

Involving disabled people in decision-making: a case study from Canada



The Canadian Human Rights Commission (CHRC) has published its [Action Plan](#) to address the most important issues that disabled Canadians are concerned about: poverty, housing, and work and employment.

The Action Plan lays out how the CHRC will undertake its work as the National Monitoring Mechanism for the implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disability.

Why the CHRC undertook this work

The CHRC established the priorities for its Action Plan after a public engagement process to gather input directly from disabled people and their representatives. Through this process, the CHRC heard about:

- the barriers that disabled people face in everyday life
- the best way to involve disabled people in decision-making to reduce these barriers.

Our 2021 report, '[Protecting disabled people's rights during COVID-19](#)', highlighted some of the findings of the public engagement process. Notably, 83% of participants felt that Canada is doing a poor job of protecting disabled people's human rights.

The CHRC has committed to advocating, empowering, collaborating with and communicating results with disabled people in the Action Plan.

Accessibility

The Action Plan acknowledges the importance of communicating in a way that is useful and accessible to everyone. The CHRC has published materials in an additional Easy Read format, translated and tested by People First of Canada's plain language team, and in video format with sign language interpretation and closed-captions. Images and infographics are accompanied by image descriptions.

The result

The CHRC is continuing to monitor engagement with its National Monitoring Mechanism content online. According to analysis after the launch of the Action Plan, there is an engaged core audience that follows its work.

