

# Breakfast Invitation

## INCLUDING STUDENTS WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY IN UNIVERSITY CLASSES

**Developmental Disability WA are inviting representatives from post-secondary education institutions in Western Australia, and other interested persons, to join us in welcoming Professor Bruce Uditsky and Dr Anne Hughson from Alberta, Canada and Dr John O'Rourke from Edith Cowan University**

Twenty out of 26 publicly funded post-secondary (tertiary) institutions in Alberta (universities, college and technical institutes) are including students with intellectual disabilities in regular faculties, programs and courses, with more anticipated to come online shortly. There are approximately another dozen across Canada and a growing number in the United States.

Having just completed close to 40 video-taped interviews with presidents, deans, program heads, faculty and non-disabled students, we can continue to report, after 30 years of practice, that the post-secondary institutions universally state the benefits have been significant to the institutions themselves. Faculties report improved instructional abilities and course outcomes when students with intellectual disabilities are included in their classes.

Inclusive post-secondary education, as led by Bruce Uditsky and Anne Hughson, two of the founders of inclusive post-secondary education, has been formally acknowledged as a world leading innovation. A number of small inclusive post-secondary educational initiatives have begun in Australia and it is inevitable that interest will continue to grow. Dr O'Rourke will discuss the trials of post secondary education at Edith Cowan University.

This breakfast conversation will be an opportunity to hear directly about the experiences of post-secondary institutions and explore questions you may have.



ADVOCACY



POLICY



COMMUNITY

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY *wa*



**MONDAY 29 AUGUST 2016**

**ASSURED ASCOT QUAYS APARTMENT HOTEL, ASCOT**

**7.30AM—9.30AM**

**PAGE 1 OF 2**

## ABOUT THE PRESENTERS:

**Bruce Uditsky, M.Ed.**—Chief Executive Officer, Inclusion Alberta and Adjunct Professor, Community Rehabilitation & Disability Studies, Community Health Sciences, Cumming School of Medicine, University of Calgary. Bruce is internationally recognized for his leadership and advocacy in social justice and inclusion for individuals with intellectual disabilities and their families. He serves in an advisory capacity to government on many issues and is currently engaged in contributing to the development of Alberta's policy framework on inclusive education. He was instrumental in the development of significant Legislation, including Alberta's education standards on the placement of students with disabilities in the regular classroom. Along with his colleague, Dr. Anne Hughson, they developed one of Canada's few summer institutes on inclusive education that has been training teachers, educators and parents for over 20 years. Bruce is considered one of the co-founders of inclusive post-secondary and Rotary Employment Partnerships both of which have been acknowledged as world leading global innovations. He is the parent of two adult sons, one of whom has intellectual disabilities.

**Anne Hughson, Ph.D.**—Director and Associate Professor, Community Rehabilitation and Disability Studies, Community Health Sciences, Cumming School of Medicine, University of Calgary and a Registered Psychologist. Dr Hughson is a recipient of the Faculty of Education Excellence in Teaching Award and the author and co-author of texts, chapters and articles on a wide range of disability-related subjects. She has lectured and consulted in many countries. As a researcher in disability studies and program evaluation her work is grounded in the lived experiences of people with developmental disabilities and their families. Her teaching and research interests include programme evaluation, research design, consumer driven services, community development, critical theory and anti-oppressive practices in human services, ethics of inclusion and caring in education. Dr. Hughson has a long history of voluntary and consultancy work with Inclusion Alberta, most recently as the co-developer of its internationally recognized family leadership series, inclusive post-secondary education and community inclusion projects in child welfare, inclusive education, and community inclusion.

**John O'Rourke, Ph.D.**— Senior Lecturer in the School of Education at Edith Cowan University. Dr O'Rourke is a Vice Chancellor's award winner for teaching excellence and works with secondary, primary and early childhood pre-service teachers to develop the strategies necessary to work in both special education and inclusive school settings. Dr O'Rourke's research and publishing interests are varied and focus on inclusive pedagogies and support mechanisms, happiness and wellbeing, enabling education, digital game based learning and interactive online technologies. He is the current Course Coordinator and a lecturer in the innovative Graduate Certificate: Special Education – Complex Communication Needs. Dr O'Rourke is one of the few academics to explore inclusion within higher education settings in WA and his focus has been on establishing universal design learning experiences for all in these situations. John is a Count me in Ambassador for the WA Disability Services Commission and a proud father of four children.

**Venue:** Assured Ascot Quays Apartment Hotel,  
150 Great Eastern Highway (almost opposite Hehir St), Ascot

**Cost:** \$15.00 Inc GST DDWA Members, \$25.00 inc GST Non members

**Online RSVP:** [www.ddc.org.au/events-august-2016/](http://www.ddc.org.au/events-august-2016/)

**Information:** [mary.butterworth@ddc.org.au](mailto:mary.butterworth@ddc.org.au) or 9420 7230