

Date: 22/07/2022

icare's partnership with Paralympics Australia continues

Insurance and Care NSW (icare) and Paralympics Australia are proud to announce their partnership has been extended for another three years. This means workplaces across NSW will continue to hear from inspiring Australian Paralympic athletes about the importance of workplace safety.

icare's Paralympic Speakers Program has been a huge success with nine speakers sharing their powerful safety stories across different industries. The speakers give tailored presentations, either online or in person, on the importance of health and safety in the workplace and on the road. They share their personal stories of their own workplace, farm and motor vehicle accidents.

"This program goes from strength to strength because the Paralympians who participate are incredible role models who share their inspiring stories of hard work, determination and achievement," icare's CEO and Managing Director, Richard Harding, said.

"This continued partnership with Paralympics Australia means their powerful stories and important safety messages can be shared with more workplaces across NSW.

"icare's purpose is to provide the best possible care and support to people who have been injured on our roads or in the workplace. To have these respected Paralympians helping us prevent accidents by sharing their stories is invaluable."

Joany Badenhorst was the first Australian female athlete to be selected for Para-snowboarding at the 2014 Sochi Winter Paralympics and went on to also represent her country at the Pyeongchang Winter games in South Korea. At just 10 years of age Joany lost her left leg below the knee in a tractor accident on her family's farm.

"Accidents can happen in an instant, and to anyone, at any time. My accident could have been prevented if I listened to the safety feedback. My accident and long rehabilitation took an emotional and psychological toll not only on me, but my family and friends. If my story and personal experience can help others stay safe, then I have made a difference," Joany said.

Paralympics Australia Chief Executive Catherine Clark said the Paralympian Speakers Program is an effective way of sharing important safety messages with the community.

"We are proud of this important relationship with the NSW Government that has been ongoing since 2001. Each Paralympian involved in the program has a unique and different experience to share. They demonstrate that with the support of those

around them, an injured person can recover and go on to make a valuable contribution to a workplace and the community, and inspire us all,” Ms Clark said.

Media contact: Emma Phillips emma.phillips@icare.nsw.gov.au