

## **MOST BENEFICIAL OF THE EVENING**

1. The discussion around our table – with one lady in her wheelchair who really informed us what her life is like – this includes “quality of life”.
2. We got to our concerns with regards to IA and how it applies to disabled people especially those of us who have married disabled people and now come under IA rules. I feel that I was heard and am glad to have heard that others raised the same issue. I also benefited from hearing the heartfelt, and often, tear felt concerns of others. This shows me that we r not alone in saying, that changes are needed “whole number of changes.
3. Attempting to change problems in the system - Handi-transit is still an issue came by my social trip.
4. Presentation of an option.
5. Large attendance, and variety of ideas.
6. Knowing and learning about the many needs.
7. No comment.
8. Good, mix of consumers, Service Providers and Government. There is a strong interest in the issues. Meeting others and hearing their concerns.
9. Sharing thoughts. Hopefully the next step will be heading in the right direction.
10. To see that we are getting somewhere with the changes.
11. Sharing concerns. Great Discussion.
12. All of the evening was beneficial.
13. Being informed about the different levels of disability and the meaning of the proposals. A good idea for community inputs.
14. The chance to be able to share our concerns.
15. Discussing different points of view.
16. Discussion and the opportunity to have input.
17. Talking about problem.

18. Sorry to say I personally did not benefit from this meeting due to the fact that because I cannot speak, but “spell” my words. Our facilitator did not really allow me the time to voice all of my concerns. My husband spoke for me, but this was not the point of these meetings – was it? Weren’t disabled people supposed to be heard from?
19. The variety of participation.
20. Individual experiences captured. Inclusion of consumers input essential. Use of community to develop meaningful policy by inclusion in process.
21. The system needs a overhaul. Big time! Medical overhaul. Even come in from the 1800’s into the 21<sup>st</sup> century.
22. Different points of view, ideas, and problems.
23. Getting a bit more info about the changes but more questions than answers.
24. Moving forward discussion for action.
25. Breakout groups brainstorming. Specific agenda questions with tight time frames focusing on respect/grief/turn taking.
26. Brainstorming, Impacting policy changes.
27. Discussion with community members.
28. Dialogue and discussion.
29. The opportunity for discussion about the issue.
30. The group input session.
31. Acquiring more understanding of the booklet. Sharing knowledge with other persons who have provided me with influential knowledge, suggestions, and recommendations. The pleasure and opportunity to meet a staff from the minister’s office.
32. Acquiring more understanding in the booklet.
33. Having an opportunity to contribute and offer feedback.
34. Provide opportunity for community input to expand and improve upon restructuring proposal.
35. Ability to share thoughts, ideas, ask questions, listen to other opinions.

36. The issues are on the table and it appears that there will be positive changes.
37. The discussions and the new information that come to light.
38. Hearing all the concerns from a variety of people. Being able to discuss two different options. Medical panel discussion.
39. To be able to meet others to discuss the future of disability and income assistance. To hear their inputs (concerns and positive reactions) on restructuring the income assistance program.
40. Discussion. Particularly having some EIA people who had insight into the application.
41. Bringing people from organizations together for their perspectives.
42. Brainstorming for common perspective. Receiving some clarification from FS&H staff regarding aspects of the options.
43. Group discussion.
44. Hearing the views of people outside Government.
45. The opportunity to discuss this issue.
46. Hearing Government's definition of disability.
47. Discussion allowed participants to provide feedback and presented opportunity for consideration of issues beyond those presented in the booklet.
48. Being able to express one's opinion. The government is to be congratulated on its efforts but this is not enough as consulting the disabled population not enough lead-time, not enough publicity, rural areas population not addressed. Room to small – facilities most inadequate.
49. Having a voice.
50. Discussing issues regarding income assistance. Sharing views.
51. Having a voice.
52. It's a start. Heading in the right direction.
53. My tables' discussions and insights.

54. Meeting with individuals from across many fields.
55. Talking with like-minded people.
56. Table discussion.
57. No Comment.
58. Discussion.
59. Interaction with other people that shared my concerns.
60. The group discussion was most informative. The presentation was good as well, but was not suitable for the forum that it was provided in. Room was too small and too many people.
61. Definitely the group discussion. Great to get a better understanding of what the change would entail.
62. Learn about White Paper. Learn about other's perspective on several issues.
63. People got together and talked. Opportunity to network
64. Discussion – different opinions, perspectives, and concerns give me a picture of Manitobans with disabilities.
65. A lot of good questions, a lot of issues covered as a deaf/partially blind person, many inputs of definition of disability faced and a lot of sharing of experiences, concerns, ideas, suggestions of how we can improve the way of life of many Manitobans with disabilities, given better program and have better inclusion in society.
66. The process and the energy in this room just made the whole evening work in harmony with a common goal.
67. Getting a broad group of Manitobans together to have a full input on subject.
68. Was getting to know what changes could be coming through.
69. The good representation of people with disabilities. Opportunity for each person to speak within their groups.
70. Commitment of the participants to review the citizen paper.
71. Realizing that as a disabled person I would qualify for assistance if I need it but the according to Government of Canada definition I am not disabled.

72. Small group discussions – needed more time to cover all topics. Good start.
73. Not much.
74. Meeting others and getting feedback from others
75. Networking.
76. No Comment.
77. Connecting with others in disability community and feeding out so many common concerns.
78. The discussion, networking.
79. The discussion, networking.
80. The opportunity to provide suggestions.
81. No Comment.
82. Meeting folk's from different walks of life, stakeholders and consumers with various views.
83. Community input and hopefully being part of the outcome and hopefully having regular reviews of the process success/failures and implementing changes.
84. The break out groups.
85. Generating and discussing different concerns and recommendations.
86. Working groups discussions – excellent. Great to see a number of rural participants. Also inclusion of invisible disabilities.
87. Something seems to be started.
88. The group discussion and the poster that was drawn.
89. Seeing how similar each group's concerns were during the feedback session.
90. Airing our concerns.
91. The group discussion.
92. Discussion. Comments going to policy makers. Clear direction being given.

93. Broadening knowledge of issues facing persons with a disability – with a sense that positive changes are in the realm of the possible.
94. Discussing a topic in response to information.
95. Getting to know others with same interest in the disabled community.
96. Seeing all those involved with disabilities wanting to make a positive change.
97. The people I met.
98. Getting the facts about the initiative. Clear through discussion with group members.
99. Hearing the presentation of the white paper. Receiving the white paper.