

The Partnership Table

Joint Ministry/DS Sector Partnership Table:
Ministry of Community and Social Services and
Developmental Services Community Representatives

Terms of Reference

Background

- In its 2004 Budget, the provincial government made a commitment to transform services for people with a developmental disability in Ontario to create an accessible, fair and sustainable system of community-based supports.
- The transformation plan includes closure of the Ministry's three remaining facilities for adults who have a developmental disability by March 31, 2009.
- The fundamental goal of the transformation is full inclusion of Ontarians with a disability in all aspects of society. Enabling people to live in their communities as independently as possible and to participate more fully in community life is the vision driving changes to the current system of supports

Purpose

- The mandate of the Joint Ministry/DS Sector Partnership Table (Partnership Table) is to act as a vehicle to identify and discuss issues related to implementation of the transformation of developmental services in Ontario.
- The Partnership Table will also be used as a forum to provide the Ministry of Community and Social Services with input, advice and expertise on elements of the transformation.

Roles and Responsibilities

- The Partnership Table will operate on the basis of consensus and compromise.
- The Assistant Deputy Minister, Social Policy Development Division, will chair Partnership Table meetings.
- The Developmental Services Branch will coordinate administrative support to the Partnership Table by arranging meetings, venues, preparing agendas, minutes and/or supporting documents.

- Members of the Partnership Table will:
 - Attend quarterly meetings
 - Contribute knowledge and expertise to support the transformation of developmental services
 - Keep their respective organizations apprised of the Partnership Table's activities
 - Engage and communicate with broader DS community about transformation.

Membership

- Membership on the Partnership Table will include designated representatives from
 - The Provincial Network on Developmental Services: Community Living Ontario; Faith/Culture; Great Lakes Society; Metro Agencies Representatives' Council; Ontario Agencies Supporting Individuals with Special Needs, (6 representatives)
 - Common Vision: Individualized Funding Coalition for Ontario; Family Alliance Ontario; Special Services at Home Provincial Coalition; People First of Ontario (4 family and 2 self-advocate representatives)
 - Autism Ontario (1)
 - Francophone representative (1)
 - Concerned Parents of Toronto (1)
 - Opportunities Mississauga for 21+ (1)
 - Families Matter Cooperative (1)
 - Ministry of Community and Social Services (3)
 - Ministry of Children and Youth Services (1)

Senior representatives from other ministries will be invited to attend meetings to discuss items of mutual interest and facilitate policy and operational linkages (e.g., Education; Health and Long-term Care; Health Promotion; Municipal Affairs and Housing).