

Minister Donnellan IDPWD

Transcript

Video Transcript

To begin I'd like to acknowledge the traditional owners of the lands upon which we each stand, and pay my respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.

I'd also like to acknowledge them as the longest living civilisation in the world and how fortunate we are to live on their land.

I'd like to join you in marking today as the International Day of People with Disability.

This year has brought many challenges, and for many people it was a year of pain, anxiety and loss.

I'd like to thank all those of you who have made an enormous contribution throughout the year to support Victorians during the coronavirus.

People with disability in Victoria can be proud of their leadership and expertise in response to this pandemic.

The United Nations' theme for this year's international day is "Building Back Better."

It focuses on working towards a disability-inclusive and accessible post COVID-19 world.

Recovery will be a major focus of my work with you as we get back to developing our new four-year state disability plan which we had to delay our consultation plans due to the pandemic.

We know the next plan will need to reflect what we've learned by working with people with disability through this unprecedented time so that we can embed lasting change and improvement in the future.

I really encourage you to get involved in the new consultation activities that will happen early in the new year.

You can find out more by visiting the state disability plan website.

We will be engaging with people from across Victoria and building on the work we've done this year to make our engagement more accessible, more inclusive and more representative.

I look forward to continuing our efforts to create more positive change.

Thank you on this International Day of People with Disability.

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