



MEDIA RELEASE

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NACLC welcomes appointments of Community Lawyers to Australian Human Rights Commission

The National Association of Community Legal Centres (NACLC) today welcomes the appointment of Alastair McEwin as Disability Discrimination Commissioner and Edward Santow as Human Rights Commissioner at the Australian Human Rights Commission.

Both new Commissioners will be leaving key roles with the Community Legal Centre sector to take up their appointments, Mr McEwin as the Executive Director of Community Legal Centres NSW (CLCNSW) and Mr Santow as the Chief Executive Officer of the Public Interest Advocacy Centre.

“We warmly welcome the appointment of Mr McEwin and Mr Santow to the Australian Human Rights Commission following a merit selection process.”

“Mr McEwin brings with him considerable experience in advocating for the rights of people with disability, including in his roles with CLCNSW, People with Disability Australia and at the Australian Centre for Disability Law. Importantly given the role, he also has a lived experience of disability”.

“Mr Santow has played a key role in advocating for the rights of disadvantaged and vulnerable people, including in relation to access to legal assistance” added Ms Monro.

“Today’s appointments, as well as the recent appointment of Liana Buchanan, who was the Executive Director of the Federation of Community Legal Centres in Victoria, as Victoria’s Principal Commissioner for Children and Young People, is a testament to the calibre and commitment to human rights of people in Community Legal Centres”.

“We look forward to working with all three Commissioners in their new roles to continue to protect and promote the human rights of people across Australia” concluded Ms Monro.

For further information or to arrange an interview contact:

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NACLC acknowledges the traditional owners of the lands across Australia and particularly the Gadigal people of the Eora Nation, traditional owners of the land on which the NACLC office is situated. We pay deep respect to Elders past and present.