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# **Nomination for Position on National Committee**

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| *(Nominations from new members and from all states and territories are encouraged)* | | | |
| I, | Natalie Wade | | |
|  | (full name) | | |
| of | 2./29 Junction Lane, Mile End SA 5031 | | |
|  | (address) | | |
| Phone/e-mail | | Mobile: 0413 174 195  Email: [natalie\_wade2000@hotmail.com](mailto:natalie_wade2000@hotmail.com) | |
|  | | (contact details) | |
| nominate for the position of: | | | Ordinary Member |
|  | | | (President, Treasurer, Secretary, Ordinary Member) |
| If Ordinary Member, which subcommittee: Disability Rights Subcommittee | | | |
| of the National Committee of Australian Lawyers for Human Rights Incorporated.  Natalie Wade 4 April 2016 | | | |
| Signed by nominator (may be nominee) Date | | | |

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| Please set out below a (very short) bio, a brief summary of your reasons for wishing to be elected to the National Committee and describe what you believe you are able to contribute.  If you are nominating for an ordinary member position please outline your experience or expertise in the subcommittee area chosen. Please also outline briefly your plans for the year ahead as chair of the subcommittee: | | | |
| I am a practicing lawyer in State Government, South Australia. Substantively, I am a solicitor in the Department for Communities and Social Inclusion; however I have recently accepted a temporary transfer to undertake a role as a Legal Research Officer at the South Australian Child Protection Systems Royal Commission.  In support of my nomination for the Ordinary Member of the Disability Rights Subcommittee, my experience is as follows:   * I am the current chairperson of the Disability Rights Subcommittee. In that role, I have established the membership, initiated projects and encouraged the members to initiate projects. In my time as chairperson, the subcommittee has provided submission on the rights of children with disabilities to education, abuse of people with disabilities and the sexual rights of people with disabilities. We have also conducted a CPD event in Sydney with the Disability Discrimination Commissioner and Emeritus Professor Ron McCallum and responded to a number of individual requests for assistance by providing referrals to other legal organisations. * I have a lifelong physical disability which has given me comprehensive personal experience of disability rights issues in a number of settings including; education, independent living, employment and self-advocacy. * My main area of legal research is the issues facing witnesses with communication disabilities. I have published an article on this topic in *Precedent* and presented my research findings at a CPD event in 2014 co-hosted by the Law Society SA and ALHR. My research has also been considered and utilized by the South Australian Attorney-General’s Department in the implementation of the SA Disability Justice Plan. * In my time with ALHR, I have contributed to and coordinated a number of submissions and media releases on varied disability rights issues, including the removal of the Disability Discrimination Commissioner SA Disability Justice Plan and deportation of a mother and her 10 year old son with autism.   + I approached the National Committee with the proposal of forming a Disability Rights Committee because it was becoming clearly apparent that not only is there a constant stream of international human rights that arise in disability rights but there was also an appetite within the membership which I saw at mainly on events to work on these issues. So far, the response to the Disability Rights Subcommittee has reflected that with 40 expressions of interest received to date. * I assisted Patrick Keyzer in 2014 with his research for the Aboriginal Disability Justice Campaign. * I am a member of the steering committee for “AFL4Me”, a South Australian initiative promoting the social inclusion of people with disabilities at sports and arts events that are otherwise not invitingly accessible. * In 2013, I was the Ambassador for a Disability Housing Project initiated by the South Australian Minister for Disabilities. * From 2008-2012 I was the consumer representative on the Self Managed Funding Panel which was responsible for recommending Personal and Expenditure Plans submitted by people with disabilities who were part of the Self Managed Pilot Program in South Australia. * I have published and presented the following on topics of disability rights:   + ABC Ramp Up, *It’s just a wheelchair!* August 2013   + ABC Ramp Up, *Opening the Door to Education* August 2013   + Alternative Law Journal DownUnderAllOver, *Balancing human rights with protection from sexual exploitation* (2014) 39(4) AltLJ 276   + Alternative Law Journal DownUnderAllOver, *Welcome to Team Australia – we don’t say words like that here* (2014) 39(3) AltLJ 195   + Australian Human Rights Commission, *Twenty Years, Twenty Stories – Blog,* February 2013   + Australian Lawyer’s Alliance Precedent, *Discretionary or Discriminatory*, *December 2014*   + Flinders University, International Symposium, Gender Consortium, School of International Studies, presented *Endorsing Eugenics – a High Court perspective,* November 2013   + Law Society of South Australia and Australian Lawyers for Human Rights, Continuing Development Programme, *From the Ballot Box to the Witness Box – tackling access to justice for people with disabilities,* presented Discretionary or Discriminatory – judicial discretion facilitating the participation of witness with communication disabilities under the Uniform Evidence Act, October 2014   + Submission to the Commonwealth Attorney-General on the consultation of the Terms of Reference Review of Equal Recognition before the Law and Legal Capacity, *Appropriate Use of Language in Commonwealth Legislation,* June 2013   + Submission to the Independent Education Inquiry, *an excerpt of my Law Research Dissertation on witnesses with communication disabilities,* February 2013   + Submission to the South Australian Attorney-General on the consultation of the Disability Justice Plan, *Section 13A of the Evidence Act 1929 (SA) and judicial discretion and satisfaction of translation,* August 2013   + Submission to the Supreme Court of SA, *Interpreter Protocols and Inclusion of People with Communication Disabilities,* December 2013   + University of Adelaide, Guest Lecture, *Diversity and Intercultural Communication,*  August 2012   + Youth Disability Advisory Service, *Youth Disability Rights Hub, wrote on topics of criminal justice and guardianship and administration*, December 2013   Through my legal and academic work on disability rights I have formed valuable networks consisting of other legal academics, practitioners and advocates who are a useful resource for me to tap into when working in a role such as the Ordinary Member for the Disability Rights Subcommittee. | | | |
| If you have any queries about the roles and responsibilities of office bearers and committee members, contact the current ALHR executive on  [secretary@alhr.org.au](mailto:secretary@alhr.org.au) | | | |
| **Nominations must be delivered to:** | | | |
| By post: | Secretary, ALHR  PO Box A147  Sydney South NSW 1235 | By e-mail: | [secretary@alhr.org.au](mailto:secretary@alhr.org.au) |
| **Nominations must be received by 5:00 pm on Wednesday, 8 April 2015.**  (No late nominations will be accepted.)  The name of nominees, their state or territory of residence, the position to which they are nominating and their summary of reasons will be sent to all members to enable them to cast an informed vote.  **Please note: only members of ALHR may nominate for a position** | | | |