



September 2016



CEO Comment

Martin Wren

September has been a truly remarkable month for me and for the staff at NOVA.

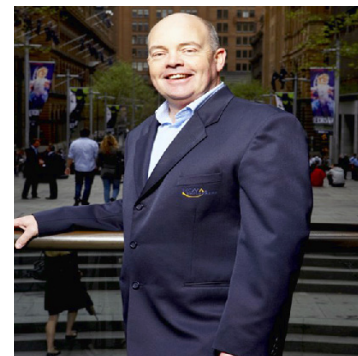
Following a team meeting we challenged our Outlet managers to see just how many people we could place into work during the month.

What a remarkable result!

NOVA's disability employment teams achieved a more than 20% improvement over September 2015 which was itself a 22% improvement over 2014!! In hard numbers what that mean was during September 2016 more people with disability gained employment that NOVA was able to achieve in our first 3 years of operation (1990 – 1993).

What was just as pleasing was to see the large number of Apprenticeships and Traineeships – well done team!

But that's not all! Also in September was the red carpet finale to "Focusonability 2016" – the 8th year of "Focus" saw 194



finalists from 18 countries compete for over \$140,000 worth of prizes.

We had the privilege of flying in winners from Uganda, Sri Lanka and the United States to join an invited audience of over 700 enthusiastic film makers, actors and their fans and supporters at The Concourse in Chatswood (you can see the films on Aurora every Sunday).

Following on from this event we have been invited to run screenings around Australia and the world, a demonstration of the international appeal 'Focus' generates – more to follow!

NOVA OFFICES

- Camden
- Campbelltown
- Caringbah
- Engadine
- Hurstville
- Ingleburn
- Katoomba
- Penrith
- Richmond
- Rockdale
- Rouse Hill
- Springwood
- St Marys
- Windsor

Focus on Ability Red Carpet Awards 2016

For the 8th consecutive year NOVA Employment presented the Focus on Ability Short Film Festival. This festival asked film makers to 'Focus on the Ability' of people with a disability and tell a story on film for the world to view.



In 2016, 194 films were entered from 18 countries.

For the 2nd year our Red Carpet Awards evening was held at the stunning 'The Concourse' in Sydney.

Over 700 film makers, film stars, celebrities, disability advocates, disability groups and members of the FOA team celebrated the 2016 festival. The audience were treated to an evening of compelling short films, world class entertainment and the thrill of the awards announcements.

Uganda's Okuyo Joel Atiku Prynca took out the prestigious International Judges Choice award with his documentary 'Mr. Ability.' Prynca was flown out from Uganda to attend the evening. His documentary and speech were certainly highlights of the evening.

The biggest prize for 2016 was announced at the red carpet event with Ramon Samson taking home a brand new Kia Cerato for his positive portrayal of his extremely talented vision impaired best friend Ethan.

All of the films and the full list of winners can be viewed at www.focusonability.com.au - And whilst you are there check out the 2016 Red Carpet highlights video.

We can't wait for next year!

C91.3 FM INDUSTRY VISIT

Melissa & The Campbelltown NOVA Transition Team

Campbelltown NOVA Transition went on an exciting and atmospheric Industry visit to our local radio station, c91.3FM.

We were taken on a tour throughout the station to meet all of the crew in their different departments to learn about their job roles.

Michael Rees, the extremely accommodating young gentleman with a great sense of humour welcomed us upon our arrival. Michael's official title is "Receptionist/Traffic Administrator and it was he who arranged and conducted the tour.

We had a chance to meet Shannon – Advertising Account Executive, Lisa- Promotions Co-Ordinator, James- Creative Writer and Sunday Afternoon Presenter, Stuart- Morning Presenter, Caitlin- Afternoon Journalist and we were lucky enough to catch Josh – co-host from The Breakfast Show.

The transition trainees asked a series of intelligent and well thought out questions, and between Michael, and now with the aid of Josh's impromptu addition, our guided tour hosts gave some great insights into the world of radio, and some great behind the scenes information.

Josh answered one of the prize questions, "What qualifications do you need to work at the radio station, and in your case, host a segment?"

Josh's reply was "No qualifications as such. I did some work experience and built my skills there and then was sent to some further training, but didn't even complete the course before being put on air"... BEST ANSWER EVER. Thanks Josh.

Josh's inspirational work experience story was just the perfect message we needed to hear. Work experience can lead to some fantastic employment opportunities.

After a detailed tour filled with friendly faces accompanied by a stack of Industry information, the NOVA/C91.3 fused conga line made the descent back down the stairs where Nova Transition co-ordinator, Leisha Distefano took some happy snaps of the excited group. Camera flashes, jokes, laughter and hand-shakes, painted a scene of success. A trainee, Joel Aloisio had nominated another trainee, Jordan Hobbs, to demonstrate some voice impersonations before our departure.

Jordan told a joke delivered in the voice of Yoda from Star Wars which was received with great enthusiasm as Michael picked up his Star Wars mug from his desk and revealed his Star Wars wrist band. Good one Jordan!

As we were about to leave, I approached Josh with the thought in mind that he would be a perfect candidate for a guest speaker at a NOVA Employment event. At this, Josh turned to me and said; "If you'd like me to be a guest speaker at an event to talk about work experience leading to employment, I'd be more than happy to attend". Well that was easy..

In summary, it was a brilliant day at the radio station, and Campbelltown Nova Transition seemed to have made some genuine friends whom we can hopefully collaborate with in the near future.

Some NOVA links

Watch our latest video on NOVA's Youtube channel



Become a fan of NOVA on Facebook. Recommend us to your friends.



What's news at Can-Do-Ability?



Want some great employment tips?



The Social is a rite of passage for our Transition Trainees that occurs every year. Social Proposals are submitted by every Transition outlet, the winner being decided by the Transition Co-Ordinators.



The aim of the Social is to introduce Trainees to the other Trainees from the different outlets in the surrounding area. This gives the Trainees an opportunity to chat about their experiences whilst in the Transition program, make new friends, have fun and enjoy some friendly competition through games and activities.

All of the Transition Outlets submit proposals developed by the Trainees. These proposals include a venue, a budget, travel plans including maps and cost of travel. Our Trainees research their ideas; discuss them with each other to come to an agreement as to what they would most like to do.

At Blacktown Transition, our trainees discussed ten pin bowling, escape room, lunch at an RSL, BBQ at a park, river cruise, harbour cruise, lawn bowls, fishing, mini golf, aqua golf to mention a few.

During the research period, the Trainees found that some of the activities were very expensive and that opened the discussion on affordability. Some of the venues were quite hard to get to as all of the Trainees were taking public transport.

Our final proposal was for Ten Pin Bowling at Blacktown AMF. Our group decided that it was the most affordable, fun and the easiest to get to. We had to create an invitation that contained all of the information. This was submitted to our Transition Co-Ordinator. All of the other outlets submitted theirs as well.

Our Blacktown Trainees were waiting with baited breath, hoping that our bowling proposal would win!

FINALLY we received confirmation that we had WON!!

The Trainees rejoiced and began to plot the demise of the other outlets...



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