

**Premier's Council needs your input on disability
community challenges and Council priorities
PLEASE RESPOND**

The Premier's Council on the Status of Persons with Disabilities (Council) wants to hear from you!

The Council was recently appointed through an Order in Council by the Government of Alberta. Council members were selected by an open and transparent application process facilitated by the Alberta Public Agencies Secretariat. Council is responsible for advising the Premier and the Government of Alberta and reports to the Minister of Community and Social Services. Council's advice is focused on opportunities for full and equal participation of persons with disabilities in the life of the province. The advice is grounded in the member's own lived experiences with disability and by listening to persons with disabilities, their families, provincial organizations, service providers and aligns to the United Nations Convention of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

Council is establishing a strategic plan to guide and focus the work for a three year mandate. This Council is reaching out to stakeholders for input into our plan. It is important that Council listen to the community to be able to reflect relevant issues and concerns of the disability community. We have attached an Information card about the Council that includes two key questions. Council wants to hear from you on issues and challenges faced by the disability community and priorities to focus on for the next 3 years.

Council also needs your help getting this invitation out to individuals and families in your networks - Please share this email broadly with your networks.

Input is due Friday, February 9, 2018.

Responses to the questions can be emailed to: hs.pcspd@gov.ab.ca or if you require assistance or alternate format please contact the office of the Secretariat by phone at: 780-422-1095.

We look forward to everyone's input and thank you so much for your help getting this out as broadly as possible.

Respectfully,

Sheila Serup,

Chair, Premier's Council on the Status of Persons with Disabilities

Premier's Council on the Status of Person with Disabilities (Council) listens to the disability community

Council wants to get help to inform their strategic plan.

We want help from people with disabilities, their families and care givers and communities because we want to get this right.

You can help by providing your experience and thoughts to inform the development of the strategic plan.

The Council's Mandate

The Council mandate is to give advice to the Government of Alberta about inclusion and accessibility for persons with disabilities. The Council gives advice from our own lived experience with disabilities and by connecting with local communities.

Our advice must honor the principles of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD). The full text UNCRPD can be found through the following link:

<https://www.un.org/development/desa/disabilities/convention-on-the-rights-of-persons-with-disabilities/convention-on-the-rights-of-persons-with-disabilities-2.html>

We are asking 2 questions and need to hear from you by February 9, 2018.

Council wants to hear your voice:

1. Tell Council about 2 or 3 big issues and challenges facing the disability community?

2. What are some priorities the Council should be tackling this year and the following 2 years?

I am answering as:

Person with a disability

Family member

Care giver

Advocate

Member of the public

I live in (city /town)

Send your response to the Premier's Council on the Status of Person with Disabilities

Email: hs.pcspd@gov.ab.ca

Phone: 780-422-1095

Did you know?

A Statistics Canada, 2012 report estimated there are 3.8 million people 15 years and over in Canada that say they have a disability? According to the same survey, approximately 13.9% Albertans identify having a disability.

The Council provides advice to government departments on their policies and programs to ensure these policies consider the impact it may have on people with disabilities and how they can be included in everyday life.

A new Council, a fresh approach

Council is embarking on a process to establish a strategic plan that will act as a guide for the important work of providing advice to government regarding opportunities for full and equal participation of persons with disabilities in the life of the province.

Council wants to hear from you.

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