



www.EndExclusion.ca

Building an Inclusive & Accessible Canada

A National Initiative Supporting People with Disabilities in Canada

The year 2006 marks two very significant anniversaries for the disability community:

- 25th anniversary for both the International Year of Disabled Persons and the first Parliamentary report on disability, *Obstacles*
- 10th anniversary of the Scott Task Force Report, *Equal Citizenship for Canadians with Disabilities: The Will to Act*.

A National initiative is being designed to celebrate these past events and build toward a Forum in Ottawa on November 2, 2006. *Building an Inclusive and Accessible Canada* will bring together people from across Canada, national, provincial and local disability groups and civil society organizations to participate in this unique and historic initiative.

The initiative aims to:

- build broad-based public and political momentum for federal/provincial/ territorial action to increase the investment in disability supports and address the poverty and exclusion of Canadians with disabilities;
- mobilize and expand collaboration within the disability community and beyond; and
- raise the profile of Canadians with disabilities and their families.

Our goal: to create AN *INCLUSIVE AND ACCESSIBLE* CANADA

You can be a part of this!

The initiative will include:

- An opportunity for your organization (federal, provincial or local) to sign on as a partner and demonstrate solidarity for this initiative.
- An opportunity for you to '**Tell Your Story**' and bring a human face to the hopes, struggles, barriers and accomplishments of Canadians with disabilities and their families. We want to collect hundreds of stories from every region, community, city, town and constituency in Canada. Stories that identify barriers and the creative solutions found.
- An opportunity for you and others to sign an online **Declaration**. It will call on governments to move forward an Agenda for Creating an Inclusive and Accessible Canada. We want to confront the poverty and exclusion of Canadians with disabilities, first and foremost by increasing access to disability supports.

The web site, www.endexclusion.ca, will connect you and/or your organization to the most up to date information about the initiative. The web site will include the stories submitted, updates on the November 2 Forum on Parliament Hill, the Declaration and the growing list organizations across Canada partnering in solidarity.

We need you!

Go to the web site today www.endexclusion.ca - (on-line by mid- June)

Email our virtual office: endexclusion@mts.net

- Learn more about sharing your story,
- Sign on to the declaration,
- Become an organizational partner,
- Tell others and help spread the word.

The Council of Canadians with Disabilities and Canadian Association for Community Living have begun this initiative; we invite you to join us.