

Station 2: Inclusion in all community life

Inclusion in all community life means people with disability feel part of the community.

It means they have good access to buildings, facilities, transport and other services. It also means easy access to the information they need, when they need it.

The way the community sees and thinks about disability also has a big impact on whether people feel included.

Inclusion would allow people with disability to take part in community life equal to other citizens.

The current National Disability Strategy 2010-2020 aims to make sure *people with disability live in accessible and well-designed communities with opportunity for full inclusion in social, economic, sporting and cultural life.*

When it comes to inclusion in all community life, how might a future strategy improve:

Inclusive and accessible communities

Making communities more inclusive and accessible means:

- people with disability can participate fully in all aspects of community life
- the whole community is making an effort, including Governments, businesses, community organisations, workplaces, community leaders, and all citizens.

Accessible buildings, facilities, transport and services

Create rules for planning and designing that make sure everyone has good access, including:

- removing barriers that exclude people from programs, services and facilities
- improving accessibility of our built and natural environments
- working closely with mainstream services, town planners and developers
- directly involving people with disability in infrastructure and service design.

Accessible information

Improve access to information and the internet so:

- everyone can equally take part in community life
- people with disability can decide on issues that affect them
- communication and information systems are accessible, reliable and responsive to the needs of people with disability, their families and carers
- information about services and supports for people with disability is reaching them, no matter where they live.

Station 2: Independence and wellbeing

Accessible recreation and tourism

Recreation activities, such as going to leisure and arts events, supports inclusion in the community and can increase the wellbeing and happiness of people with disability.

There is an increasing interest in accessible tourism, which involves:

- accommodation
- transportation
- public places
- cultural and sporting events
- tours.

Community support and community attitudes

Everyone in the community can play a role in making sure people with disability are included, by:

- Making sure there is the support in communities for people with disability to be able to take part in activities
- Encouraging everyone in the community to have positive attitudes towards disability, including:
 - improving awareness of disability
 - fostering interactions and sharing of experiences between people with disability and others in the community
 - helping people to understand the contributions people with disability make in the community.

Recognition and support for specific groups and demographics

It's important to recognise and consider:

- there are different types of disability and groups of people who live with disability
- the needs of all the different groups need to be considered and responded to
- people can have multiple disadvantages as a result of overlapping identities
- actions to meet the needs of people with disability who:
 - are from different **cultural backgrounds**, such as race, language, life choices, family structure and cultural obligations
 - have a different **sexual orientation**
 - are different **genders**, including transgender, no gender or other
 - are **geographically isolated**, such as living in rural or remote areas.

In relation to these areas, we'd like to know:

- What can stop people with disability from having access to the same things in the community as everyone else?
- What ideas do you have for improving access for people with disability?