

**6. What do you think are the priorities the government should address?**

**1. THE IMPLEMENTATION OF AN INDIVIDUALIZED FUNDING MODEL OF SERVICE DELIVERY TOTALLY SEPARATE FROM THE CURRENT SERVICE SYSTEM**

- develop adequate, portable, convertible, equitable individualized funding available to all who want it
- allow for direct funding or for funding to flow through a payment transfer agency allowing for free choice of that agency
- trust individuals/families
- recognize support networks
- provide necessary infrastructure supports to ensure the success of individualized funding
- develop training opportunities for independent planners / facilitators

**2. IMPROVE THE CURRENT SERVICES TO PROVIDE A SAFE AND HEALTHY SUPPORT SYSTEM THAT FULLY PROTECTS THE RIGHTS OF THE INDIVIDUAL AND ALLOWS FOR MAXIMUM COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION**

- raise ODSP
- be more realistic as to costs of needs to prevent individuals from living in poverty
- fund all aspects of disability supports according to true need (incontinent supplies; specialized equipment etc)
- provide more affordable housing and support innovative living/housing arrangements
- expand SSAH in preparation for true Individualized Funding model
- provide sufficient funding to eliminate waiting lists for any services
- provide services without forcing an individual to leave home

- create linkages to other ministries to enable seamless supports
- develop single access entry into service system and for accessing funds
- provide safety net to catch individuals falling through the cracks (those who do not qualify for other supports but require disability supports)
- ensure adequate supports before closing institutions
- fully prepare and involve individuals / families in the entire process before closing institutions and ensure adequate individualized supports are in place before moving individuals
- encourage individuals to choose community participation instead of segregated programs
- recognize that group homes and day programs are mini institutions that do not foster community participation and phase them out
- mandate that all attempts be made to move to more inclusive use of supports
- provide funds for community capacity building
- provide incentives for service providers to develop innovative support strategies only after all needs have been met
- ensure individuals / families retain their dignity
- treat individuals / families with respect; allow them to promote self esteem and their importance in society rather than make them feel like they are a nuisance/encumbrance
- provide funding and necessary supports to enable families to hire qualified & reliable workers