



3 December 2009

**Multicap would like to pass on the following information received from the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) team.**

Dear Friends & Supporters,

We are delighted to be able to let you know that the Rudd government this week announced its intention to formally investigate the feasibility of a National Disability Insurance Scheme.

Speaking at the National disability Awards on Monday night, the Prime Minister announced the Productivity Commission will conduct an inquiry into a national care and support scheme for people with a disability and their families.

Assisted by an expert panel, the commission will examine the feasibility, cost and benefits of replacing the current disability service system with a new national no fault scheme providing long term essential care and support to people with a disability and their families.

The inquiry will examine option for the scheme and how it would fit with Australia's existing health, aged care, income support and injury insurance systems.

The Commission will report to government in 2011. While the timeframe seems long, there are complex issues which must be carefully considered and explored. It is important that the study takes the time to examine all the details fully and gets the answers right.

The timeframe will also allow for public consultation. This will be an important opportunity for people with a disability and their families to have input into the design and implementation of the scheme. We will keep you updated and let you know how you can be involved in this process. Don't miss this very important opportunity to have your voice heard.

While this announcement is very welcome, it does not mean that the work of the campaign is done. In fact quite the opposite - it is now more important than ever that politicians and the public understand why the scheme is so important. We must create a desire to see the scheme introduced.

So we encourage you to keep up your great work in spreading the word. Together we can change the future of people with a disability and their families in Australia.

(If you have a moment, we also suggest that you email Bill Shorten and Jenny Macklin to thank them for their work in support of the campaign).

Thanks for your continuing support.

The NDIS Team.