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## SMALL GESTURE WITH HUGE POTENTIAL: NSW PARLIAMENT FIRST TO BE SUNFLOWER-READY

**NSW Parliament is proud to be the first parliament in Australia to join the Hidden Disabilities Sunflower initiative.**

Since August 2024, select members of our staff have been in training to welcome visitors to NSW Parliament wearing the internationally recognised sunflower. Visitors looking for discreet support and assistance can now call upon any staff member wearing 'supporter' Sunflower badges.

Created by Hidden Disabilities, the Sunflower supports people with a hidden disability by 'making the invisible, visible'. Participants opt into the program to help them attain the understanding, patience, and assistance they may need in everyday situations.

The Hon. Ben Franklin, President of NSW Parliament's Legislative Council, says: "We want all who visit Parliament House to experience inclusivity, acceptance, and understanding. By adopting the sunflower, the barriers we cannot see in achieving this inclusivity for all can be addressed. The sunflower is a small gesture with huge potential for initiating this change."

The Hon. Greg Piper, Speaker of NSW Parliament's Legislative Assembly, says: "If you need assistance, look out for our staff wearing a sunflower supporter badge or lanyard. NSW Parliament is ready to ensure our sunflower-wearing guests are welcomed and their needs addressed."

NSW Parliament is sunflower-ready to support people with hidden disabilities and celebrate International Day of Persons with Disability on Tuesday 3 December.

[Download NSW Parliament Photos](#)

### **Hidden Disabilities Sunflower**

Program participants wear the internationally recognised sunflower symbol in some form, often a badge, lanyard or wristband to indicate they have a hidden disability and may require additional support.

Program supporters wear badges or lanyards indicating they have been trained to recognise the Sunflower and discreetly offer help where requested.

The initiative also calls upon all people to be kind, patient, and respectful to anyone who has chosen to wear a sunflower.

Watch the video to find out more <https://youtu.be/xgfRQDD2q0w> or visit the [Hidden Disabilities website](#).



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