

Room 630 - 240 Graham Avenue  
Winnipeg MB R3C 0J7  
Phone: 945-7613  
Fax: 948-2896  
TTY: 948-2901

September 18, 2009

Greetings friends,

As you may know, the Disabilities Issues Office (DIO) is in the process of developing a new provincial disability strategy. The discussion paper *Opening Doors: Manitoba's Commitment to Persons with Disabilities*, was announced on June 4, 2009, and will serve as a basis for the new strategy which we hope to finalize in the next 12-18 months. The strategy highlights ten key thematic areas for persons with disabilities, as well as outlining key accomplishments, commitments from the 2009/10 budget year and future directions. To review the document, please see [www.gov.mb.ca/dio](http://www.gov.mb.ca/dio), or contact the DIO to receive a print or alternative format.

The purpose of the discussion paper is to offer an opportunity for disability organizations and affected members of the public to provide their perspective on the proposed future directions. Briefs and comments on the document are welcome and can be made via the above website or by contacting the DIO by phone or e-mail. As a further component of the consultation process, the DIO is planning thematic expert discussions and two *Opening Doors* community consultations.

We would like to invite you and your organizations or agencies to participate in the *Opening Doors* community consultations planned outside Winnipeg. (The Winnipeg consultation will be organized separately and is tentatively planned for December 2009.) The fall consultations will take place:

**Monday, November 9, 2009, 1:00 to 4:30 p.m.**  
**Victoria Inn Hotel & Convention Centre**  
**3550 Victoria Avenue**  
**Brandon MB**

**Monday, November 16, 2009, 1:00 to 4:30 p.m.**  
**Rotary Club, Seniors Centre**  
**424 Westwood Drive**  
**Thompson MB**

We ask that each participant complete the attached Registration Form selecting the location of the consultation and your top three (3) priorities for discussion at the consultations. There is no cost to attend and transportation may be reimbursed, upon advance request. Please advise us of any disability accommodations required. Please respond to Tracy MacMillan at the e-mail address provided on the Registration Form.

Hope to see you either in Brandon or Thompson.

Regards,

Yutta Fricke  
A/Executive Director

# REGISTRATION FORM

Name:

---

Organization:

---

Address:

---

---

---

Phone/Fax Numbers:

---

E-mail Address:

---

Please notify us of the type of accommodation you may need:

---

-----  
Choose the community consultation that you would like to attend:

\_\_\_\_\_ BRANDON

Monday, November 9, 2009  
1:00 - 4:30 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_ THOMPSON

Monday, November 16, 2009  
1:00 - 4:30 p.m.

*Please RSVP by November 2, 2009 to the Disabilities Issues Office:*

E-mail: [Tracy.MacMillan@gov.mb.ca](mailto:Tracy.MacMillan@gov.mb.ca)

Fax: (204) 948-2896

Phone: (204) 945-7613

Toll-Free: 1-800-282-8069, Ext. 7613

## **THEMATIC TOPIC AREAS:**

**Please select (√) the top 3 themes that you would like to discuss at the consultations:**

- Housing**
- Employment and Income Security**
- Rights and Justice**
- Gender and Diversity**
- Disability Supports**
- Accessibility**
- Education and Training**
- Health Promotion**
- Community Living**
- Smarter Government**