

**Candidate Questions Related to a
More Accessible Newfoundland & Labrador**

Prior to the call for this 2019 Election, work was well underway to [develop provincial accessibility legislation](#) through the Department of Children, Seniors, and Social Development in partnership with the Coalition of Persons with Disabilities (COD) NL. A [series of public consultations](#) were held across the province to begin the process.

1. If elected, what is your commitment to move Accessibility Legislation forward in Newfoundland & Labrador? Do you see this as a priority for our province?

In this information package, InclusionNL has provided demographic information on the population breakdowns of voters in your constituency who experience barriers on a daily basis.

2. If elected, what measures will you take to ensure your constituency becomes more barrier-free?

Our [current educational system has failed](#) our deaf and hard of hearing children. Recently parents of a deaf child established a nonprofit organization to help support parents experiencing barriers and gaps in the educational system for their deaf and hard of hearing children. [CLASS](#) provides supports and lobbies government for equitable education in American Sign Language.

3. If elected, what will you do to ensure deaf and hard of hearing children receive education in their first language, American Sign Language?

Follow us @inclusionNL



#inclusion4everyone
#barrierfreeNL

Contact Us!

4 Escasoni Pl., St. John's NL
Toll Free: 1-844-517-1376
manager@inclusionNL.ca
www.inclusionNL.ca



According to Statistics Canada's [2017 Canadian Survey on Disability](#), about 59% of working-age adults with disabilities were employed compared with around 80% of those without disabilities.

4. As MHA how will you increase employment opportunities for people with disabilities in the Public Service Commission?

Our province currently experiences significant gaps in the province-wide motor coach service that is accessible for voters with disabilities. This service is contracted out to a private agency, [DRL-LR which is the only bus system in the province](#), that does not provide daily accessibility on getting passengers to their destinations 365 days a year.

5. If elected, what is your commitment to accessible public transit being offered province-wide?

[In late March, The Telegram reports](#) that according to information supplied by the NLHC on its current stock of accessible housing, there are no one-level or accessible units currently available in St. John's west or Mount Pearl. The NLHC has just 83 fully accessible units within its social housing portfolio, 40 of which are in St. John's and two of which are in Mount Pearl. There are also 511 units province-wide with varying levels of accessibility features, 303 of which are located in the Avalon region. That's out of 5,590 units in the province, 3,203 of which are on the Avalon Peninsula.

6. If elected, what is your commitment to increasing affordable accessible housing across the province?

Follow us @inclusionNL



#inclusion4everyone
#barrierfreeNL

Contact Us!

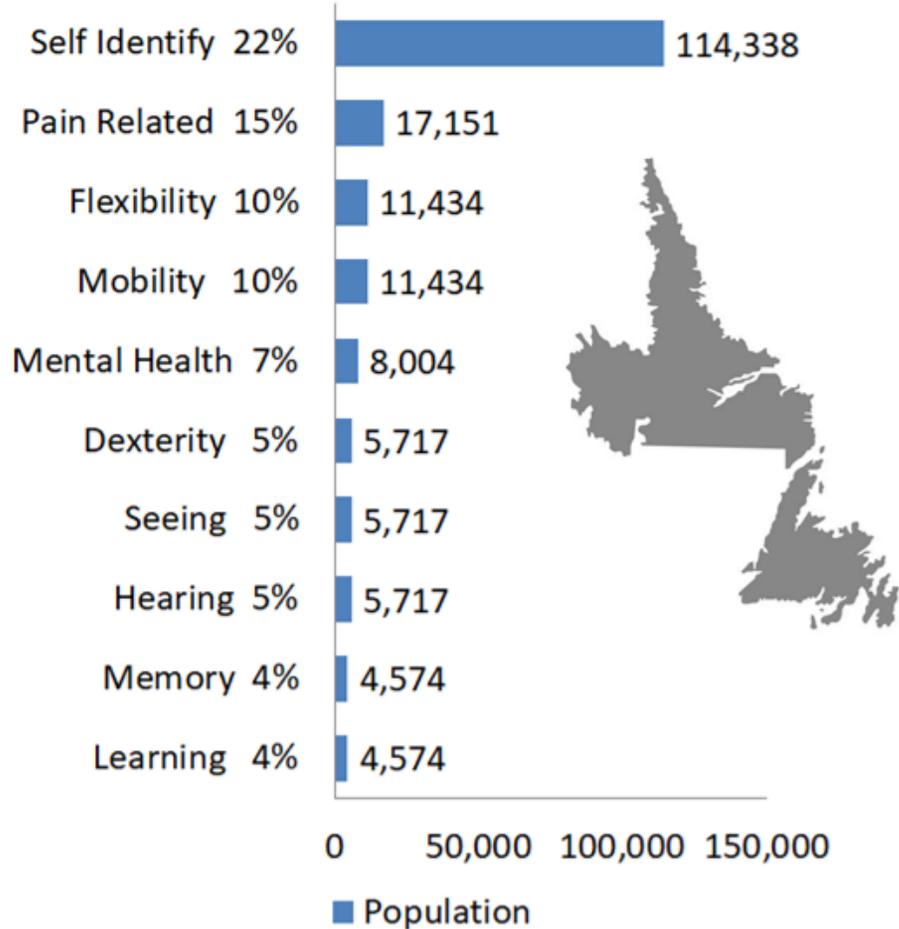
4 Escasoni Pl., St. John's NL
Toll Free: 1-844-517-1376
manager@inclusionNL.ca
www.inclusionNL.ca



Provincial Demographic Population of NL

519,716

22% Voters self identify
 as experiencing barriers
 in their daily lives

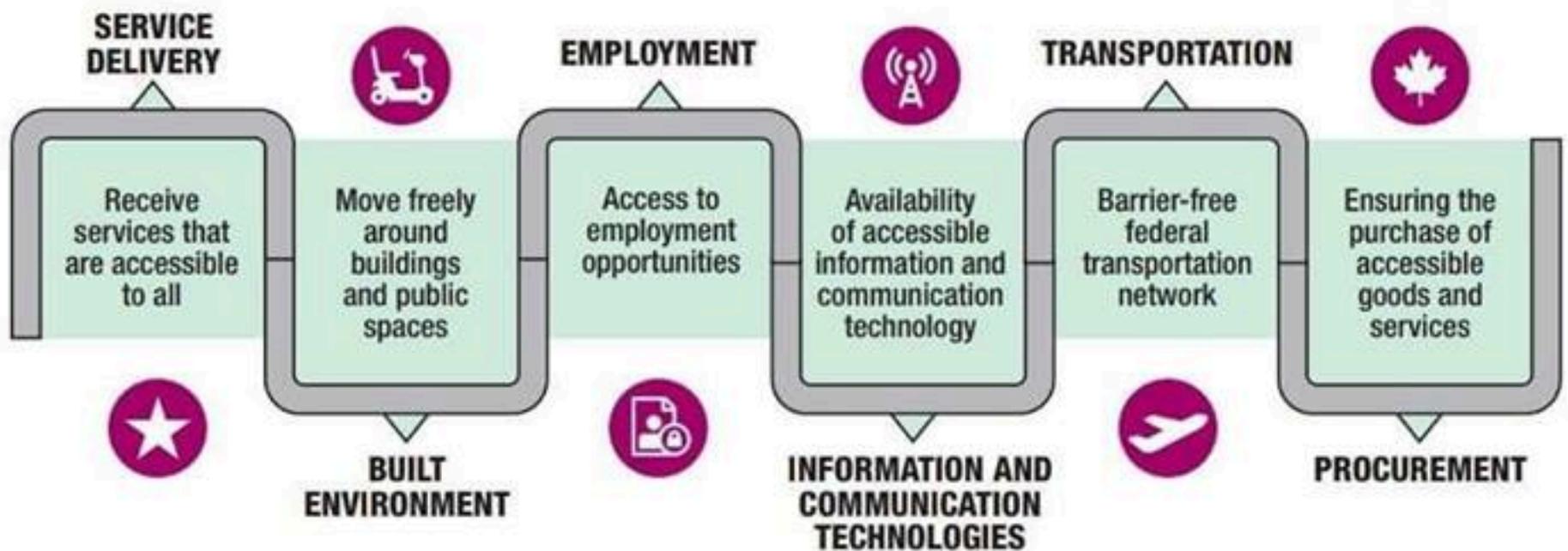


ACCESSIBLE CANADA ACT



VISION

PROACTIVELY ELIMINATE BARRIERS AND ENSURE GREATER OPPORTUNITIES FOR CANADIANS WITH DISABILITIES.



GOALS OF THE ACCESSIBLE CANADA ACT

- Culture change;
- Standards development;
- Proactive compliance and enforcement measures;
- Monitoring and oversight.

WHERE DOES IT APPLY?

- ▷ PARLIAMENT
- ▷ GOVERNMENT OF CANADA
- ▷ FEDERALLY-REGULATED PRIVATE SECTOR



'NOTHING ABOUT US, WITHOUT US': THE **ACCESSIBLE CANADA ACT** WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES AND DISABILITY COMMUNITY.

ACCESSIBLE CANADA ACT



VISION

PROACTIVELY ELIMINATE BARRIERS AND ENSURE GREATER OPPORTUNITIES FOR CANADIANS WITH DISABILITIES.

ALMOST **3.8 MILLION** PEOPLE IN CANADA HAVE A DISABILITY

LESS THAN **50%** HAVE JOBS

CANADIANS WITH DISABILITIES EARN **44%** LESS AND ARE MORE LIKELY TO LIVE IN POVERTY

'NOTHING ABOUT US, WITHOUT US': THE **ACCESSIBLE CANADA ACT** WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES AND DISABILITY COMMUNITY.



Employment and
Social Development Canada

Emploi et
Développement social Canada

Canada