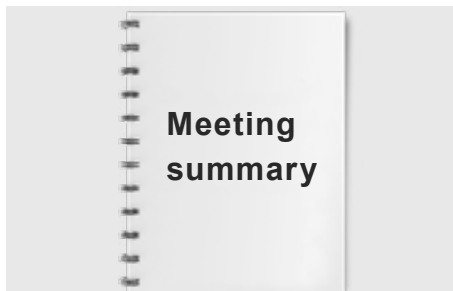


NDIS Participant Reference Group Meeting Summary



This is the **meeting summary** from the NDIS **Participant Reference Group**.

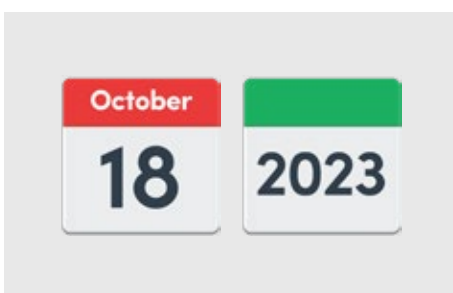
We say **PRG** for short.



A **meeting summary** says what we did at a PRG meeting.



It has important news we share with the community.



This meeting was on Wednesday 18 October 2023.

Independent Advisory Council



Leah van Poppel gave a talk about the **Independent Advisory Council**.



The **Independent Advisory Council** is a group that speaks to the NDIS about things participants want to change.

We will say **IAC** for short.



Lots of the members in the IAC are people with disability.



The IAC look into issues that happen to

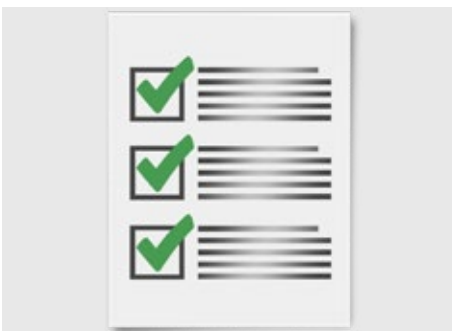
- NDIS participants

- Family

- Carers.



They look into what the NDIA is doing about those issues.



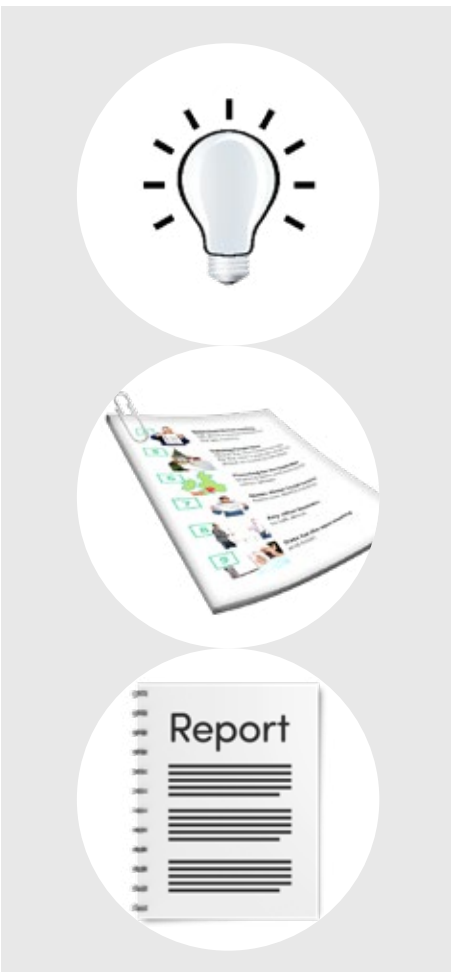
They can also help groups like the PRG know what are good things to work on.



Someone from the IAC comes to the PRG meetings every month.



This is so the 2 groups can share information with each other.



IAC has shared things like

- Ideas for the PRG to work on
- Papers
- Reports.

Support for young participants to get a job



Mary Hawkins from the **Employment Outcomes Branch** spoke at the meeting.



The **Employment Outcomes Branch** helps the NDIA understand what needs to happen so that more participants get a job.



Mary shared what they have found out about job supports for young participants.



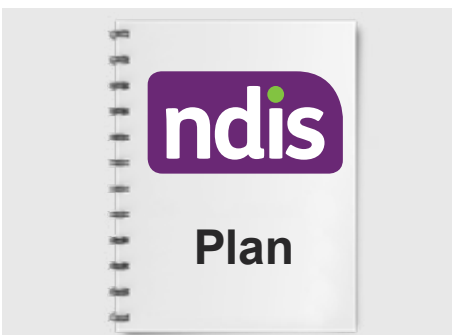
They have found out many new things from looking at reports from NDIS services.



The Employment Outcomes Branch also spoke to the PRG at our June meeting this year.



They asked what changes we think would help young participants get a job.



They used some of our ideas to change the way NDIS gives support to young participants to find a job.



They also came up with some areas to focus on.



One of the areas is young people getting jobs after they finish school.



It can be hard for the young people to

- Learn
- Make friends
- Look after their own NDIS money.

Another area is young people who are 20 to 24 years old with not a lot of



- Work skills



- Jobs they have done.

One of the areas is also young people who need help to



- Link up with training after school



- Find a job after they finish their study.

What we asked in the meeting



We asked members to tell us what information they think participants need to help them understand job supports.



We also asked them what support they would need to choose the right NDIS service.



We asked how we can best share this information with young participants.



We asked how we can make sure NDIA staff have better talks with people on how to get a job.

What members said



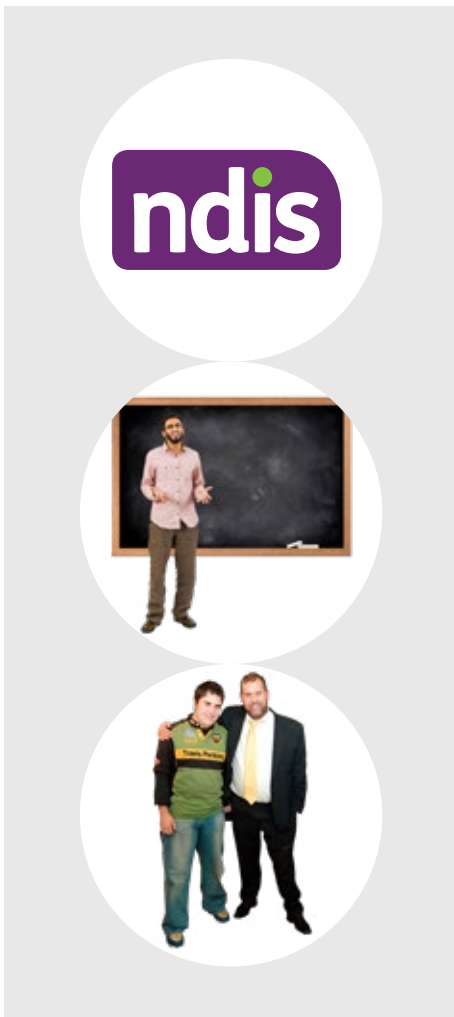
Members said job staff need to do checks often with participants.



They should help participants use the money in their plan for job supports.



They should start talking about jobs with the participant as soon as they can.



The staff should talk to

- NDIS services
- Teachers
- Parents of the participants.



This is so they can make a plan on how to support the participant to get into a job.



They should make sure NDIS services and jobs are using the money they get in the right way.



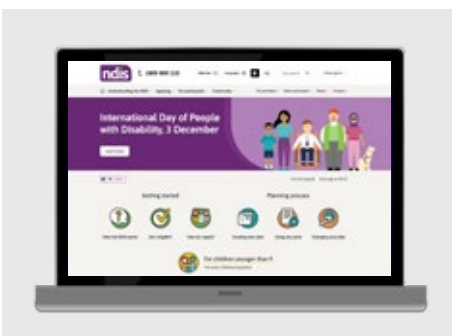
We said they should also support young people to say what job supports they want.



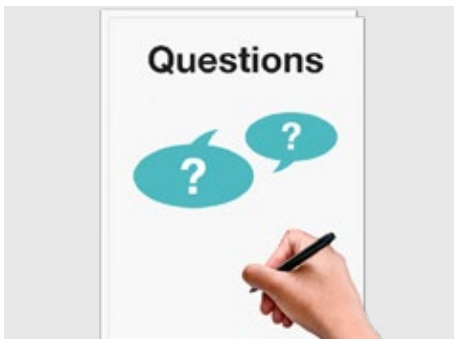
They should make sure participants feel safe when they talk with them about their goals.



We said young people need to know that getting a job will not change the other NDIS money they get.



There needs to be clear information about jobs on the NDIS website.



There should be a list of questions that participants can ask NDIS services to make sure they are right for them.



Participants also need support to know what makes an NDIS service good.



They should share information about jobs with other places like

- Schools
- Advocacy services.



This will help more people talk about jobs with the participants.



They need to make information with young people to show a clear way to get to jobs.



The information should be in

- Easy Read
- Other languages
- All in the one place so it is easy to find.

Talk on PRG personal development



Debbie Irvine asked PRG members if they would like to talk about **personal development** in our next meeting.



Personal development is when you learn things about a topic.



Members said what type of information or training they could work on to help others in

- Focus groups



- Committees



- Reference groups



- Working groups.

We also talked about how we can support members to get skills to work with other



- Services



- Places in government.

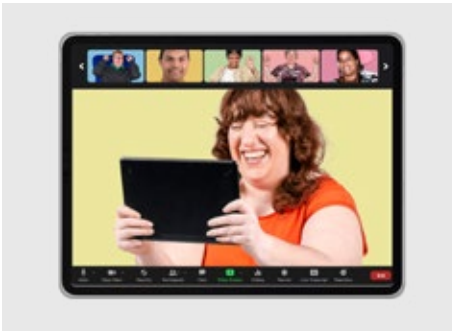
November meeting ideas



We spoke about ideas for us to work on in November.



We said we should update documents members need to read when they join the group.



We said to make a video on what it means to be part of an engagement group.



We said people should get support to watch a meeting before they decide to be a member.



We said we can help people learn

- How to talk in the group
- Say what they think in a calm way.



We said we would like to learn skills to support others take part in engagement activities.



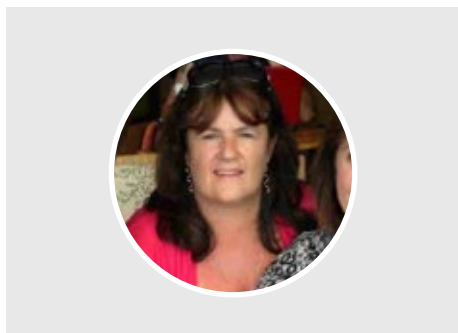
We said we would like to have training on how to speak to large groups.



We said we would like to learn **self advocacy** skills.

Self advocacy is when you speak up about your own rights.

End of meeting



Debbie Irvine said thank you to the members.



Debbie also said thank you to Leah van Poppel and the Employment Outcomes Branch for the talk.



The next meeting will be on Tuesday 14 and Wednesday 15 November 2023.

Council for Intellectual Disability made this information 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.