

**SPEAKER PROFILES**

**ACTiON MCs**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Michelle Sharp is the CEO of *Kilmarnock Enterprises* in Christchurch, and the Vice-President of *Inclusive NZ*. Kilmarnock Enterprises is a social enterprise, which provides a supportive, dynamic and connected environment where adults with intellectual disabilities can realise their individual value as a contributing member of their community. Michelle is looking forward to hearing about people’s stories and experiences at the ACTiON conference and reconnecting with the amazing people and communities connected with *Inclusive NZ*. |
|  |  |
|  | John Grant is General Manager of *SkillWise* in Christchurch. *SkillWise* works from the philosophy of people having the support they need to “live the life they want”. Increasingly this involves support focused on connecting people with a range of opportunities within the wider community. John is a former *Inclusive NZ* President and long-time Board member and holds a number of other roles in the disability sector. He is really excited by the new knowledge that will be shared through this conference and an action research approach to service development is one he is very committed to. |

**THOUGHT PROVOKERS**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Dr Esther Woodbury is the National Policy and Relationships Manager at the *Disabled Persons' Assembly NZ* and a member of the Disability Transformation Co-design Group.  Esther has worked in the disability sector for a number of years, as a disability researcher and a disability advisor for government agencies. She is delighted to have been invited to help set the scene for *Inclusive NZ’s* ACTiON conference, and highlight some of the key issues affecting disabled people and the disability sector. |
|  |  |
|  | Shane McInroe is the Mid-South President of *People First New Zealand* (*PFNZ*) and is on the National Committee of *PFNZ*. He represents *PFNZ* on the EGL Christchurch Leadership Group, DSS Transformation Co-design Group and Disability Advisory Group for the *Christchurch City Council*. Shane is interested in the concept of Action Research and is looking forward to hearing some innovative ideas at ACTiON! |

**KEYNOTE SPEAKERS**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Sacha O’Dea is the Programme Lead of the DSS Transformation at the *Ministry of Health*. Through this role Sacha plans to build a new system for disability support that provides disabled people, and their families or whanau, in New Zealand with more choices and opportunities and increased control over their support and their lives. Previously, Sacha oversaw the two EGL demonstrations in Christchurch and the Waikato. She also led the government delegation for New Zealand's first examination of its progress in implementing the *United Nations Convention for Rights of Persons with Disabilities* back in 2014. | |
|  | Peter Wilson is a Policy Advisor within the DSS Transformation team at the *Ministry of Health*. Peter is passionate and excited about the opportunity system transformation provides to shift decision making into the hands of disabled people and their whanau. That way they can determine the direction of their lives and have the flexibility they and the people they engage with need to make it work. Prior to joining the *Ministry of Health.* Peter was part of the *CCS Disability Action’s* National Leadership Team and contributed to the organisations strategic and operational planning. He also undertook a number of roles within the *CCS Disability Action* Blenheim branch including working as a supported employment coordinator. | |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  | Kerry Jones is Principal: Aging, Disability and Partnership for *The Australian Centre for Social Innovation (TASCI)*. At the heart of *TACSI* lies the fundamental belief that people are the experts in their own lives. They believe that the best innovations come from working alongside the people who face the very challenges we’re trying to solve. Kerry has over 17 years’ experience working in ageing, disability and employment services, and is a great communicator and natural leader. She is the lead in *TACSI’s* work with service providers to help them prepare for the National Disability Insurance Scheme. |
|  |  |
|  | Erin Gough is a Human Rights Advisor at the *Human Rights Commission* in Wellington. She also sits on the Board of *The Lucy Foundation*, a social enterprise seeking to revolutionise the way we do business by creating a culture of inclusivity in trade. The Foundation’s work includes helping create an entire supply chain of coffee that is inclusive for people with disabilities from bean to cup, across the country of origin (Mexico) and country of consumption (New Zealand). |

**PANEL SPEAKERS**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ess Casey | Tess Casey is CEO of *Inclusive NZ.* As part of her role she has represented the organisation on a range of government and sector working groups and led the organisational development work of our *One Fish Solutions* enterprise. Tess is passionate about learning cultures and the possibilities that can be created by diverse partners working together. |
|  |  |
| ike Noonan | Mike Noonan is Executive Trustee of *Coromandel Independent Living Trust*. He is also Chairperson of the *Supported Life Style Hauraki Trust.* Both organisations, based in Coromandel town and Thames respectively, aim to provide support and education for people with varied abilities, disabilities and disadvantages. Mike also sits on the *Inclusive NZ* board. Mike is looking forward to hearing about other research projects at ACTiON. Especially projects that are focused on what people with a disability want and how to put that knowledge into practice. |
|  |  |
| ern Ryan | Fern Ryan is the Chief Executive of ConneXu in Te Awamutu. ConneXu is dedicated to finding creative options that help disabled people live they best life, their way. Fern has spent more than 20 years working in leadership roles in the community and disability support sector. Fern was co-opted onto the *Inclusive NZ* Board in 2016. |
|  | James Lord is a Business Development Consultant at *Careerforce* the Industry Training Organisation (ITO) for the health, wellbeing, social and community sectors in Aotearoa. James has a background in strategic planning, business development and workshop facilitation and is dedicated to creating a respected and competent social and wellbeing workforce, so that kiwis are able to lead healthy, sustainable and productive lives. |
|  |  |
|  | Tony Paine is the Chief Executive of *Philanthropy New Zealand*, a role he took on in early 2017. Tony has over 30 years’ experience in not-for-profit leadership and management working in the health, social service and cultural sectors in New Zealand. Tony’s career began as a psychiatric social worker and includes work with the *NZ AIDS Foundation*, the *Christchurch Methodist Mission*, *the* *Christchurch Arts Centre* and *Victim Support NZ*. He was also the Secretary General (CEO) of *New Zealand Red Cross* before taking on his current role. Tony is excited to be part of ACTiON as he is keen to be involved in crucial discussions that seek to create a world where no-one is left out or behind. |
|  |  |

**ACTIVATOR FACILITATORS**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Anya Satyanand is the EO of *Ara Taiohi* (peak body of the Youth Development Sector) and is committed to creating a space for interdisciplinary, cross sectoral approaches to working with young people. Prior to joining *Ara Taiohi*, Anya worked in leadership roles in the education sector, where she focused on utilising strengths based, youth driven, innovative, restorative and ethical approaches to working with young people. |
|  |  |
|  | Tan Phuangdokmai is the Community Resource Co-ordinator at *Avalon*, a multi-faceted role which includes recruiting and managing volunteers, community building, as well as supporting the people Avalon serves to engage in their community. Tan has a degree in Sport Development and Coaching and worked for several years in London as a Physical Education Specialist. Whilst studying he did volunteer work with disadvantaged teenagers in Cardiff. |
|  |  |
| aren Covell | Karen Covell is Chief Executive of *Progress to Health* which is based in Hamilton. *Progress to Health* is a community based organisation providing health and disability support services throughout the Waikato, Taranaki and Taupo and is known as a creative, innovative organisation constantly looking for a better way of doing things. Due to this, acting, evaluating and sharing are very much part of the way things are done, and therefore being part of ACTiON makes perfect sense. Karen is also President of *Inclusive NZ*. |
|  | Deb Stringer is the Communications and Projects Ninja of *Inclusive NZ*. Deb has a background in communications and journalism and has a Masters in Social Work. Deb is excited to be part of ACTiON and is particularly looking forward to hearing about how we co-design more services for young people with disabilities. |
|  |  |
|  | Sarah Halliday is the General Manager of *Geneva Elevator* which is based in Auckland. *Geneva Elevator* is a specialist consultancy service offering a wide range of employment, training and support options to clients with diverse needs. |
|  |  |