



Canadian  
human rights  
commission

Commission  
canadienne des  
droits de la personne

# Statement from the Canadian Human Rights Commission on behalf of the GANHRI Working Group on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

on the occasion of the 46<sup>th</sup> session of the Human Rights Council  
on the Report of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons  
with disabilities

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**March 3, 2021**

“On behalf of the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions Working Group on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the Canadian Human Rights Commission is pleased to deliver this statement to the 46<sup>th</sup> session of the Human Rights Council.

As the Working Group, our purpose is to facilitate the exchange of knowledge, experiences and good practices among national human rights institutions in the promotion and monitoring of the implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

We welcome the report of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities and commend his broad and inclusive vision of the mandate.

We particularly welcome the recognition of the importance of including NHRIs in the work of the Special Rapporteur. We thank the Special Rapporteur for recognizing NHRIs as crucial partners in ensuring effective monitoring of the domestic implementation of the Convention, as provided for in article 33. As independent bodies for the promotion and protection of human rights, NHRIs are well-placed to act as a bridge between governments and civil society, which is critical to creating systemic change and ensuring real progress towards advancing the rights of people with disabilities.

We further welcome the emphasis the Special Rapporteur has placed on ensuring that persons with disabilities are fully engaged in the work of implementation and monitoring.

As he has noted, COVID-19 has highlighted the urgent need to address multiple, intersecting and aggravated forms of discrimination. It has emphasized the importance of ensuring a disability-inclusive response that includes a commitment to leave no one behind.

The Special Rapporteur’s report clearly illustrates that much progress remains to be made in addressing the existing inequalities that people with disabilities face. We are



hopeful that by taking a participatory, inclusive and collaborative approach to his work, this period will mark a time of real change in the lives of people with disabilities around the globe.

As NHRIs, we are happy to offer our continued support and collaboration as the Special Rapporteur moves forward in addressing these important issues.”

Marie-Claude Landry, Ad. E.  
Chief Commissioner