

Citizens With Disabilities – Ontario

www.cwdo.org

"Together We Are Stronger"

15 Gage Avenue, Toronto, ON M1T 1J1 807-473-0909 (voice) or <u>cwdo@tbaytel.net</u>

September 23, 2019

Rich Donovan Chair Information and Communications Standards Review Committee Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility 777 Bay Street 6th Floor, Suite 601A Toronto, ON M7A 2J4

Dear Mr. Donovan,

Citizens With Disabilities - Ontario (CWDO) is committed to the rights of all persons to participate fully in the civil, cultural, economic, political and social life of their communities.

We actively promote the rights, freedoms and responsibilities of persons with disabilities through community development, social action, and member support and referral. Our primary activity is public education and awareness about the social and physical barriers that prevent the full inclusion of persons with disabilities in Ontario.

CWDO acts on behalf of the 1.85 million Ontarians who live with one or more disabilities. Our registered members reside in almost every electoral district in the province.

After careful consideration and consultation, CWDO's feedback on the Information and Communications Standards Committee's Review is attached for your consideration.

Our submission document is quite long, for the following reasons:



Clauses from the current Standards are included so that our Board members could refer to them in the same document, as it is very challenging for many of us to go back and forth between more than one document. As well, our document is designed to be read more easily by those individuals using screen readers by the use of lines to separate various parts. There are also excerpts from other sources that help explain our recommendations.

For those with sight, black was used for text from the Committee's recommendations, red for text from the Integrated Accessibility Standards regulation, and bold blue for the CWDO's comments and recommendations.

We hope that we provided solutions to barriers that were presented by the Committee or ones which we are aware of which weren't addressed by the Committee. We would appreciate it if you would read our submission carefully and take our recommendations into consideration.

Thank you for this opportunity.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Tracy Odell

President Citizens With Disabilities - Ontario Personal email: <u>tracyc.odell@gmail.com</u>

Together we are stronger.

Email: <u>cwdo@tbaytel.net</u> Website: <u>www.cwdo.org</u> Like us at <u>www.facebook.com/cwdont/</u> Follow us at <u>twitter.com/cwdo</u>

Attachment