

Media release

18 September 2009

## Introducing Blue Skies

The Blue Skies Group is a collection of concerned citizens who would like to see people with disability welcomed as full participants in our community.

Their vision for an alternative future has been illustrated in the *Blue Skies Scenario* — a scenario that is now acting as the starting-point for critical dialogue all over Queensland.

Blue Skies Spokesperson Kevin Cocks, says "we are encouraged and deeply moved by the positive community responses that Blue Skies is generating."

"There are many significant failures in the way Queensland responds to people with disability; but what Blue Skies is demonstrating is that the *failure of imagination* is not one of them.

"Since we began the Blue Skies Consultation, people from all over Queensland have stepped forward to share their vision for a brighter future.

"That vision and passionate commitment to a better tomorrow can be found in communities all over Queensland — we invite you to be a part of it," Mr Cocks said.

Architects of the *Blue Skies Scenario* include:

- Professor Lesley Chenoweth, Professor of Social Work at Griffith University's [School of Social Work and Human Services](#)
- Kevin Cocks, Director of [Queensland Advocacy Inc](#)
- Lisa Fraser, Manager of Specialist Supports for [Centacare](#)
- Ann Greer, Manager of Community Connection
- Mark Henley, CEO of the [Spinal Injuries Association](#)
- Wim van den Herik, Director of [Ageing In Place](#)
- Alissa Phillips, Executive Director of [s.p.a.c.e](#)
- Valmae Rose, Queensland Manager for [National Disability Services](#)
- Graham Schlecht, Executive Director for [Carers Queensland](#)
- Brad Swan, Deputy Director-General for Child Safety, Youth and Families Community Participation with the [Department of Communities](#)
- Fran Vicary, Coordinator of the [Queenslanders with Disability Network](#)
- Margaret Ward, Strategic Planning and Policy Officer for [Mamre Association](#)

**For media comment, please phone Kevin Cocks on 0402 288 419**

*For media support, please phone Cameron Gledhill on 0422 269 603*

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**Post:**  
PO Box 3344  
Newmarket Q 4051

**Fax:**  
(07) 3357 4288

**Online:**  
[www.blue-skies.info](http://www.blue-skies.info)  
[contactblueskies@gmail.com](mailto:contactblueskies@gmail.com)