



PDN HK Presents: Beyond Labels PRESS RELEASE



Launched by SENSational Foundation in 2021, the Professional Disability Network Hong Kong (PDN HK) is a membership-based networking initiative aimed at promoting greater connectivity among corporations, institutions, and organisations committed to advancing disability inclusion. As part of its monthly event programme, PDN HK organised a panel discussion focusing on language around disability. Entitled "Beyond Labels: Reframing Disability Semantics", the panel discussion brought together inspiring professionals for a discussion on the evolution of disability semantics. The following press release shares more on this impactful discussion advancing conversations on rights, justice and representation through examining disability terminology.

PDN HK's "Beyond Labels: Reframing Disability Semantics": Empowering Conversations on Evolving Disability Language

Hong Kong, 24 August 2023 - The Professional Disability Network Hong Kong (PDN HK) hosted a thought-provoking panel discussion titled **"Beyond Labels: Reframing Disability Semantics"**, bringing one of the largest audiences together since the organisation's inception in 2021.

The event featured esteemed disability advocates, professionals and academics who engaged in an open dialogue on recent shifts in disability terminology. Panellists shared experiences driving positive changes in semantics that recognise humanity's diverse abilities and move beyond outdated labels. Participants engaged deeply with the issues examined, such as navigating emerging trends like "non-apparent" substituting "invisible" and ensuring policies respect people with disabilities' agency in language selection.

Featured speakers including Nifraz Rifaz of Iron Mountain, Dr. Simon Ng from HKU SPACE, and Tina Arcilla of Manulife brought unique perspectives that stimulated important questions around how mainstream conceptions can evolve, and what they've implemented in their work roles to sustained success. Under the thoughtful moderation of Christina Pantin, the panel discussion served as a platform for exchanging diverse views and encouraged audience participation and questions throughout.



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Attendees left feeling reinvigorated, praising the event for encouraging action through its examination of how language impacts perceptions, policies and inclusion efforts. The engaged discussion highlighted opportunities to promote greater understanding and acceptance of human diversity from a disability lens.

PDNHK thanks the British Consulate-General Hong Kong for partnering to host the event venue. Insights from the forum reinforced PDNHK's commitment to championing disability rights, justice and representation. The organisation aims to continue hosting impactful events that advance inclusive discussions and encourage action on important issues affecting the disability community.

For more information on the Professional Disability Network Hong Kong, please visit **www.pdnhk.org**. Any enquiries about the event should be sent to **contact@sensationalhk.org**.

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