



# A Report on Inclusive Housing Needs 2020 Plain Language Summary

**In 2018, the Inclusive Housing Task Force created a report that called for more inclusive housing. This report is from a follow-up survey and focus groups on the housing needs of individuals with developmental disabilities in BC. Over 800 people took part in the survey and focus groups. We hope to share this information with local governments, community planners, developers and non-profit housing providers so that they will include homes for people with developmental disabilities in their housing plans and projects. The report says what people want in their housing.**

## Themes of the Report

There were many themes from the research that came up:

- In most cases, people with developmental disabilities want to move to more independent living arrangements. For instance, people with developmental disabilities frequently live with their parents and are getting to an age where they want more independence from their families. They want to start leading lives for themselves with supports built around that independence.
- It is hard to reach the goal of independent living. Most housing is too expensive and it is hard to find accessible housing. Many people with disabilities receive their money from PWD (Persons With Disabilities assistance) and some from employment income. Sometimes housing and available supports are difficult to get at the same time.
- People with developmental disabilities want the same housing as everyone else. They want choices and they want their housing and neighbourhoods to have social connections, good transportation, be located close to parks and recreation centers, and they want decent housing that doesn't cost too much.
- When people live in independent housing, they gain more independence. Parents often think about what their children are capable and not capable of. Many families who have seen an adult child move to inclusive housing and more independent living situations see their adult child gaining new skills for independence.
- Many families do not have housing plans for their adult children that say where, how and when their loved ones will live as they get older and their family is unable to support them. Individuals and families need support to create their housing plans.
- There is a need for inclusive housing for individuals with developmental disabilities. Research shows that about 5,000 people with developmental disabilities in BC need and want to move to new housing situations within the next five years.



## Read the Report

If you are interested, [the full report can be found by clicking here](#). It has many graphics that show what people said, as well as some of their quotes.

***“I would like to try living on in my own home, not right next door to mom and dad but with my supports so I can be a normal adult like everyone else.”***

-- An individual who took the housing survey