# **Accessibility Standards Canada 2022 Annual Public Meeting Our Mandate to Collaborate**

## **We Have a Mandate to Collaborate**

* Ourmandate under the *Accessible Canada Act* (Act) is to help achieve a Canada without barriers by January 1, 2040
* To achieve our mandate, we need to work with others, including:
* Diverse disability communities – to practice “Nothing without us”
* Other federal organizations – to work together to implement the Act
* Provinces and territories – to coordinate accessibility efforts.

## **Diverse Disability Communities (1/2)**

## “Nothing without us” guides our work. We value the expertise of people with disabilities

### We held our first Annual Public Meeting in 2021

### We held our first public consultation in 2020 to inform our priorities until 2022

### We held two youth events in 2022 to inform our research and standards.

## **Diverse Disability Communities (2/2)**

#### Approximately a quarter of our staff self-identify as having a disability

#### About half of the members of our technical committees are experts with lived experience

#### We continue to meet with diverse disability stakeholder organizations across the country.

### We have reached out to national Indigenous organizations to encourage organizations and individuals to apply for our research funding and technical committees.

## **Other Federal Organizations**

* We work with other federal departments and agencies to implement the Act
* There are several federal organizations that have roles to play under the Act
  + Chief Accessibility Officer
  + Accessibility Commissioner at the Canadian Human Rights Commission
  + Accessible Canada Directorate at Employment and Social Development Canada
  + Canadian Transportation Agency
  + Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission

## **Provinces and Territories (1/3)**

## Provinces and territories also have accessibility mandates and work underway

## We want to harmonize standards across Canada by

### Building relationships

### Signing agreements to formalize our relationships

### Encouraging provinces and territories to adopt our standards

**Provinces and Territories (2/3)**

* These agreements seek to optimize individual and collective efforts. We have agreements with
* British Columbia Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction
* British Columbia Ministry of Attorney General and Responsible for Housing
* Saskatchewan Ministry of Social Services
* Harmonization helps reduce “patchwork” approaches to accessibility.

## **Provinces and Territories (3/3)**

## Advantages for governments include:

### Improved capacity;

### Lower costs;

### More credibility;

### Access to research;

### Faster pace; and

### Harmonization is better for business.

## Advantage for people with disabilities? A consistent experience of accessibility from coast-to-coast-to-coast.

**Thank you!  
Questions**

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