



Down Under Institute 2012

creating opportunities for full lives for all

29 April to 3 May 2012

University of NSW CBD Campus Sydney

www.dui.org.au

DUI 2012

An invitation to celebrate the building of our community ...



The Down Under Institute 2012 is about creating opportunities for full lives for all, we cannot do this alone. We need to build and rebuild communities where we belong, connect and contribute as full participating members. Through the Institute we will collaborate to understand, strengthen and create opportunities for citizenship for all - where all means ALL - and where everyone's gifts are welcomed and given space to flourish. *"More of the same" is not good enough!*

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Reflections from the Toronto Summer Institute ...

In a sector where people and relationships are our key business it is important that from time to time we rejuvenate our energy and enthusiasm for creating and being part of social change. For 25 years a group of key thinkers and practitioners in the disability sector have gathered in Toronto, Canada to do just this. The result has been the creation of the Toronto Summer Institute and this has played a key role in the development of some of the most powerful thinking in the disability sector over the period. This year **DUI member Steve Robinson** was fortunate enough to be supported to attend this event furthering his skills and practice in promoting inclusion for all throughout Western Australia. Steve provides Enable with a strong sense of core values and is quick to remind us all that our core daily work should be characterised by:



- Sharing ordinary places and community
- Belonging and creating opportunities for informal relationships
- Being someone and accepting socially valued Roles
- Making and having meaningful choices
- Contributing and being recognised for our gifts

146 Delegates attended this year's event coming from Canada, USA, The Netherlands, UK, New Zealand, China, Scotland and Australia. 5 Modules were offered as part of the program and included:

- Design Thinking – John O'Brien
- Values – Connie Lyle O'Brien
- Deepening Practice – Jack Pearpoint and Lynda Kahn
- Mindfulness – Alan Sloan
- Change Agents – John McKnight

"The TSI and DUI are critical opportunities to pause and reflect upon our practice, question why we are doing things, learn new skills and renew our vision to create inclusive communities where all people belong."

Feedback from participants of DUI 2010:

The stories that came from Connie Lyle O'Brien and Heather Simmons' sessions demonstrate that being open to, and believing that all people have a rightful place in society can make it happen in a meaningful way.

It was great to be able to listen to the International and national speakers that have inspired me over the years with the work they have been doing for people with a disability and to hear the passion they have for their work and to get encouragement from them about the work that I am doing within my own community and encouragement for me to keep doing what I am doing as well.

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