



## Project Communiqué

August 2007

- Welcome to the Project
- Summary of Activities
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### **1. Welcome to the Project**

We would like to welcome all of you to this project. We are pleased to have all of you on board as we look at aging with a long-term disability in Canada. We will be sending out periodic communiqués such as this first one, to keep you informed of the progress of the project. We always welcome your input and feedback throughout the project. We appreciate your time and effort with us as we all work together across the country.

### **2. Summary of Activities**

#### **Environmental Scan**

In order to assess current status of caregiving/ home supports, housing, and transportation for persons with long-term disabilities including national level and in the three target provinces:

BC, MB, and NS (and internationally) the project implementation team has conducted an

environmental scan of programs and policies, services and activities: including website searches, contact with key informants, and is currently completing comparative analysis. The research focused on the seniors and disability sectors but also on where the programs and services overlap to create inclusive policies and programs. We have compiled a few different formats of the document to make it more user-friendly and easier to compare. The Advisory Groups will be asked to review this scan and add to it.

### **Annotated Bibliography**

A literature review (annotated bibliography) of government publications, reports, and research documents in BC, NS, MB and nationally in three target areas – caregiving/home supports, housing, and transportation has been completed.

We chose the annotated bibliography as opposed to a full-scale literature review because we believed our goals to develop our knowledge-based framework would be better served by focusing on key policy reports and documents that provided information about gaps in current programs for people with disabilities and seniors, practical recommendations for policy improvement and exemplary practices that we could incorporate into our framework. The Advisory Groups will be asked to review this information and add to it.

### **Interviews, Round Tables and On-line Survey**

The interview, roundtable and survey questions are currently under development based on findings and themes established from the environmental scan and annotated bibliography. The Advisory Committees will be asked to look over the questions and see if they are appropriate

for each province. The questions will go through the CCDS Ethics approval process before being used.

### **Recommendations for Criteria for the Framework**

Recommendations for the development of 'criteria' will be provided based on complete analysis of environmental scan, annotated bibliography, individual interviews and round tables. We plan to have 2-3 round table discussions in each target provinces speaking with our advisory members, service providers and consumers. Our first draft of recommendations should be completed by the end of October, after completion of the first two round tables.

### **Website**

We are working with our web site designer to create an accessible website for the public, professionals and advisory committee members. It will provide easy access to project information, updates, national and provincial initiatives, project based events and activities, and link to on-line survey, list serv and other related initiatives. The website is expected to be on-line at the end of September 2007.

### **3. Calendar of Events**

- **Meeting Schedule - September 2007 to March 2008**

Please note: All times are in MB (Central) time. Reminders will be sent a week prior to meetings.

- **National Advisory- First Wednesday of each month**

Tentative time: 10:30 am-11:15 am

- **Nova Scotia Advisory- First Wednesday of each month**

Tentative time: 12:45 pm-1:30 pm

- **Manitoba Advisory- First Thursday of each month**

Tentative time: 2:00 pm- 2:45 pm

- **British Columbia Advisory- First Thursday of each month**

Tentative time: 11:45 am-12:30 pm

- **Round Tables**

October 8- 12 – Manitoba

October 23- 24 – Nova Scotia

January 7 – British Columbia

- **National Conference – tentative dates**

March 4-7, 2008 – Aging with Disabilities conference

- **Summary Reports to ODI**

September 30, 2007- Progress Report

December 31, 2007- Progress Report

March 31, 2008 - Progress Report

April 30, 2008 - Final Report

#### **4. Advisory Actions**

Please look at the attached list of primary committees, policies, programs, documents, websites and other information we have collected for the environmental scan and annotated bibliography. Please look to see if there are additional documents or initiatives that should be included and send them to Laura at [research3@disabilitystudies.ca](mailto:research3@disabilitystudies.ca). We will be sending out

other documents for you review in the next few days/weeks. Once again, we appreciate your time and feedback.