

The RDSP Homeownership Plan: Helping people with developmental disabilities purchase a home of their own



Have you ever thought about owning your own home?

Canadians with developmental disabilities **can** and **do** own their own homes. Many more Canadians with developmental disabilities would be able to own their own home - if government provided the right support.

The Registered Disability Savings Program (RDSP) is a savings program run by the Government of Canada. It is supposed to help people with disabilities save money for their future. But there are many rules about how people are allowed to use their savings that mean people with disabilities don't get to use their savings at the time or for the purpose they choose.

Many people without disabilities can use some of their retirement savings to buy a home. People with disabilities should be able to do the same thing if they want to.

My Home My Community is proposing the government change the RDSP program to make it easier for people with disabilities to save more, and to be able to use those savings earlier in their lives in order to purchase a home of their own. There are two parts to the plan:

- Making it easier for people with developmental disabilities to save more money. Government helps people save by giving Grants and Bonds. The plan would get Grants and Bonds into people's accounts sooner, to give their savings more time to grow.
- Making it easier for people with developmental disabilities to access their savings to purchase a home. The plan would enable people to take money out of their RDSP account to invest in a home of their own. The purpose of the RDSP is to improve people's financial stability when they are older. A home is an important investment in the future.

What does the RDSP Homeownership Plan mean for you?

A home of your own: The RDSP Homeownership Plan would help people use their savings to buy a home if they wanted to.

More choice over where you live: By making it easier for you to buy a home, you would have more options for places where you can live independently, in the community.

More control and stability: Living in a home that you own means you are your own landlord. No landlord can evict you or raise your rent. You are in control of your own home.

What's next?

My Home My Community, a partnership of the Canadian Association for Community Living and People First of Canada, is calling for the government to make these changes to the RDSP. Stay up to date at myhomemycommunity.ca.