

## **ICRA Information session**

The International Communication Rights Alliance (ICRA) aims to uphold the communication rights of people with comprehensive communication needs. This information session is to provide an update on some key activities happening internationally towards ICRA's aim.

**Date: Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> May, 2025**

**Time: 9:30 – 10:30pm Melbourne, Sydney, Australia**

**6:30 – 7:30am Ontario, Canada**

**1:30 – 2:30pm Central European Time**

### **Topics and presenters**

#### **Video Interaction Guidance – Meredith Prain, Australia**

Video Interaction Guidance is a strengths based approach to improving interactions, communication and relationships between individuals who may be struggling in their interactions, for example parents and children, teachers and students, and people with disability and the staff who support them. Meredith will outline some of the theory underpinning this approach, how she has used the approach with people with complex communication needs including those with deafblindness, and the path to becoming a Video Interaction Guidance practitioner.

#### **Communication Access Symbol – Jacob Matthew and Katie Lyon, Australia**

With approximately 1.2 million Australians experiencing a communication difficulty within their lifetime, creating communication accessible communities is crucial for equitable access to goods and services. Since 2011, Scope has worked with over 150 organisations across Australia to award the internationally recognised and trademarked Communication Access Symbol. In this session, Jacob Matthew, Scope's Communication Access Consultant and Director of Domatic Access Pty Ltd, alongside Katie Lyon, Speech Pathologist and Manager at Scope's Communication and Inclusion Centre, will introduce the Communication Access Symbol accreditation and highlight case studies from organisations that have taken a lead role in ensuring their services are communication accessible.

## **New Certification Launched in April 2023: CDBIS (Certified Deafblind Intervenor Specialist) – Kelly Patterson, Canada**

A certification focused on professionals who have knowledge and experience working with people who are deafblind and those who identify with a dual sensory loss. This includes an overview of the purpose and Body of Knowledge areas addressed within the certification. This presentation will highlight the education, experience, and process requirements validated through a certifying body.

### **Session zoom link**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87112360635?from=addon>

Meeting ID: 871 1236 0635