



Family Alliance Ontario

Town Hall Saturday December 5, 2020

We would like to thank everyone who attended our Town Hall. Great conversation and we value all your input.

Remember: The MCCSS survey is extended to December 31, 2020. We encourage you to take the time to read the discussion guide and complete the questions that are being answered. We cannot affect change if we do not provide the information to support that change. We also encourage that not only you fill out the survey but members of your family, your family contacts, community leaders that you may know, and most importantly to hear from your loved one on what they have to say and what they want and/or need.

Plain Language Version

English: <https://www.mcass.gov.on.ca/wp/en/programs/developmental-services/making-ds-better-in-ontario/>

French: <https://www.mcass.gov.on.ca/wp/fr/programmes/services-ontario-personnes-deficiences-intellectuelles/ameliorer-spdi-en-ontario/>

Full Version

English: <https://www.mcass.gov.on.ca/wp/en/programs/developmental-services/discussion-guide-ds-reform-engagement/>

French: <https://www.mcass.gov.on.ca/wp/fr/programmes/services-ontario-personnes-deficiences-intellectuelles/guide-discussion-consultations-reforme-spdi/>

Tips for completing survey:

1. You are only allowed **500 characters** per answer.
2. Do not put spaces between sentences (I know that is hard to do, goes against what we were taught).
3. Do not use bullets (counts as a character).
4. If possible, put the questions into a word document, complete it and then copy the answers to the survey.
5. You can highlight each answer in the word document, and it will tell you how many characters are in that answer.
6. You cannot start the survey and go back to it; it must be all completed at once (that is why completing in word document might be a good approach).
7. We are assuming that there will be a large volume of surveys being completed. They may be using an algorithm to pick up key words. If you are unsure or have room to fill in questions, you can use the key words down below.

Town Hall:

During the Town Hall, you suggested we pick key words from our conversation, please find them listed below:

Key Words:

- ✓ **Individualized:** e.g., funding, resources, approaches
- ✓ For **Full Life Supports**
- ✓ **Portable**
- ✓ (Direct)
- ✓ Using **Typical Pathways of Life**
- ✓ With **Supports to People and Families** to manage: e.g. planning, HR, accounting, training
- ✓ **Immediately**

Janet Klees, who facilitated our conversation, had written this for the Durham Family Resources Newsletter. We thought it would be great to share this with you.

“From the families gathered, there was a lot of consensus on the kinds of ideas they want to include in their responses. Considering the lifestyles families are trying to arrange, and the support they need to do so, some of the important comments’ families are using in their surveys include:

- The Vision is pretty good and strong – we need to ask that all funding decision need to be made in the context of “will that lead to that vision of belonging in real community or will it lead someplace else?”
- Include the word “individualized” in the Vision, Principles and Language throughout. Person-centered does not necessarily mean one person at a time, individualized does.
- Families need and want choice, control and portability BUT also reliable and sustained supports so they do not have to do all the work alone. Family-focused organizations that do not provide services need to be available around the province.
- Supports throughout the lifespan are important.
- Supports should not be quick and unconnected but available as needed.
- Support and funding should focus on and prioritize natural and typical pathways in community at all ages.
- It is very important that there are many and ongoing ways for families to see what is possible; service options should not be the main option on any agenda.
- Do not over professionalize supporters.
- Another way of looking at service quality needs to be designed for and with families – not QAM.
- Invest in partnerships with families early and ongoing if you want families not to choose services.
- Families are the natural place where the voice of the person with disability learns to be heard and can be safeguarded and augmented. Support this natural pathway first and well.”