



AGING WITH DISABILITIES Project Handout

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Project Overview: The Canadian Centre on Disability Studies will work in partnership with advisory committees from Manitoba, British Columbia, Nova Scotia and nationally to identify needs, gaps and good practice models of caregiving/ supports, transportation and housing for people with long-term disabilities who are aging. The project is funded by the Office for Disability Issues, Human Resources and Social Development Canada.

Information will be collected and disseminated through:

- An environmental scan of programs and services that identify the needs of seniors and people with disabilities
- An annotated bibliography of policy documents and reports in the senior and disability sectors analyzing gaps, best practices and recommendations
- Interviews and roundtable discussions in three target provinces with consumers and service providers
- Development of a cross country dialogue and active network of key stakeholders
- A website and on-line survey
- Development of recommendations for good practice models
- National conference in March 2008

Project Goal: The project goal is to address transitional issues between the disability and seniors sectors as we age with a long-term disability.

This will lead to the development of recommendations for framework of service delivery, community design and supports. The framework will support community living and participation and will be based on national and inter-provincial partnerships between community organizations, service providers, researchers and government departments

Key questions the research will address are:

- What are “desirable” communities to live in and grow older?
- What does aging mean for people with disabilities? For service providers? How are people with long term disabilities making the transitions?
- Are older people with disabilities able to fully participate in the community, taking into consideration availability, accessibility and policies around transportation, housing and caregiving/ home supports?
- What are the lessons to be learned from the disability and senior sectors? Do agencies/organizations from the two sectors communicate with each other? Do they discuss the “other” in their policies?
- What are the differences and implications of a disability independent living model of supports versus a seniors’ health care model?
- What are the recommendations for next steps for the improvement of programs, services and policies for people with long-term disabilities who are aging?

For more information visit our project website at:

www.agingwithdisabilities.com

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