

Developing and Disseminating a Municipal Guide for Disability Inclusion in Recreation and Physical Activity

2024 PRO Expedition & Trade Show

Collingwood, Ontario

Thursday, April 18, 2024

Presenters: Mike Arthur and Taryn Barry from Active Living Alliance for Canadians with a Disability (ALACD)



- ◆ Project overview
- ◆ Project background and history
- ◆ Project status
- ◆ Share your experience
- ◆ Conclusion
- ◆ Questions

Workshop overview



Project overview

Project Goals

- 1.) Creation of the guide
- 2.) Dissemination of the guide

Phase One – 2024. Evidence Building: Consult with knowledge users via a consensus panel, literature review, and focus groups and write the guide by the end of 2024.

Phase Two – 2025. Implement the communication plan and disseminate the guide to increase uptake by municipalities.

What resources do you currently use to assist you with inclusion? Or what resources influence you?

Share your experience continued



Project background and history

- Disability inclusion in municipal recreation departments
- Why this project?
- How the project came to be?

Project background and history continued



Ranked	Priority Issues - Ranked Extremely Important	Percentage
1	Making our sport and recreation facilities more accessible.	66.67%
2	Funding sources.	55.17%
3	Defining and understanding inclusion.	52.33%
4	Applying Universal Design * Principles to parks, benches, trail, and other outdoor spaces.	51.16%
5	Communicating/ Partnering with organizations that serve people with disabilities.	48.28%
6	Learn more about how to make the case to decision-makers about providing services to people with disabilities.	41.38%
7	Staff Training programs.	40.23%
8	Using a disability lens for our recreation programs and services.	40.23%
9	Helping people with disabilities learn about how to overcome barriers to participation.	37.65%
10	Developing, implementing and monitoring a written policy on recreation and physical activity.	33.72%
11	Providing staff support to people with disabilities.	28.74%
12	Communicating with parents, family members, and caregivers.	25.58%
13	How to deliver adapted equipment loan programs.	24.42%
14	Communicating with health professionals (e.g., OTs) about serving people with disabilities.	19.77%

Project background and history continued

Partner roles and responsibilities

ALACD

1. Part time staff 2 years
2. Funding
3. Promote project
4. Support Queen's University with focus groups, surveys
5. Develop and implement national communication plan for 2025

Queen's University & CDP

1. Steering committee
2. Consensus panel
3. Focus groups
4. Literature review – academic & grey
5. Draft guide and municipal survey
6. Final guide by Dec 2024
7. Advise on knowledge transfer plan

CPRA & Provincial/Territorial (P/T) Recreation Associations

1. Appoint a P/T representative
2. Identify focus group participants
3. Send survey on draft guide to municipalities
4. Assist ALACD with national knowledge transfer & communication plan for 2025

F/P/T Governments (PARC)

1. Advice and feedback
2. Funding
3. Communicate with P/T governments
4. Appoint lead contact
5. Approve 2025 plan

Project status

Steering Committee

Name	Role
Amy Latimer-Cheung, Ph.D	Lead Researcher, Queen's University
Alyssa Grimes, PhD Student	Queen's University
Zainab Naqvi, MSc Student	Queen's University
Mike Arthur	Executive Board Member, Active Living Alliance for Canadians with a Disability
Taryn Barry	Project Manager, Active Living Alliance for Canadians with a Disability
Sarah Ane	Parks and Recreation Ontario

Project status continued

Consensus Panel members

- 15+ individuals
- Represents different sized municipalities, people with disabilities, caregivers, researchers, and government and community representatives
- First meeting was on March 7, 2024
- There will be 3 meetings in total
- Continuing to recruit for panel members to ensure diverse experience is represented

Project status
continued

Collecting Evidence

- Literature review
- Focus groups
 - 1 for people with disabilities, 1 for caregivers/parents, 3 for municipalities (small, medium, large size)
- Survey of municipalities on draft guide

Project status continued

- National plan for knowledge transfer and dissemination of the guide in 2025
 - Collaborating with P/T rec group leads
 - Plan will be completed by the fall of 2024

What would motivate you
or influence you to use this
guide in your work?

Share your experience



ACTIVE LIVING ALLIANCE
FOR CANADIANS WITH A DISABILITY

Share your experience continued

1 Strongly Agree 2 Agree 3 Disagree 4 Strongly Disagree

I would like to know more about how to make the case to Council/CAO for disability inclusion.

Our municipality goes beyond AODA standards on recreation and physical activity.

We have access to training on disability inclusion for recreation staff.

We have effective communication methods with parents and caregivers.

Thank you, questions?

For more information:

Contact Taryn at taryn.barry@ala.ca

Visit www.ala.ca

