenting at the seminar, and people with disabilities who are welcome to attend at no charge, the cost of admission will be \$30 per person, which includes a buffet lunch and tea/coffee.

To secure a booking, please deposit payment directly into the bank account of Fighting Chance Australia, which is hosting this event (BSB 032 123; account number 256 045), and please also email me at fightingchancefund@gmail.com to advise how many tickets you have paid for. Any money deposited after all seats have been allocated will be returned.

Thank you for your interest in this seminar, and please onpass this email to anyone you think might be interested in attending.

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