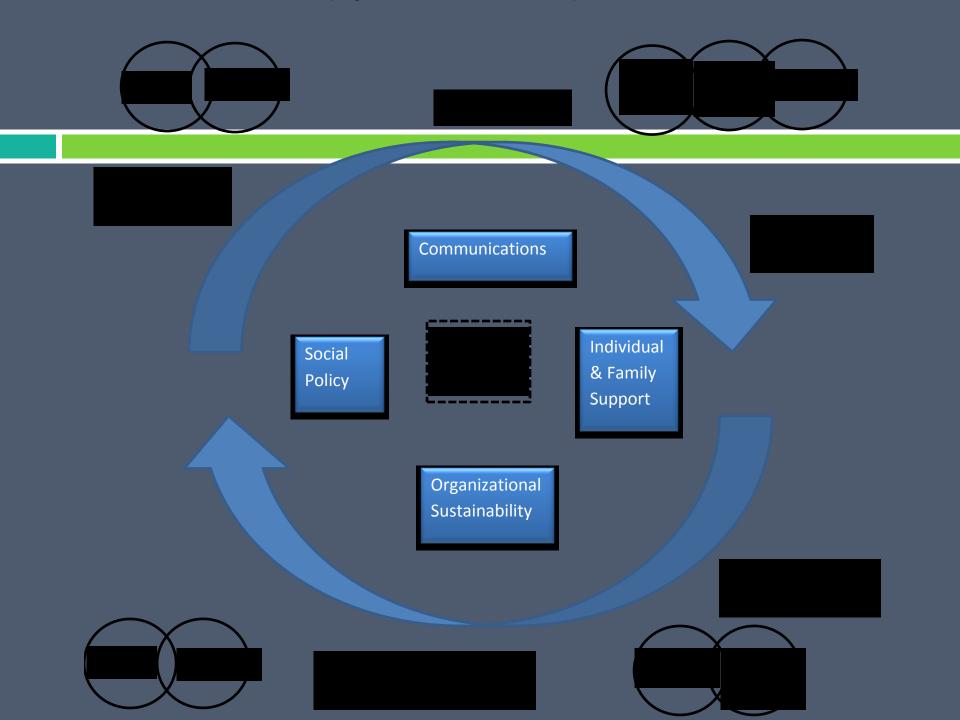
SOCIAL INCLUSION PROGRAM



New Brunswick Association for Community Living January 2018

NBACL

- NBACL was created in 1957 by a group of parents;
- Exists to improve the quality of life for children and adults with an intellectual disability and their families;
- Foster inclusive communities where everyone feels they belong, are valued and can participate in all aspects of community life.



What is social inclusion?

"Social inclusion is about having a sense of belonging in our communities and real opportunities to live where we choose, develop relationships, and participate in community life".

What is social inclusion?

People are known as individuals with unique personalities and not labels such as:

- "the disabled person"
- "the mentally challenged person"
- "the client"
- People are known through shared experience with others.
- People are recognized for their gifts, skills and interests.
- People are valued for the roles and contributions they can make to others and their community.
- People have <u>choice</u>.

Why social inclusion is important?

There is still public perception that individuals with a disability are 'special people' who need different places to learn, live, work and be involved. Individuals with a disability are not always seen to be ordinary citizens who want to be involved in the regular life of their communities.

When we are included in our community, we live longer, get sick less often, and when we do get sick, get better sooner.

When people who are isolated are offered opportunities to meet others, everyone benefits. Our neighborhoods become safer, our communities more vibrant, and our society more cohesive.

Social Inclusion Program

Through NBACL's Social Inclusion program, we support adults with an intellectual disability to be included in their community by:

- Having a home of their own (with the support they require);
- Developing strong personal support;
- And by becoming involved in recreation, leisure and volunteer activities that match their interests and choices.

This program is available to people with an intellectual disability aged 17 to 64. The Social Inclusion Program is available in 5 areas:

- **Fredericton**
- Moncton
- Grand Falls/Edmundston
- Saint John
- Bathurst.

Supported Living- Home Life

Supported living is about people **HAVING CHOICE**, a decent and secure home, personalized supports, and opportunities to develop relationships and participate in the broader community in which they live.

NBACL Social Inclusion facilitators have a number of important roles in helping people plan for and live in a home of their own through a supported living arrangement. These include helping people:

- Identify where and with whom they want to live and the supports that will be required to establish and maintain a supported living arrangement;
- Recruit and screen for private support providers (this may include live in roommates, neighbours, hourly paid support workers, etc.);
- Identify and secure other supports, including technologies and accommodations that allow people to live with more independence, or to have the ability to request support when it is required;
- Identify opportunities for adequate and affordable housing, including facilitating access to government housing programs if necessary.
- Social Inclusion facilitators provide ongoing monitoring of supported living arrangements to help to ensure a person's safety and the adequacy of supports in the home and provide assistance should an emergency arise.

Monitoring

Monitoring is an intentional safeguard. For people who may be vulnerable as a result of their disability, monitoring offers opportunities for ensuring that people are safe and secure.

Monitoring must try to strike a good balance between ensuring a person's well-being and his or her right to live a private, self-determined and dignified life.

Aspects of Monitoring

Monitoring Support Living Arrangement have three aspects:

1. Monitoring for Personal Health and Satety:

- Home safe, clean, heated and adequately maintain;
- Having adequate support;
- Having a good health (include individual taking medication);
- Having a good hygiene;
- Having nutritious meal each day;
- Making sure that the people that are coming into the person's home do not pose any danger or risk.

2. Monitoring for Quality Living and Support:

- Person's rights are respected;
- There is a positive/ mutual relationship between the person and the support provider;
- Person is being supported to achieve his/her goal (home or community life);
- Support are reviewed regularly (renewed as needed);
- Adequate support is provided in case of crisis or Emergency;
- Making sure that the person is not isolated.
- 3. Monitoring for Good Management of the Home and Supports:
- Timely payments of home related bills and expenses;
- The management and use of government funds received for support;
- Completion of forms and report for Social Development;

"A facilitator acts as a "bridge" to community life for people who become involved in the program. A facilitator, however, is not a "support worker" who is responsible for providing day-to-day personal assistance (support workers may also be involved, depending on the specific needs of the person)". The progress in the lives of many people with disabilities has been great.

It is recognized, however, that as far as we have come, we have an equal or greater way to go before people with disabilities can realize the goal of being full, contributing and participating citizens.

Reflection?!

Despite years of efforts and progress people with an intellectual disability are often denied basic opportunities to work, volunteer, participate in recreation and leisure activities, and to live in homes of their own after they leave the family home.

There are many pathways to social inclusion for all people. Any person's participation in community is based largely on personal interests and preferences, skills and abilities, and opportunities that are either created or offered. THIS IS NO DIFFERENT FOR PEOPLE WHO HAVE AN INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY...



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