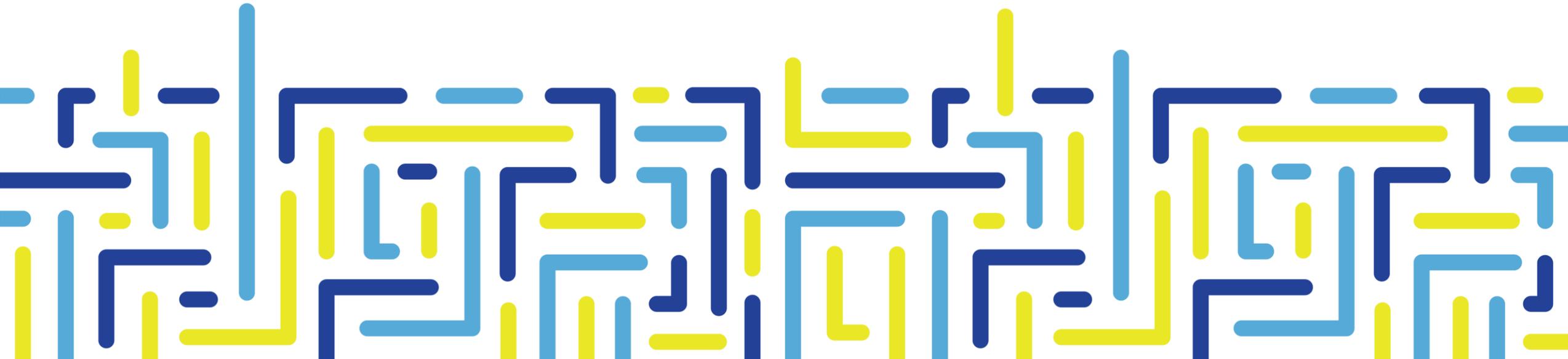




Annual Public Meeting 2022

Update on Accessibility Research



Supporting Research on Accessibility

We support and fund diverse accessibility research that:

- identifies, removes, and prevents barriers to accessibility
- informs the next generation of model accessibility standards
- supports the establishment of a national network of accessibility expertise
- engages with people with disabilities and other stakeholders
- shares findings and best practices related to accessibility barriers and standards



Priority Research Areas

Our Board of Directors selects research areas based on:

- priority areas listed in the *Accessible Canada Act*
- input from our consultations, public meetings, and forums
- input from provinces and territories
- input from technical committee members
- standards development areas prioritized by the Board



Areas Prioritized in the *Accessible Canada Act*

- Employment
- Built environment
- Information and communication technologies
- Communication, other than information and communication technologies
- Procurement of goods, services and facilities
- Design and delivery of programs and services
- Transportation



Examples of Current Research Areas

Electoral process

- Improving access to the electoral process for people with disabilities by removing barriers to running for office
- Providing help in managing election campaigns

Improving access to communication tools

- Enabling the exchange of information through sign language interpretation and optimizing documents and materials for use by those with vision impairments

Other areas

- Accessible outdoor spaces, retrofit of heritage buildings, employment for youth with disabilities



Research Projects Funded So Far

- 48 projects launched to date, led by:
 - ❑ not-for-profit organizations (50%)
 - ❑ research institutions (28%)
- Indigenous and other organizations (22%)
- 6 projects completed to date
- The final reports on the 6 projects have been shared nationally and internationally.

Let us know if you would like copies.



Research Project Participants

- People with disabilities have participated in **every** research project.
 - ❑ Among all those involved, 66% were people with disabilities, including:
 - ✓ project leaders
 - ✓ researchers
 - ✓ advisory committee members
 - ✓ participants
- Research projects also included participants from other groups, such as 2SLGBTQI+ and Indigenous individuals, youth, and visible minorities.



Project Highlights (1 of 3)

➤ **People with Disabilities and the Future of Work**

- ❑ Findings shared through accessible webinars that included closed captioning, transcripts, and sign language interpretation (American Sign Language and Langue des signes québécoise)

➤ **Emergency Egress (exit)**

- ❑ Included:
 - ✓ Creation of an egressibility matrix and egressibility assessment tool
 - ✓ Development of evacuation solutions for different combinations of disabilities and building types
- ❑ Project information is available on an accessible web page



Project Highlights (2 of 3)

➤ **Barriers to Accessibility in Indigenous Communities**

- ❑ Research results were communicated via the Indigenous Radio Network, reaching an audience of 484,000 Indigenous people across Canada

➤ **Accessible Built Environment**

- ❑ Identified accessible built environment best practices from across the world, including Australia, New Zealand, Britain, and Ireland



Project Highlights (3 of 3)

➤ **Employment in the Canadian Federal Public Service for People with Disabilities**

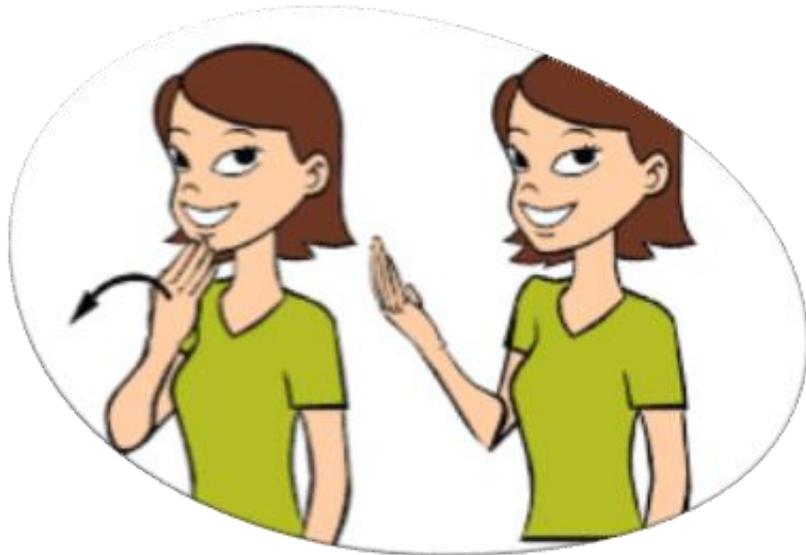
- Explored factors that help or hinder career transitions for employees with disabilities who join or move within or out of the federal public service
- Career transitions include onboarding, retention, career development, and mentorship



Summary

- Close to 50 accessibility research projects are in motion
- We are now reviewing expressions of interest for research projects that will start in April 2023
- Look for our next call for expressions of interest in May 2023





**Thank you!
Questions?**

Follow us on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), and [LinkedIn](#)
Contact us at accessible.canada.ca/contact

