



**Emeritus Professor Ron McCallum AO
Special Advisor
The Royal Commission into violence, abuse,
neglect and exploitation of people with
disability**

Professor Ron McCallum AO studied law at Monash University, graduating in 1972. In 1974 he completed a Master of Laws Degree at Queen's University, Canada. It was at this point that Ron developed his interest and expertise in labour and employment law. After teaching at Monash for eighteen years, he moved to Sydney in 1993 where he was appointed to a full professorship at the University of Sydney. Blind since his birth, this appointment made Ron the first totally blind person to be appointed to a full professorship at any Australian or New Zealand university. He served as Dean of the University of Sydney Law School between 2002 and 2007. His expertise in labour law and occupational health and safety saw him appointed as chair or member of various federal and state inquiries.

Professor McCallum was made an Officer in the Order of Australia (AO) in 2006 for his services to tertiary education, for industrial relations advice to governments, for assistance to visually impaired persons and for social justice. In January 2011, Prime Minister Ms Julia Gillard designated Ron as Senior Australian of the Year for 2011.

Professor McCallum was elected as a member of the United Nations Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities which monitors the implementation of the Disabilities Convention. He served from 2009 until the close of 2014.

Ron served as a part-time member of the Administrative Appeals Tribunal from 2013 to July 2019. Currently, he is a special advisor to the Royal Commission Into Violence, Abuse, Neglect And Exploitation Of People With Disability.

In July 2019, Allen and Unwin published his memoir titled "Born At The Right Time" which discusses his life and the changes brought about by new technologies.

He is married to Mary Crock who is Professor of Public Law, University of Sydney. They have one daughter and two sons.