



KEY MESSAGES

2025 Provincial Candidate Debate on Disability Issues

- We are a broad cross-section of service organizations pleased to host a provincial election debate focused on disability issues.
- We advocate for the more than 2.9 million Ontarians that live with diverse abilities and encounter significant barriers daily. In Ontario, **one in four people** lives with a disability.
- Each organization is non-partisan and committed to working with our elected provincial leaders to advance work to make **Ontario more accessible and inclusive** for people with physical and developmental disabilities.
- We are confident that this forum will give voice to our community, raising important issues and timely questions. This is a non-partisan debate, and we encourage anyone with questions to join us on **February 19, 2025**, so that your voice can be heard.
- The debate is more than just a discussion; it is a **call to action** for the rights of people with disabilities, who face significant barriers such as unemployment, dependency on social assistance, and a shortage of accessible housing.
- The issue of disability rights affects all Ontarians and is a matter of equity, dignity, and ensuring that every person has access to the support they need.
- The debate offers political parties a platform to present their vision for an inclusive Ontario where people with disabilities are empowered to thrive and participate fully in society.
- We have over **500 people** registered, and all parties have been invited. **Over 150** questions have been pre-submitted demonstrating tremendous interest in this topic. All parties attending will have the opportunity to describe what their party will do for Ontarians with disabilities if elected.