

Inclusion Nova Scotia Messages – March 2025

Welcome to this month's round of messages from Nova Scotia's Disability Support Program (DSP) about our work on the Human Rights Remedy.

DSP Rebuilding HOPE Conference

- On Saturday March 29th, 2025, Nova Scotians will come together to share ideas and engage in meaningful conversations on how to shape the future of the disability community.
- Guided by the Human Rights Remedy, this transformative work is reshaping support for people with disabilities. It also marks one of the largest transformation efforts in our province's history.

When and where is this FREE conference?

- **When:** Saturday, March 29
- **Time:** 9:00AM to 4:00PM
- **Where:**
 - In- person:
 - Pier 21, Halifax
 - Nova Scotia Community College, Middleton
 - Membertou Trade & Convention Centre, Sydney, Cape Breton
 - Pictou Wellness Centre, New Glasgow
 - Virtual:
 - Join us online at <https://rebuildinghope.can.chime.live/>

Register here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/rebuilding-hope-conference-in-person-event-locations-below-tickets-1234807304889?aff=oddtcreator>

Regional Advisory Councils

- Applications to sit on Nova Scotia's Opportunities and Social Development (OSD) Regional Advisory Councils closed on March 11th.

- There will be four (4) Regional Advisory Councils in total – 1 in each region of the province. They will create an environment where local voices can share thoughts and help with problem solving related to the Human Rights Remedy in Nova Scotia.
- The members will be announced at the DSP Rebuilding HOPE Conference on March 29th.

What do the Regional Advisory Councils do?

- Give advice to government on decisions affecting their communities.
- Share information with their communities.
- Help communities work together to better support people with disabilities.
- Help create services that are missing or improve services that aren't working well.
- Review applications for innovation funding.

Intensive Planning and Support Coordinator (IPSC) Visits to Facilities

- The Remedy messages from February shared information on the new IPSC role that supports transitions and intensive planning.
- Some IPSCs have completed their training and will start to visit facilities in the coming month to meet persons with disabilities and have conversations about moving to community.

I don't live in a facility. Will I be able to access IPSC supports?

- The Remedy says that persons with disabilities living in facilities will be prioritized for IPSC support to transition to community living. This is to allow for the gradual closure of these large facilities.

Bursaries for New Nova Scotia Community College (NSCC) Disability Support Training Program

- This Fall, NSCC will be offering a new disability support professional program.
- This program will take a human-rights approach, where students will learn about different disabilities and support needs.

- It is available as a one-year program at NSCC in Kentville, and in Bridgewater as a two-year, part-time study option.
- The government will cover the full cost of tuition, textbooks, and student fees for 75 students beginning the program in September.

Where can I learn more about this program?

- <https://news.novascotia.ca/en/2025/02/27/bursaries-disability-support-training-programs>