



Getting connected: Accessible technology is only the first step to inclusive remote meetings for people with deafblindness.

Dr Meredith Prain, Able Australia & David Murray, Deafblind Australia

Prior to COVID-19 the Deafblind Australia board met most often by teleconference, and more recently via Zoom. With physical distancing rules in place, we have further adjusted our processes, which have potential to increase access and inclusion at meetings into the future.

This webinar will present the steps that Deafblind Australia has taken to ensure our meetings are not only accessible, but also inclusive.

A range of communication access options will be presented including methods accessed visually, auditorily and tactually and will include:

- Use of interpreters,
- Use of stenographers
- Use of relay officers

and how to ensure these communication supports are accessible.

We will then outline the structures we have put in place to ensure all attendees have full access to participation and inclusion.

We will conclude with an examination of current issues preventing full access and inclusion of people with deafblindness in online meetings and make recommendations for how to increase not only attendance of people with deafblindness at meetings, but also their full participation and inclusion in all aspects of the meeting.