



THE RDSP HOMEOWNERSHIP PLAN: ADVANCING EQUITABLE ACCESS TO HOMEOWNERSHIP FOR CANADIANS WITH DISABILITIES



Canadians with developmental disabilities **can** and **do** own their own homes. Many more want to - but lack the same tools to attain homeownership that public policy provides to Canadians without disabilities. To fill this gap, My Home My Community has developed a homeownership tool designed specifically for people with developmental disabilities to access homeownership using an existing savings program.



The RDSP Homeownership Plan has identified two simple changes to the Registered Disability Savings Program (RDSP) that would enable many more Canadians with disabilities to achieve housing stability and financial security through homeownership:

1. **Broader eligibility and flexibility** for Bonds and Grants, to help people save for homeownership.
2. **A new withdrawal option** so that people can access funds without penalty for homeownership.

What the RDSP Homeownership Plan would achieve:

- 1. The RDSP Homeownership Plan would unlock more than \$4 billion in assets to make homeownership attainable for more people with disabilities - at no additional cost to government.** These two simple changes would unlock existing savings that, under current RDSP rules, many people with disabilities will never be able to use towards homeownership in their lifetime - without requiring any additional government subsidy.
- 2. By allowing more flexibility in how and when people use their savings, the RDSP Homeownership Plan would make the RDSP a more attractive investment tool for people with disabilities and their families.** By implementing the RDSP Homeownership Plan, the federal government could make the RDSP a much more useful tool for people with disabilities to achieve housing and financial stability - a tool they and their families can see the value in investing in.
- 3. The RDSP Homeownership Plan would advance equitable policy and inclusive communities.** The RDSP Homeownership Plan would provide Canadians with disabilities with tools to attain homeownership - tools that Canadians without disabilities already have through the RRSP Home Buyers' Plan. In doing so, the RDSP Homeownership Plan would enable Canadians with disabilities to access the same range of inclusive housing options that are available to their neighbours.

Homeownership doesn't need to remain out of reach for so many Canadians with disabilities. By implementing the RDSP Homeownership Plan, the federal government could clear a vital pathway for people with disabilities to achieve housing and financial stability - without any additional government subsidy.

The RDSP Homeownership Plan and all related materials were produced as part of **My Home My Community**, a national initiative of the Canadian Association of Community Living, the national federation working to advance the full inclusion and human rights of people with an intellectual disability and their families, and People First of Canada, the national organization representing people labelled with an intellectual disability.

My Home My Community is a national partnership initiative that is opening doors to inclusive affordable housing for people with developmental disabilities. My Home My Community is driving innovation in housing development and community supports to ensure all persons with developmental disabilities have a home that offers choice and affordability, recognizes rights, addresses support needs, and fosters social inclusion in the community. www.myhomemycommunity.ca

The RDSP & Homeownership Solutions Lab received funding from the National Housing Strategy under the NHS Solutions Lab to produce this work. The views expressed within are solely of the Canadian Association for Community Living, together with project partners where expressly stated. Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation accepts no responsibility for the views expressed.