



January 30, 2008

Doug Tratch
IDEA Regina
2220 Albert Street
REGINA SK S4P 2V2

Dear Mr. Tratch:

I am writing to introduce myself as the new Minister of Social Services and to update you on the status of the *Disability Inclusion Policy Framework*.

The Ministry of Social Services has responsibility for disability issues. This responsibility is established in the ministry's regulations and includes the co-ordination of disability policy across government.

As Minister of Social Services, I provide a voice for people with disabilities, their families, and community supporters within Cabinet and across government.

Further to the *Disability Inclusion Policy Framework*, I understand that there were concerns, particularly with the lack of involvement of the disability community in its development. In light of these concerns, I have decided discussions should begin with the disability community on ways to improve and strengthen the framework so that it provides a solid foundation for our work on disability policy and initiatives. I have asked officials from my Ministry and the Office of Disability Issues (ODI) to develop a community discussion process. Officials from the Ministry of Social Services and the Office of Disability Issues will be in contact with you in the near future.

As you may be aware, our government is committed to holding a CBO summit. Further details on the summit will be announced in the coming months and information will be sent to you as it becomes available.

I am confident that, together, we will secure the future for people with disabilities in Saskatchewan.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Donna Harpauer".

Donna Harpauer
Minister of Social Services