

I know we're late in formally responding to the preliminary discussion paper, from the November 8th consultation, however, Community Living-Central Huron does support many of the ideas generated from the day. Specially, we would reiterate the comments made under: VISION- the need for a shared vision among the Ministry, Agencies, Families and Individuals in receipt of services; RESOURCES - we would echo the comments regarding concerns for levels of support, assessments- we want to be careful what we ask for, also with resources - as people age (or make transition) costs to provide supports do increase; SERVICE SYSTEM - as a point, one of our Board Members, who is a parent of a young man 17 years old- asks what does "seamless system" mean- this must jargon of 'Service Providers', therefore, we must be aware of 'our' perspectives, in relation to individuals and their families, we would agree with assessing the role, costs and value of access mechanisms and ensuring 'professional'/'clinical' supports are available in local communities (may rural areas); ACCOUNTABILITY - support for more global budgeting and not micro-managing agencies; CROSS MINISTRY/SECTOR PLANNING - this goes without saying- we would also include Min. of Labour (pay equity, health tax costs and other such increases) and the gov't does not need to create additional Ministries- ie. Min. of Children and Youth Services; COMMUNITY CAPACITY - regarding absorbing pressures and added costs- the aging population of individuals with a developmental disability will contribute largely to this, as well as the costs for individuals that are technology dependent- nursing costs versus SSAH; DATA/INFORMATION - I thought one of the things the access mechanisms were responsible for was data collection; PUBLIC EDUCATION - yes, the community and the various professions that function within it, should be aware of the contributions by individuals with a disability and appropriate education to families as what the Ministry/Agency VISION is for the future- unfortunately, in our community, Secondary Schools still believe there is a sheltered workshop setting- that is 8 - 4, 5 days per week- when this community does not offer that service.

We would be pleased to receive further information and attend any upcoming events, related to 'Transforming Developmental Services'. Congratulations to the team that provided for the proceedings on Nov. 8th.

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