

AUSLAN INTERPRETING INDUSTRY FORUM VICTORIA (AIIFV) STEERING COMMITTEE UPDATE – NO. 5

The fifth meeting of the AIIFV Steering Committee was held on **Thursday 1 September 2011**.

GENERAL NEWS AND UPDATES

- Paul Dunn presented his work to date in the *State of Play* report to the AIIFV Steering Committee.
- The report highlights just how important Auslan and interpreters are to Deaf people's participation in all aspects of community, social and economic life.
- It brings to the fore the importance of interpreting as a human right and necessity.

ADVOCACY, INFLUENCE, AND DEAF ACCESS

On top of their work and research in developing the AIIFV State of Play report, your Steering Committee members have been working hard to encourage and support change in the Auslan interpreting industry through many different avenues:

- ASLIA Victoria has sent a submission to the Federal Government's *Review of access to telecommunications by people with disability, older Australians and people experiencing illness* in support of Video Relay Interpreting and Video Relay Services.
- Veronica Pardo and Tamara Pearce have held ongoing discussions with a University to explore establishing an undergraduate Auslan interpreting degree in Victoria. Possible course development options were discussed and communications will continue!
- Through Arts Access Victoria, Veronica Pardo has commenced seeking funding for a research project into best practice standards for theatre interpreting. Arts Access Victoria is also exploring developing a pilot training program with Vicdeaf to support interpreters wishing to work in the arts. These projects aim to ensure the arts sector has appropriately qualified interpreters who meet the needs of deaf patrons.
- Janelle Giffin has been in close discussions with the Victorian Deaf Education Institute (VDEI) regarding the development of a Working Group on educational interpreting as a way of providing support for regional interpreters.
- Susan Emerson has actively promoted the AIIFV and its issues at the ASLIA President's meeting at the ASLIA National Conference (ANC), during the AGM, and via Across The Board magazine. Through a partnership with ASLIA Victoria and the Victorian Deaf Education Institute (VDEI), Susan has also continued to work closely on professional development and an education kit for Auslan interpreters.
- AIIFV Steering Committee members have continued to liaise with influencers in the National Disability Insurance Scheme Implementation Taskforce in the Victorian Government to advocate for the inclusion of Auslan interpreting in the scheme.

It sure has been busy!

WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE AIIFV?

- The AIIFV web-page has been updated.
- You can visit www.asliavic.com.au/aiifv or via the ASLIA Victoria homepage for details.

NEXT AIFV STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

- The next Steering Committee meeting is on **13 October 2011**.

PASS IT ON: Feel free to forward this update on to your networks in the deaf and interpreting communities!

ACCESSIBILITY: If you would like any information in an alternative format, like MS Word or Auslan, please email us at the address below.

QUESTIONS: Please contact the AIFV Steering Committee by email at projectofficer@asliavic.com.au.

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