

My Life, My Culture – Our Future

NSW Child Protection Legal Conference



AGENDA

Thursday 26 and Friday 27 May 2022



Hosted by the Children's Court of NSW, Legal Aid NSW, NSW Office of the Children's Guardian and Department of Communities and Justice.



Children's Court
New South Wales



The Department of Communities and Justice, Legal Aid NSW, The Children’s Court of NSW, and The Office of The Children’s Guardian would like to acknowledge and pay respect to the past, present and future Traditional Custodians and Elders of this nation and the continuation of cultural, spiritual and educational practises of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

The 2022 NSW Child Protection Legal Conference will take place on National Sorry Day and National Reconciliation week.

National Sorry Day is held on 26 May each year to mark the anniversary of the Bringing them Home report. Through numerous case studies, the report documented the devastating impact of child removal policies on Indigenous individuals, their families and communities.

This day is an opportunity to come together to commemorate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, families and communities who were affected by these policies, and to share in the healing process together.

National Reconciliation Week is held annually from 27 May to 3 June and is a time to for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures, and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia.

We know that deep, continuing disadvantage in outcomes for Aboriginal people in health, housing, education and economic participation are among the primary causes. We are committed to working hand-in-hand with Aboriginal communities to address these systemic issues and build a fairer, more just society for our First Nations’ people.

Time	Plenary in Cockle Bay			
7:30 – 8:00	Registrations open and barista coffee available			
8:00 – 9:15	Welcome to Country: Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council and Jie Pittman			
9:15 – 9:30	Welcome address: Michael Tidball, Secretary, NSW Department of Communities and Justice			
9:30 – 10:30	Keynote: Strength and Safety of Culture for Indigenous Families: What we can learn from the American Experience Dr Sarah Kastelic, Director – National Indian Child Welfare Association			
10:30 – 10:50	Morning tea			
10:50 – 11:45	Meaningful Change for First Nations Families: A look ahead President of the Children’s Court, Her Honour Judge E Skinner, Brendan Thomas, Deputy Secretary, Transforming Aboriginal Outcomes, NSW Department of Communities & Justice, Monique Hitter , Acting CEO Legal Aid NSW			
11:45 – 1:00	Cultural Safety in the Courtroom – Current and Future Models Chair: Her Honour Children’s Magistrate S Duncombe Panel: Judge Elizabeth Boyle, Aboriginal Legal Service, Dr Paul Gray and Ash Wright, Alecia Wood, NSW Department of Communities & Justice			
1:00 – 1:45	Lunch			
	Plenary	Breakout C3.2 Stream: Practical Legal Skills	Breakout C3.3 Stream: Children’s Voices Participation	Breakout C3.4&5 Stream: Social Science Theory
1:45 – 2:30	Hot topics in Care & Protection Cassandra Bennett and Jo Mooney, Crown Solicitors Office Kerri Phillips, Legal Aid NSW	Expert Witnesses & Evidence Shanna Mahony, Barrister Dr Peter Krabman and Dr Gary Banks	Cross over kids: A cross practice/ jurisdiction discussion Her Honour Children’s Magistrate D Maher The Department of Education Keisha Hopgood, Criminal lawyer – ALS	Contact for Children in Out of Home Care: A Conversation Professor Amy Conley-Wright, University of Sydney Childrens Court NSW
2:30 – 3:00	Family is Culture: Implementation Update Richard Weston, Deputy Childrens Guardian John Leha, CEO, AbSec Jayde Ward, Director Transforming Aboriginal Outcomes	ADVO’s in the Children’s Court: A Practice Guide His Honour Children’s Magistrate D Williams	Katrina Wong, Children’s Civil Legal Services – Legal Aid NSW Jordan White, Youth Justice	
3:00 – 3:15	Afternoon tea			
3:15 – 4:00	Genealogical Research for First Nations Families in light of Hackett Crown Solicitors Office Link-up	Working with Children Checks: Assessment and reliability of evidence Alison Waring and Sharminie Niles, Office of the Children’s Guardian		Vicarious Trauma: How it impacts families and secondary victims Dr Fiona Oates Russell Manser, The Voice of a Survivor Laurie Robertson, Principal, Robertson Solicitors Sue Foley, Director, Children’s Court Clinic
	Plenary			
4.00 – 5.15	Curly Ethical Conundrums: A hypothetical Her Honour Judge E Skinner, President of the Children’s Court of NSW, Dr Peter Krabman, Dr Paul Gray, University of Technology Sydney Jumbunna Institute of Indigenous Education and Research, Linden Barnes, Senior Ethics Solicitor, The Law Society of NSW, Dian Neligan, Senior Solicitor, Legal Aid NSW , Chloe Delaney, Senior Solicitor, DCJ			
5:30 – 7:30	Networking cocktail			

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7:30 – 8:30	Registrations open and barista coffee available			
8:30 – 9:15	Welcome to Country: Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council and Jie Pittman			
9:15 – 9:30	Welcome address: The Honourable Natasha Maclaren-Jones, Minister for Families and Communities			
9:30 – 11:00	Coercive Control: What can we learn from the Scottish experience? Kate Alexander, Executive Director, Office of the Senior Practitioner, NSW Department of Communities and Justice Dr Marsha Scott, Chief Executive, Scottish Women's Aid			
11:00 – 11:30	Morning Tea			
11:30 – 12:30	Secure Accommodation – Keeping children physically and psychologically safe when they are risk to themselves and the community The Honourable Justice Stephen Robb, Supreme Court of NSW Dr Kenneth Nunn, Senior Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist Janice Carroll, Director Intensive Support Services, DCJ	Breakout C3.3 Stream: Practical legal skills Working with Victims & Perpetrators of Domestic Violence panel Biljana Milosevic, Director, Jannawi Family Centre Rita Shackel, The University of Sydney James Joesph, Family Advocacy & Support Service Dr Lesley Laing, Associate Professor at the University of Sydney		
12:30 – 1:15	Lunch			
	Plenary	Breakout C3.2 Stream: Children's Voices participation	Breakout C3.3 Stream: Practical legal skills	Breakout C3.4&5 Stream: Social science theory
1:15 – 2:00	Cultural Safety: Lessons learned and ideas for the future Narelda Jacobs interviewing Isaiah Dawe, CEO/Founder of ID. Know Yourself	POCLS and Permanency – what the evidence tells us Merran Butler, DCJ Director FACSIAR Michelle Smith, Director OOHC Programs Dr BJ Newton, Senior Research Fellow, Uni of NSW Social Policy Research Centre	The nuances of drug testing Santiago Vazquez, NSW Health Dr Michelle Williams	The medicalisation of trauma Dr Kenneth Nunn, Senior Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist
2:00 – 2:30	The role of the Children's Guardian in Out Of Home Care and Child Safe Janet Schorer, NSW Children's Guardian	Hearing the voice of children in guardianship decision making and why they matter UC Change	Advocacy Workshop Part A – Oral Advocacy Her Honour Children's Magistrate N Ford	A closer look at Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Professor Elizabeth Elliott, Professor of Paediatrics, University Sydney
2:30 – 3:00	Current NDIS issues, and impacts within CP permanency planning Mark Anderson, Barrister	COVID 19 – The short and long term impacts on children and young people Bronwen Elliot, Children's Court Clinician	Advocacy Workshop Part B – Written Advocacy Dr Martha Barnett, Barrister at Law, Culwulla Chambers	Long term studies regarding the outcomes for children and young people in care Professor Judy Cashmore, University of Sydney
3:00 – 3:15	Afternoon Tea			
	Plenary			
3:15 – 4:15	Latest & Greatest Case Update: The Honourable Justice James Stevenson and His Honour Children's Magistrate P Hayes			
4:15 – 4:30	Conference Close			