

Whereas just over 604,000 British Columbians with disabilities encounter physical, sensory, cognitive, learning and intellectual barriers including ones related to technology, education, communication, employment, attitudes and others on a daily basis;

And whereas it is a natural progression of the aging process for people to experience physical and/or sensory limitations or even a permanent life-altering disability as they grow older;

And whereas the Federal Government of Canada is working toward the goal of enacting a Canadians with Disabilities Act which will require goods, services and facilities which come under their jurisdiction to be accessible to all persons with disabilities;

And whereas a Canadians with Disabilities Act will only apply to goods, services and facilities made available through Federal Ministries and federally funded programs with no ability to apply a similar requirement on goods, services or facilities made available through provincial governments or provincially regulated businesses;

And whereas both the Province of Ontario and the Province of Manitoba have enacted disability legislation with the Province of Nova Scotia working toward the introduction and enactment of disability legislation in 2016;

And whereas the Government of British Columbia launched an initiative entitled “Accessibility 2024” on June 16 2014 with the goal of making BC the most progressive province in Canada for people with disabilities by the year 2024, an initiative which is neither mandatory or legislated;

And whereas the Government of BC is considering whether to develop and enact a British Columbians with Disabilities Act;

And whereas our organization endorses the thirteen principles upon which a British Columbians with Disabilities Act should be based as we believe it is important to achieve a barrier-free province for all persons with disabilities;

Be it resolved the {name of organization} formally supports the Barrier-Free BC campaign that is calling upon BC’s Legislative Assembly to enact a strong and effective British Columbians with Disabilities Act.

For Seniors and/or Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committees, please add:

2. We call on the Council for the city of {name} to pass a resolution that calls on the BC Government to develop and pass a British Columbians with Disabilities Act.