



Inclusion  
Canada

**We believe in a Canada where everyone belongs.**

Inclusion Canada is the national leader in building an inclusive Canada where everyone belongs by strengthening families, defending rights, and transforming communities.



## VISION

An inclusive Canada in which people with intellectual disabilities and their families are valued equally and able to participate fully in all aspects of society.



## MISSION

Inclusion Canada is a family-based association assisting people with intellectual disabilities and their families to lead the way in advancing inclusion in their own lives and in their communities. We are dedicated to attaining full participation in community life, ending exclusion and discrimination on the basis of intellectual disability, promoting respect for diversity and advancing human rights to ensure equality for all Canadians.

**Strengthening Families** - Inclusion Canada strengthens families by helping them to obtain the supports and resources they need to create an inclusive and meaningful life for their child or family member with an intellectual disability. Through our national association members, we connect families to one another to strengthen their ability to realize their dreams, become more effective advocates and stand with them in navigating complex service systems.

**Defending Rights** - Nationally we defend and secure the rights of persons with intellectual disabilities and their families primarily through public education, advocacy and legal action, when necessary, to change discriminatory laws, policies and practices.

**Transforming Communities** - We transform communities by partnering with educators, business, municipal, community and health care leaders and their organizations to adopt inclusive practices. We provide the tools, support and information they need to become more inclusive so that everyone can participate and belong.



Founded in 1958, Inclusion Canada is a national federation of 13 provincial-territorial associations and over 300 local associations working to advance the full inclusion and human rights of people with an intellectual disability and their families.

Over 750,000 Canadians have an intellectual disability and millions more are family members, friends, and allies. Inclusion Canada is the only national organization that works solely on behalf of children and adults with an intellectual disability and their families.

# When you support Inclusion Canada, you're building communities where everyone belongs.

## How We Make A Difference

**We support families** - Families raising children with an intellectual disability require a wide range of supports that are not readily available, so they struggle, feeling lost and alone. Inclusion Canada guides families through complex uncaring systems to obtain the supports they require, eliminates their isolation, and enables them to realize their dreams of an inclusive life for their family members with an intellectual disability.

**We reduce poverty** - Most individuals with an intellectual disability live in poverty. Inclusion Canada is the national leader in the government's development of the first ever Canada Disability Benefit (CDB). Now we are working hard to ensure the benefit is implemented fully and quickly to lift some of Canada's most vulnerable citizens out of poverty.

**We protect lives** - Inclusion Canada is working to build a Canada where we have a fast track to readily available supports for people and not a fast and expanding track to assisted suicide based on disability. We enable people to live with dignity, knowing they are valued and matter to our community.

**We fight abuse** - People with an intellectual disability are four times more likely to be victims of violence and abuse whenever they are segregated, as in group homes and institutions. As a real home is a universal human need to flourish in safety and security, Inclusion Canada is working to increase inclusive housing options where people with an intellectual disability can live and thrive in their own homes.

**We get jobs** - As the majority of people with an intellectual disability are unemployed but capable of working, Inclusion Canada is actively expanding inclusive employment opportunities with businesses and employers across the country. Being inclusively employed and earning an income fundamentally improves the lives of individuals with an intellectual disability.

**We connect people to healthcare** - People with an intellectual disability do not always have equal access to healthcare from cancer screening to mental health supports. Inclusion Canada collaborates with and advocates within the healthcare system to ensure equal access, ending the discrimination that threatens individuals very lives.

**We attack ableism** - Ableism is racism based on disability and just as harmful and insidious. Consequently, children and adults with an intellectual disability can go through life believing they are worthless and invisible, that they don't belong. As this injustice must never be anyone's life experience, we are unwavering in our commitment to ending ableism and enabling lives of meaning and value.



## Numbers that need to change:

- 70% of people with an intellectual disability live in poverty.
- 75% of adults with an intellectual disability are unemployed.
- 60% of children with an intellectual disability do not have access to a quality inclusive education.
- Over 100,000 people with an intellectual disability can not access affordable housing.
- Thousands of individuals with an intellectual disability and families are on long wait lists for support or are receiving less support and assistance than they require.

## When you support Inclusion Canada, you're building communities where everyone belongs. YOU have what it takes to change lives!

### Donate

Change starts with you. Join us in helping individuals with an intellectual disability and their families live good inclusive lives. Donate [here](#).

### Fundraise

Attend, support, or organize a fundraiser in support of Inclusion Canada. In addition to attending an Inclusion Canada event, we can support you to organize office dress down days, birthdays, etc. as fundraisers - the options are endless. Click [here](#) for more information.

Help us make a bigger impact by sharing our work with your friends, colleagues, and family. Host your own private Inclusion Matters Virtual presentation, just like the one you attended today. You invite the guests, and the Inclusion Canada team delivers the information and stories. Click [here](#) to learn more.