

Inclusion Nova Scotia Messages – June & July 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.

Peer and Technical Support Program

- DSP is working with local organizations to design a new Peer and Technical Support Program (PSP) for people in Nova Scotia.
- PSP will allow people to have their planning support led by someone who lives with a disability, or a close family member of someone who lives with a disability.
- Peer Support Worker through PSP would provide planning support to individuals self-identifying with a disability instead of a DSP Support Worker (Care Coordinator, IPSC & LAC).
- Ideas for the program have been drafted and will be shared with local organizations working with DSP for feedback.

When will DSP start reaching out to people with lived experience about the program?

- DSP Staff are beginning to speak directly with people who have lived experience throughout the summer to help shape what the final program will look like.

Supportive Decision-Making Resources

- DSP is creating new policies, training, and tools for DSP Staff to help them support people with disabilities in making their own decisions.
- This project is exploring best practices for supportive decision making, including tools for planning and support. As well, it is looking at ways to train staff in how they can support an individual through supportive decision making.
- A review of research and best practices is being worked on now.

Who will DSP talk to next about this project?

- DSP will be speaking with individuals who have lived experience, DSP staff, experts, and advocacy groups about this project.

School Leavers Program

- School Leavers is a joint program between the Disability Support Program (DSP) and Education and Early Childhood Development (EECD) to develop supports for students preparing to transition from school to community and adulthood.

- It involves pairing individuals with disabilities leaving school with a Local Area Coordinator to help connect them with community programs, opportunities, and resources that align with their interests and transition plan.
- As of June 23rd, 2025, there were over 70 individuals registered to be part of the School Leavers Program beginning in September.

When will the program begin?

- The School Leavers Program will begin in September 2025 for students selected to participate, and additional details will be shared in the next few months.
- For more information:
 - Check out the webinar from Maria Medioli, Executive Director of DSP here: <https://www.inclusionns.ca/remedy-updates>
 - Or the School Leavers webpage here: <https://www.ednet.ns.ca/school-leavers/>