

I am a representative of the Chisholm Institute of TAFE Student Union, Dandenong Campus. I am extremely concerned that students with disabilities enrolled at our campus are not experiencing equitable access to campus facilities. Getting some lunch in the cafeteria an exceptionally ordinary task for most students, is a difficult and often dangerous task for disabled students, particularly those in wheelchairs. Why? Our cafeteria doors are in no way appropriate to meet there needs. I have seen the same sought of doors on other campuses fitted with automatic opening systems. I am at a loss to understand why they are not installed on our campus. It seems to me that such basic access issues shouldn't have to be brought to the attention of management of educational institutions in 2002. This is just one of many access issues on our campus. I am pleased an inquiry is being conducted into such issues as "the accuracy with which students' disability related needs are being assessed" (Point 1 a ii). It is my observation that they are being assessed quite poorly. This inquiry is well overdue I look forward to hearing your recommendations on these issues.

Regards,  
Liza Timmermans

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