

End Poverty

Invest in Income Security

In Canada, one third of working aged people with disabilities live in poverty. The poverty rate of working age adults with an intellectual disability living on their own is a staggering 73%. Parents of children with intellectual or other disabilities are also disproportionately impacted. They find themselves turning down employment opportunities, working fewer hours per week, and/or declining promotions in order to raise their children, all while covering added expenses.

As a party, commit to addressing income insecurity:

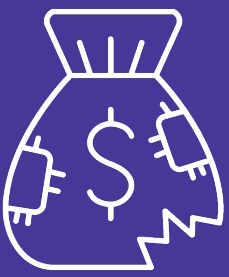
- Pass legislation and implement a targeted federal income program for working-aged people with a disability that ensures dignity, ease of access, and incentives for employment. Ensure that the program combines with provincial and territorial benefits to provide a livable income of at least \$2200 per month.
- Enhance the Child Disability Benefit. Increase the benefit amount, raise the threshold at which the benefit starts to be reduced, and work with provinces and territories to prevent clawbacks.
- Continue to invest in inclusive and accessible childcare.
- Fill gaps in retirement savings that build up over time when people (often parents) limit their involvement in the workforce to provide support to a person with a disability.

Modernize Federal Disability Programs to Enable Greater Access

Federal benefits work to offset the added costs that come with a disability and yet these benefits are not easily accessible. For example, the Disability Tax Credit (DTC), which acts as a gateway to other federal benefits and programs, is difficult and often costly to access.

As a party, commit to taking action:

- Modernize eligibility for the Disability Tax Credit and other federal programs by adopting the Accessible Canada Act definition of disability, streamlining the application processes, and reducing other barriers to access.
- Make access to federal programs and benefits not dependent upon filing an annual tax return.



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Deliver on a National Disability Employment Strategy

There are approximately 500,000 working age individuals with intellectual/ developmental disabilities in Canada – but only one in four is employed. Those who are employed often work part-time hours earning minimum wage or slightly above.

As a party, commit to promoting and facilitating employment:

-Develop and implement a National Disability Employment strategy to support people with disabilities to enter the workforce, do real work for real pay, and advance in their careers. The strategy should have a focus on youth employment and be inclusive of Indigenous and culture specific communities.

-Provide robust funding for national employment initiatives with a proven track record of getting results including Ready Willing and Able, a partnership between Inclusion Canada and the Canadian Autism Spectrum Disorders Alliance (CASDA).



Inclusion
Canada

The logo for Inclusion Canada, featuring the words "Inclusion" and "Canada" stacked vertically in a blue and teal color scheme, enclosed in a stylized bracket shape.