2024-7 Lived Experience of Disability Analysis

Moved by: Manitoba League of Persons with Disabilities

The Province of Manitoba and all municipalities should apply a Lived Experience of Disability Analysis to all policies, programs and legislation. This means ensuring the Lived Experience of Manitobans with a variety of disabilities are included in this work, and that measurable results are shared.

For the purposes of this resolution, the term disability includes anyone with an impairment that lives with barriers to accessibility and inclusion. Recognizing that disability is a western, colonial term and that some Indigenous communities and organizations prefer the term gifts.

Because: without a Lived Experience of Disability Analysis, the policies, programs and legislation in this province will continue to uphold ableist attitudes and values that will not be rectified by only removing the barriers suggested in the Accessibility for Manitobans Act.

Because: people living with disabilities are twice as likely to live in poverty than those without disabilities and Provincial disability benefits are below the poverty line. Many people living with disabilities face barriers to accessing Provincial programs in the areas of: poverty-reduction, employment, disability, housing security, and public services. People living with disabilities make up 29% of the Manitoba population age 15 and over, as of 2022 (StatsCan), yet remain significantly underrepresented at policy tables and in decision-making positions.

Because: while there are many disability organizations doing good work to support and advocate for Manitobans with disabilities, policies, programs and legislation have historically been created to exclude persons with disabilities. The voices of those without disabilities speaking on behalf of people with disabilities continue to be advantaged over people with lived experience.

Because: while 23.2% of Manitobans have a non-developmental disability, that is 80% of Manitobans with disabilities, there was no funding provided to organizations that directly support those Manitobans in the 2024 Provincial Budget, aside from wheelchair repairs.

Because: a Lived Experience of Disability Analysis would identify gaps in policy, and lead to the creation of more inclusive communities. Failure to use an analysis which centres the lived experience of disability increases the risk that policies and initiatives will inadvertently further increase inequalities, especially Indigenous people, People of Colour, women, seniors, and 2SLGBTTQ+ people. A Lived Experience of Disability Analysis would provide a framework in which accurate data collection across departments could be encouraged and implemented, to assist policy, program and legislation development that is inclusive of people living with disabilities. Currently, data collection on the lived experience of disabilities is inadequate.

Because: the Government of Manitoba promised to build a shared future for our province. As part of that shared future, the government said they wanted to ensure that Manitobans with disabilities have a voice in

the design of our disability support programs, and they want to improve employment opportunities for Manitobans with disabilities. A LEDA will support those goals.

Because: LEDA supports the CCEDNet theory of change, being community-led, community-driven, and engages and builds the capacity of community members to be agents of their own future.

Because: this resolution fits within the themes of Ending Poverty, Local & Fair Economies, and Sustainable Community-Led Development.

How the Resolution will be Advanced: CCEDNet Manitoba and its members should apply a Lived Experience of Disability Analysis to their work, including people with lived experience of disability in relevant decision making and policy implementation processes, and encouraging the Government of Manitoba and municipal governments to adopt a Lived Experience of Disability Analysis through the Network's government relations work.