



NSW Minister for Disability Services, Ray Williams MP launches ABC's *Employable Me*

ABC, the NSW Government and Screen Australia have confirmed their investment in the new series *Employable Me*.

The series has been commissioned as part of the ABC's commitment to bring diverse stories, including those about people with disabilities, into focus on the national broadcaster.

The documentary series follows people with neuro-diverse conditions such as Autism, Asperger's and Tourette Syndrome as they look for employment. With the help of experts in the field, this uplifting and insightful series will draw on science to highlight the skills of each job-seeker and match them to roles that can harness their strengths.

The NSW Government and Create NSW believe the series will change employer behavior and challenge the public to reevaluate their attitudes towards the employment of people with disability.

Minister for Disability Services, **Ray Williams** MP, said: "Research shows that across all sectors, a critical barrier for jobseekers with a disability is the attitude of prospective employers.

"The NSW Government is delighted to provide funding for *Employable Me* in line with the NSW Disability Inclusion Plan. I hope that the series will contribute to building positive community attitudes on employment for people with a disability."

Michael Brealey, CEO of Create NSW said: "Create NSW has lead the industry in developing programs that support professional opportunities for people with disabilities, including the Screenability program. We are very pleased to partner on *Employable Me* which will further shine a light on the capabilities of people with disabilities as well as the challenges they face."

Northern Pictures has previously produced award winning television content for the ABC including *Changing Minds*, which became the cornerstone of the *Mental As... week*.

Screen Australia's Senior Manager of Documentary, **Liz Stevens** said: "The use of science to reveal the unique talents and skills of those living with neurological conditions impressed us as a particularly compelling way to inspire confidence in the value of employing people with disabilities in the workplace. We are proud to support Northern Pictures to make *Employable Me* and hope it will challenge perceptions and create opportunities."

ABC Managing Director, **Michelle Guthrie** said: "The ABC is committed to telling significant stories of diversity and inclusion that can make a positive change to the lives of Australians – especially those who are disadvantaged.

"*Employable Me* will be another example of distinctive content delivered by the ABC that encourages a national debate about this important topic."

Employable Me has now commenced production and will be broadcast in 2018.

For further information contact:

Chris Chamberlin / Acting Communications Manager / ABC Audiences
(02) 8333 2154 / chamberlin.chris@abc.net.au