



September 2012

VOTING NOW OPEN

focusonability.com.au



NOVA OFFICES

NSW

- Bankstown
- Blacktown
- Bourke
- Broken Hill
- Camden
- Campbelltown
- Canterbury
- Caringbah
- Cobar
- Forster
- Hurstville
- Ingleburn
- Katoomba
- Penrith
- Port Macquarie
- Richmond
- Rockdale
- Rouse Hill
- Springwood
- St Marys
- Taree
- Windsor

QLD

- Beaudesert
- Beenleigh
- Logan

CEO Comment— *Martin Wren*

September has been such an exciting month – the question is where to start!

Things we did included holding outlet open days at the majority of our sites and these included a couple of real highlights: Rouse Hill's mini expo was a great hit with the Special Olympic Dancers on hand. Campbelltown sites combined for a Transition to Work expo and a business luncheon that saw 100 people celebrate the achievements of local workers with disability. I went to several other great Open Days and Broken Hill held what was probably the best supported and run Gala in the event's 5 year history.

Want more?

We held a public forum where internationally renowned disability advocate and spokesperson Dale DiLeo was keynote speaker, 5 days of staff training from world leading experts in doing what we do, a luncheon at the Windsor Sebel to raise awareness of the importance of maintaining mental health for a healthy workplace!



Wow, such a busy time and last but most certainly not least the combined NOVA teams assisted 95 people to make the move from welfare recipient to taxpayer.

Are we done?

Not by any means – October promises to be even bigger with some fabulous stuff already underway and the 'Focusonability' Film Competition as the month's highlight (we are going to get some TV coverage as well).

Stay tuned!

Some NOVA links

Watch our latest video on NOVA's Youtube channel



Become a fan of NOVA on Facebook. Recommend us to your friends.



What's news at Can-Do-Ability?



Want some great employment tips?



Check out our short film competition.



FOCUS ON ABILITY- SHORT FILM MAKING COMPETITION

For the 4th consecutive year we have run the Focus on Ability Short Film competition. The competition is aimed at raising awareness of the abilities of people with a disability.



This year has been our biggest yet with some amazing films entered that really showcase extremely talented people with disabilities. With over \$50,000 worth of cash and prizes to be won this is a highly contested competition and is now in the voting stage. Head over to www.focusonability.com.au to check out the videos and remember to vote and comment on your favourite film.

The theme for the competition asked film makers to "Focus on the Ability" of people with a disability.

Some big names in the Australian film scene form the judging panel, including John Orcsik, David Cameron and Lisa Shaunnery. These judges will decide the best film in both the High School and Open Entrant Category with a \$17,500 appliance package for the winning High School and a trip for 2 to Hawaii courtesy of Hawaiian airlines for the winning Open Entrant.

The online voting segment of the competition has \$16,000 in cash to be won over the 2 categories.

"Focus on Ability" competition ambassador Paula Duncan AM is thrilled to be part of this year's competition. "There is nothing more wonderful than fulfilling someone's life through the screen. Taking in the lives of those that you know who have a disability and bringing that life to the screen".

The competition culminates in an awards night held at Hoyts Cinema, Fox Studios, Sydney on the 18th October, with entrants having the chance to feel like Scorsese and see their films premiered on the big screen. If you would like to attend the evening please contact Amie on (02) 98332500 or on email-amie.ross@novaemployment.com.au

Personal Presentation - What to wear to an interview

Martha Siede from www.letsgetworking.com.au discusses personal presentation for an interview.

You should have showered on the day of the interview put on some deodorant and worn clean clothes that have been ironed. Your black shoes should be clean of any dirt and polished with shoe polish if its appropriate or fill in scuffed bits with a texta.

Ok so the whole white buttoned down, collared shirt saga...

To be honest I have never worn a white shirt to an interview or to work. This is because of a number of reasons:

1. They look messy on me (some people look great in them)
2. My teeth look really yellow against a white shirt
3. I always have gaping holes between where the buttons are done up (If you have to wear a button down shirt, wear a white singlet top underneath)

If you do wear a white shirt – make sure it is white – that you have washed it with other light clothes, not with coloured clothes as a white shirt will look grey – yuck!

I much prefer to wear a coloured shirt in a nice cut with my shoulders covered up.

Always wear black or navy pants and guys – pull up your pants and wear a belt, no on your butt pants wearing.

No nail polish, clear, clean nails is the go.

No eyebrow or lip piercings

Wear your hair up if its long and no straggly bits coming down in front of your face as this makes you look like you lack confidence. Not too much hair gel guys.

Guys, if you wear a tie to your interview – no pictures on your tie, plain or patterned is best, make sure the tie is clean and when you do it up have it finish above your belt.

Always have your clothes organised the night before along with your portfolio, address of where you are going and phone numbers.



Broken Hill Open Day

NOVA Broken Hill opened its doors to the community as part of its Outlet Open Day.



There was a great turnout from the community with many local businesses represented as well as parents, potential job seekers and members of the community. Local radio station 2BH also had a live broadcast on the day which featured many great on air interviews.

The annual event aims to promote NOVA's employment program as well as the 'Transitions to Work' program, which takes on people who have just finished year 12 and teaches them a range of skills to help them find a job and live independently.

"Today lets the general public see what we do and for potential Transition to Work trainees for next year to have a look," NOVA Jobs Coach, Kristie Baumann said.

"The program is for students with a disability after they finish year 12; we teach them life skills."



Four trainees are currently involved in the two year course, which has 131 trainees statewide.

The skills range from Occupational Health and Safety training, healthy eating, rights and responsibility, communication skills, budgeting to computer and customer service skills.

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