



**INDIGENOUS DISABILITY CANADA /
BRITISH COLUMBIA ABORIGINAL NETWORK ON DISABILITY SOCIETY**

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We hope this finds you well.

We are Denie and Aubrynne, and we work with Indigenous Disability Canada (IDC) as researchers. Indigenous Disability Canada is a nationally recognized and award-winning national Indigenous disability organization providing a variety of programs and services for over 35 years.

We are reaching out to you regarding our newest initiative, *Accessible Housing: Inclusive First Nations / Indigenous Communities*. This is a time-limited project that will be ending in March of 2027.

As you may be aware, over 35% of Indigenous Peoples in Canada identify as having one or more disability. Understanding this, the priority of access to accessible housing for individuals and families with disabilities within First Nation/Indigenous communities cannot be overstated.

Through the expertise, experiences and directions of community leadership and their members with accessibility needs, this project will strive to identify best practices, common barriers experienced, and potential recommendations to address, as they relate to community-run housing.

The insight and recommendations provided will be included in our Final Report with the hope that they will be heard, adopted and lead to meaningful improvements in accessible housing in both Indigenous communities and in how the government and associated housing bodies prioritize accessibility.

We are hoping that your community would consider being part of this important initiative, either through an online virtual focus group, or within your community for an in-person engagement session. These engagements come at no cost to the community, and regardless of which engagement type is chosen (virtual / in-person), each participant will be compensated for their time.

In both cases (virtual or in-person), we are hoping to hear from representatives of your housing department, and up to 5 community members with disabilities/accessibility needs. Typically, these focus groups will run approximately 3 hours, with a break in between.

To ensure that this engagement runs smoothly, we ask that a community representative work with us in recruiting participants and scheduling the focus group.

We would be very pleased to discuss this project / opportunity with your community further and can be reached at (226) 345-4310 or by email at research1@bcands.bc.ca. We have also attached a brief overview of the project for your review.

Thank you for your time, and potential partnership! Stay well.

Denie and Aubrynne, *Accessible Housing Researchers*