|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Time** | **Title** | **Discusses** | **Speaker** |
| 9:00am | Welcome | We’re excited to welcome Aussie Comedy legend Tim Ferguson as our Conference MC this year. Tim will kickstart the day at 9am sharp with an introduction, reflection and quick housekeeping. | Tim Ferguson |
| 9.10am | Welcome to Country | Official Welcome to Country | Brendan Kerrin |
| 9.15am | Official Open | Official open by our Chairman Peter Wilson. | Peter Wilson |
| 9:25am | Am I Disabled Enough? Exploring the Complexity of Disability Experience | “I often feel like I’m caught between two worlds and wonder if my experiences are ‘disabled enough’.”  Every experience with disability is as unique as someone’s fingerprint. For some, society’s expectations may leave them feeling ‘not disabled enough’ to access workplace adjustments, but ‘too disabled’ to successful achieve outcomes.  In this panel discussion, we will hear from people with lived experience on the battle between societal expectations and perceptions and navigating one’s own identity. Panellists will share their experiences, knowledge, and insights on creating a psychologically safe work environments, how managers and organisations can support, and the power that comes when you control the narrative. | * Dr Lisa Grech * Kat Crewes, Aurecon Group * Tim Ferguson |
| 10:15am | Sponsor presentation | We’re excited to welcome back Tony Abrahams, Co-founder and CEO of Ai Media who will share Ai Media’s knowledge and experience in building an accessible community. | Tony Abrahams, Ai Media |
| 10:25am | Morning Tea break | We welcome everyone to break for Morning Tea. For in-person attendees, we encourage you to use this time to network and enjoy the Morning Tea we have provided. For virtual attendees, we encourage you to use this time to grab something to eat and have a screen break. |  |
| 10:50am | MC welcomes everyone back |  | Tim Ferguson |
| 10.55am | Finding your voice: Storytelling as a Tool for Disability Inclusion | Improve your impact through storytelling. Our keynote speaker will guide you through storytelling to bring people on the inclusion journey and deliver impact in the workplace.  This session will also cover how Disability Employee Network Chairs can support disability initiatives and help drive the desired impact and change throughout the business. | Nakul Gaur, Global ERG Lead at Unilever |
| 11:30pm | Sponsor presentation | Thank you to our Event Accessibility Partner BindiMaps, who will talk to their mission of making every space 100% accessible. | Bindi Maps |
| 11:40am | Achieving Disability Employment Equity: Are Targets the Solution? | Should we have disability employment targets? This complex issue will be explored in this panel discussion to expand our thinking. Learn about the role employment targets have in achieving inclusion, real business examples of the impact, and how it can hold organisations accountable for creating more accessible and inclusive workplaces.  This session will arm you with practical takeaways on how to effectively, efficiently and successfully capture and utilise this data from your employees. | * Elizabeth Parkinson, VPSC * Ashleigh Sternes, Life Without Barriers |
| 12:20pm | Sponsor presentation | Thank you to our Major Sponsor, the Attorney-General’s Department, for making our Conference possible. We’re excited to welcome back Cameron Gifford to speak at our event about the work the Department’s been doing to be accessible and inclusive of people with disability. | Cameron Gifford, Attorney-General’s Department |
| 12.30pm | Lunch | We invite everyone to break for Lunch. For in-person attendees, we encourage you to use this time to network and enjoy the Lunch we have provided. For virtual attendees, we encourage you to use this time to grab something to eat and have a screen break. |  |
| 1:20pm | MC welcomes everyone back |  | Tim Ferguson |
| 1:25pm | Top 10 Tips for Inclusive Recruitment | Our top 10 tips session from last year was a crowd favourite, so this year we’re bringing it back!  With the current labour shortage, the talent pool of people with disability is one you can’t afford to not tap into. This top 10 tips session will focus on inclusive recruitment, equipping you with practical takeaways and strategies for you to take back to implement in your organisation. | Emily Matthews, Australian Network on Disability |
| 1:35pm | Neurodiversity in the Workplace: Thinking Outside the Box for Recruitment and Career Development | With unemployment for neurodivergent adults 3 times the rate of people with disability, and 8 times the rate of people without disability, this is a rich area to explore.  This panel discussion will share case study examples and practical solutions on what organisations can do to support neurodivergent employees including: –   * Examples of successful programs and initiatives. * Possible barriers and opportunities discovered from developing a supportive environment. * What success looks like for the organisation and the individual. | * Vicky Little, Specialisterne * Kate Halpin, Employ for Ability |
| 2:15pm | Sponsor presentation | Thank you to our Event Accessibility Partner TTC Global, who will talk to how they’re inherently inclusive in all that they do. | Samantha Dancey, TTC Global |
| 2:25pm | Leading the Way: Insights from Disability-Inclusive Organisations on Retaining and Developing Talent | We all know the importance of retaining and developing talent. So, what are the practical strategies that organisations can implement to support the growth and success of employees with disability at all levels of the business.  Our panellists will share their experiences, insights, and best practices for creating an inclusive workplace culture that fosters growth and empowers employees with disability. | * Board: Cain Beckett * Executive: Brent Phillips, Deaf Connect * Middle: Sharon Bennett, Department of Communities and Justice |
| 3:05pm | Afternoon Tea | We invite everyone to break for Afternoon Tea. For in-person attendees, we encourage you to use this time to network and nibble on the Afternoon Tea we have provided. For virtual attendees, we encourage you to use this time to grab something to eat and have a screen break. |  |
| 3:25pm | MC welcome everyone back |  | Tim Ferguson |
| 3:30pm | Design for All: Creating Accessible and Inclusive Products, Services, and Spaces | Globally, people with disability have nearly half a trillion dollars in disposable income. Learn how building accessibility from the design, to prototype, to launch, can help your business. This session will explore strategies, practical takeaways, and how organisations can leverage these principles to drive innovation and growth.   * Expand your thinking around product and process design. * Hear from organisations revolutionising the customer experience. * Learn about the impact you can make by including accessibility from the start across all areas of business. | * Duncan Sinclair, ANZ |
| 3:55pm | Service Design for Success: Strategies and Best Practices | Despite progress in recent years, people with disability still face significant barriers when accessing goods and services. Research shows that customers with disability in Australia are significantly less likely to have their consumer needs met or to have positive customer experiences than customers without disability. 1 in 3 customers with disability say their customer needs were often unmet, meaning they were not able to purchase the products or services they wanted to.  So, what is a Disability Confident Customer Experience? This discussion will explore examples of best practice, learnings, experiences, and insights from a business leader and an advocate with lived experience. From co-creation to continuous improvement, speakers will discuss the strategies and implementation plans they have delivered to ensure impact at scale. | * Amanda Farrar, Australian Museum * Jax Brown |
| 4:30pm | Thank you and close | Thank you and close from MC | Tim Ferguson |
| 4:40pm | Thank you and close | Wrap up and thank you from our CEO and an exciting announcement… | Corene Strauss, Australian Network on Disability |
| 5:00pm to 7pm | Networking drinks for delegates attending in-person. | We invite in-person attendees to discuss what you have heard and the ideas to innovate further over drinks and canapes at our networking event. |  |