

December 12, 2022

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| Robert J. Morrissey, Chair Standing Committee on Human Resources, Skills & Social Development, and the Status of Persons with Disabilities (HUMA) | Tracy Gray, Vice-Chair |
| Louise Chabot, Vice-Chair | Scott Aitchison, MP |
| Chad Collins, MP | Michael Coteau, MP |
| Rosemarie Falk, MP | Michelle Ferreri, MP |
| Wayne Long, MP | Soraya Martinez Ferrada-MP |
| Tony Van Bynen, MP | Bonita Zarrillo, MP |

Dear Members:

We are writing to you regarding bill C-22, the *Canada Disability Benefit Act*. It is currently before HUMA for clause-by-clause consideration. We thank you for your work on this important bill. HUMA has strengthened bill C-22 by voting in favour of amendments to define disability, ensure the Canada Disability Benefit (CDB) is indexed to inflation and direct that the application process is accessible for all people with disabilities in Canada.

We write to express our collective concern with three amendments proposed at the HUMA meeting on Wednesday, December 7, 2022.

1. **CPC-1** admirably intends to prevent provincial/territorial clawbacks; however, we believe strongly that the CDB's interaction with provincial/territorial programs and benefits should be negotiated by the Minister with support of the disability community.
2. **NDP-5 and BQ-1** seek to embed parliamentary review and/or approval of proposed regulations. This type of review is unprecedented. We strongly believe that the regulations process will be challenging on its own and adding another layer of complexity to the process will delay the CDB's implementation. We are confident that the Minister is committed to the development of regulations with the disability community using a co-creation process.

As a group of organizations of and for people with disabilities who will benefit from the timely passage of bill C-22, we do not support these amendments and ask that they be withdrawn.

We look forward to your next meeting on Monday, December 12, 2022. If you have any questions or concerns in the meantime, please contact Bill Adair at bill@sci-can.ca.

Sincerely,

Canadian Council for Rehabilitation & Work – Maureen Haan, President & CEO
Canadian National Institute for the Blind – John Rafferty, President and CEO
Disability Without Poverty – Michelle Hewitt, National Co-Chair
Inclusion Canada – Krista Carr, Executive Vice-President
Indigenous Disability Canada – Neil Belanger, Executive Director
L'Arche Canada – Louis Pilotte, National Executive Director
March of Dimes Canada - Len Baker, President & CEO
Rick Hansen Foundation – Doramy Ehling, CEO
Spinal Cord Injury Canada – Bill Adair, Executive Director
Wavefront Centre for Communication Accessibility – Christopher Sutton, CEO

With support from and in collaboration with:

BC Complex Kids Society – Brenda Lenahan, Founder
BC Poverty Reduction Coalition – Rowan Burdge, Provincial Director
DEEN Support Services – Omar Mansour, Vice-Chair
Down Syndrome Resource Foundation – Wayne Leslie, CEO
FINAUTONOME – Guillaume Parent, Director of Finance & Disability Expertise Centre
Multiple Sclerosis Society of Canada - Benjamin Davis, Senior Vice-President, Mission
National Network for Mental Health – Ellen Cohen, National Coordinator
Network for the Advancement of Black Communities – ammanuel melles, Executive Director
Partners for Planning – Jeff Dobbin, Executive Director
Pivot Legal Society
Plan Institute – Stephanie Debisschop, Executive Director
Planned Lifetime Advocacy Network (PLAN) – Rebecca Pauls, Executive Director
Prosper Canada – Elizabeth Mulholland, CEO
Provincial Advisory Council for the Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities, Newfoundland & Labrador – Fraser Piccott, Chairperson
Race and Disability Canada – Rafia Haniff-Cleofas
SEED Winnipeg Inc. – Louise Simbandumwe, Co-Director
Tamarack Institute – Danya Pastuszek, Co-Chief Executive Officer
The Guelph-Wellington Task Force for Poverty Elimination - Dominica MacPherson, Director
The Local Community Food Centre – Debra-Swan, Executive Director

CC: Danielle Widmer, Clerk of the Committee
Hon. Carla Qualtrough
Mr. Kevin Murphy
Mike Morrice, MP