



DISABILITY RESOURCE DIGEST

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The Disability Resource Digest (DRD) is a special project of SMD Alliance. SMD Alliance is based in Manitoba, Canada and provides strategic vision and policy direction to four SMD corporations: SMD Clearinghouse; SMD Foundation; SMD Ventures; and SMD Services.

The vision shared among the corporations is of a "community that supports the independence, participation, and empowerment of persons of all abilities." Each SMD corporation pursues a complementary mandate in working toward this vision.

The DRD is prepared primarily as an informational resource for consumers, professionals and publics interested in remaining current in disability related issues. An archive of past editions of the DRD is maintained on SMD's web site (<http://www.smd.mb.ca>).

Published monthly (with a single summer edition for July and August), the DRD presents summaries of, and URL addresses for, notable disability-related content on the world-wide web (WWW). The DRD focuses on recently posted content but also includes coverage of other web pages of interest. The URL addresses cited in the DRD are current at the time of publication. But as those posting content on the web often revise URL addresses, the addresses in the DRD may not remain current.

The DRD is prepared for SMD Alliance by The Project Group (TPG) Consulting Cooperative Ltd., a Winnipeg-based consulting firm. Neither SMD nor TPG are responsible for the accuracy or reliability of the content cited in the DRD.

Readers interested in learning more about SMD Alliance are invited to visit: <http://www.smd.mb.ca> or to contact the agency by e-mail at info@smd.ca. Readers are also invited to send comments and suggestions regarding the DRD to this same e-mail address.

FOCUSSED COVERAGE - UN DISABILITY CONVENTION RATIFIED

Delegates meet to iron out differences on UN disability rights treaty - by Kate Heneroty (*Jurist*). "Delegates from around the world will meet Monday in New York in a bid to resolve differences left after a [drafting session](#) [JURIST report] earlier this year to frame a 33-article [draft convention](#) [text] designed to protect the rights of persons with disabilities. If negotiations are successful, the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities will be sent to the [General Assembly](#) [official website] at its next session and then opened for signature and ratification. Currently, only 45 countries have laws that govern disability rights. The new convention would mandate gradual incorporation of disability-friendly features into the construction of new buildings, as well as eliminate disability discrimination and promote education and disability information. UN News Centre has [more](#)."
<http://jurist.law.pitt.edu/paperchase/2006/08/delegates-meet-to-iron-out-differences.php>

Disabled rights convention hits snag - by Paul Burkhardt (*Associated Press*). "A proposed U.N. convention that would protect the rights of the world's disabled has run into difficulties, including a lack of U.S. support, officials said Monday. The draft convention would require countries to guarantee freedom from exploitation and abuse for the disabled, while protecting rights they already have — such as ensuring voting rights for the blind and providing wheelchair-accessible buildings. But they fear that a lack of key support and a huge number of proposals from delegations as negotiations head into their final week 'could lead to an unraveling of the process,' said Thomas Schindlmayr, of the U.N. Secretariat helping with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities."
<http://www.wtop.com/?nid=106&sid=888756>

Disability Convention Committee Agrees On Eleven Articles - (*UN.org*). "Delegations drafting the first Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities have agreed on 11 articles, covering issues ranging from personal mobility to liberty and security of the person, with delegates and disability advocates clapping vigorously after the adoption of each article. Today, delegates adopted 'ad referendum' (subject to reference) five articles covering general principles, access to justice, liberty of movement, personal mobility and freedom of expression. Yesterday, delegates had adopted the articles on living independently and being included in the community (article 19), respect for privacy (article 22), participation in cultural life, recreation, leisure and sport (article 30) and statistics and data collection (article 31). On Friday, they had adopted the articles on the right to life (article 10) and liberty, and security of the person (draft article 14)."
<http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2006/soc4712.doc.htm>

Annan welcomes agreement on new UN disability rights treaty - by Bernard Hibbitts (*Jurist*). "UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan Monday welcomed Friday's [agreement](#) [JURIST report] by a [UN General Assembly committee](#) [official website] on the draft terms of a new UN disability rights treaty. In a [statement](#) [text] released by his official spokesman in New York, Annan called the committee's approval of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities an "historic achievement for the 650 million people with disabilities around the world", and expressed hope "that this long overdue Convention will mark the beginning of a new era in which they will have the same rights and opportunities as everyone else."

He urged all UN Member States to ratify the Convention after its expected adoption by the full General Assembly at its next session beginning in September."

<http://jurist.law.pitt.edu/paperchase/2006/08/annan-welcomes-agreement-on-new-un.php>

Kofi Annan Hails Adoption of UN Disability Convention Protecting Rights of Persons with Disabilities - "After five years of negotiations, countries meeting at United Nations

Headquarters in New York have agreed on a new treaty to protect the rights of persons with disabilities. 'This is the first convention of this magnitude for this century,' UN General Assembly President Jan Eliasson said after the agreement was reached late Friday August 25, 2006. He told the negotiators that they were conveying to the world 'the message that we want to have a life with dignity for all and that all human beings are all equal.' 'This marks a great day for the UN and for persons with disabilities,' said New Zealand's Ambassador Don MacKay, who chaired the talks through its final sessions. 'It's a good convention and it will make a difference for millions of people.' The successful completion of the treaty, after a day of intense negotiations and compromises that capped years of effort, was met with applause by well over a hundred government delegations and hundreds of representatives of disability organizations who participated in the process of crafting the 40-article pact."

http://www.abilitymagazine.com/news_UN_Convention.html

UN agrees disability treaty text - By Geoff Adams-Spink (*BBC News*). "An international treaty that will give greater rights and freedoms to disabled people around the world has been agreed at the United Nations. The UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities was adopted in New York. This is the first human rights treaty of the 21st Century, and the UN hopes it will mark a significant improvement in the treatment of disabled people. . . . Most notable among the countries that will not be signing the convention is the United States."

http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/in_depth/5274354.stm

US Influences Disability Rights Treaty, but Won't Sign It - by Catherine Komp (*News Standard News*). "Despite having a heavy hand in negotiations, the United States says it will not sign a global treaty codifying the rights of people with disabilities. . . . 'Our view is that the US actually already has in existence on the federal level, the state level and the local level a very good framework of laws and practices to assist citizens with disabilities,' Paul Denig, with the US State Department, told *The NewStandard*, referring to the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). 'In our view, this treaty would not add to that.' In response to a question about whether the ADA is stronger than the draft UN convention, Denig said they are 'two different instruments and we do not want to rank them, particularly since the disabilities convention is still under negotiation'."

http://newstandardnews.net/content/?action=show_item&itemid=3589

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ACCESSIBILITY

E-accessibility to be theme for international day of disabled persons 2006 - "Improving access to new information technology for persons with disabilities will be the focus of this year's International Day of Disabled Persons, the United Nations announced."

<http://www.youreable.com/TwoShare/getPage/01News/01Current/August2006/international%20day%20of%20disabled%20persons>

Rebuilding Accessible Communities - (ADATA.org). "In response to the many questions and requests for assistance following the devastating 2005 hurricane season, the ADA Technical Assistance Centers* and the US Access Board are working together on *Rebuilding Accessible Communities*. Rebuilding Accessible Communities (RAC) is conceived as an opportunity for community groups, advocates and the building industry to collectively reconstruct communities in a way to be accessible to all. This site is a first step to answer questions about physical restructuring and will be further developed as new resources, best practices and advisory information are obtained. "

<http://www.adata.org/rac/index.aspx>

Revised Draft Passenger Vessel Accessibility Guidelines and Supplementary Information

- **"Americans with Disabilities Act.** - "The Board has released for public comment a revised draft of guidelines for passenger vessels it is developing under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The guidelines provide accessibility criteria for various types of vessels, including cruise and gaming ships, ferries, and excursion boats, among others. The latest version incorporates feedback received from the public in response to a previous draft released in November 2004. The Board received input from vessels operators and manufacturers, industry trade groups, disability groups, and others during an 8-month comment period and at three public hearings. The new draft, which includes revised text and a discussion of the changes, is available for comment until September 5, 2006. A notice published in the *Federal Register* provides instructions for submitting comments."

<http://www.access-board.gov/pvaac/revised-draft.htm> (draft)

<http://www.access-board.gov/news/pvag-revised.htm> (abstract)

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ADVOCACY

Disability 'Awareness Days' - (*Ragged Edge*). "It's fall, it's back-to-school time, and that means it's also time for groups to start planning 'disability awareness days.' 'Schools, government agencies, and sometimes, deplorably, gimp groups, are still offering the public 'try on a disability' programs -- exercises in which nondisabled people are blindfolded, put into wheelchairs or given earplugs to 'simulate' having a disability," wrote Illinois disability activist Valerie Brew-Parrish on the *Ragged Edge* website. Brew-Parrish, like many activists, considers disability simulations an atrocity. In The Advocado Press's new book, *Disability Awareness -- Do It Right!*, Brew-Parrish and other disability scholars and activists explain the problems with simulations and, more important, how to stage a good Disability Awareness Day -- one that avoids the problems of disability simulations. Short background

articles and planning lists help organizers carry out fun and effective Awareness Day activities, and an appendix includes articles to use with Awareness Day participants."
<http://www.raggededgemagazine.com/departments/spotlight/002843.html>

Disability Rights Online News (August 2006) - "Disability Rights Online News is a bi-monthly update about the Civil Rights Division's activities in the area of disability rights. The Division enforces laws prohibiting discrimination based on disability in employment, housing, access to businesses serving the public, access to government programs and services including voting and public transportation, and unconstitutional conditions in institutions of confinement."
<http://www.usdoj.gov/crt/ada/newsltr0806.htm>

Tutu endorses Canadian disability initiative - by Rachel McHollister (canadianchristianity.com). "Thanks to Christian Blind Mission's worldwide initiative, Archbishop Desmond Tutu, the renowned Nobel Peace Prize winner, is putting his name and influence behind a global campaign which addresses the combined problem of poverty and disability. Tutu spoke August 8 at the launch of the '100,000 Miracles' campaign spearheaded by CBM member associations in Canada, U.S.A and Australia. The press conference launch, held at the Groote Schuur Hospital in Cape Town, South Africa was hosted by Lindsay O'Connor, National Media and PR manager of CBM Canada."
<http://www.canadianchristianity.com/cgi-bin/na.cgi?nationalupdates/060810tutu>

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AGING

Study Finds 'Gradient of Disability' Linked to Household Income of Older Adults - "Low-income Americans ages 55 to 84 are far more likely than their wealthier peers to feel limited in doing basic physical activities such as climbing stairs and lifting objects, according to a new study. The research, published in the August 17, 2006, issue of The New England Journal of Medicine, shows, for example, that people ages 55 to 64 who are living below the poverty line are six times more likely than the wealthiest group to say they have functional limitations. The study was conducted by the National Institute on Aging (NIA), part of the National Institutes of Health, in collaboration with the University of California, Berkeley, and the University of Toronto."
<http://www.nih.gov/news/pr/aug2006/nia-16.htm>

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EDUCATION

HIGHER EDUCATION

Computer Science Majors Get IBM Accessible Technology Tools - by K.C. Jones (*TechWeb Technology News*). "IBM has announced a program to give computer science majors the technical skills to develop or adapt computer programs for people with special needs. The program aims to improve access to Internet and workplace technologies for people with disabilities, the [aging](#), and non-native language speakers. IBM's new [Web-](#)

[based lecture](#) teaches techniques to make electronic documents and the Web more accessible."

<http://www.techweb.com/wire/ebiz/192300665>

Leukemia survivor returns to law school – by William Kessler (*The Dispatch Online*). "Seven years ago a diagnosis of leukemia ended a few short weeks for Will Miller as a Wake Forest University law student. Today the former Lexington resident starts classes all over again as a member of a new first-year class at Wake Forest's law school. There are many differences between the 23-year-old student who left in 1999 and the nearly 30-year-old man who returns in 2006. The most obvious is that the younger Miller could see. The older one is classified as totally blind. 'I'm definitely coming back with a different set of tools,' Miller said." <http://www.the-dispatch.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20060814/NEWS/608140340/1005>

McGill's web revamped - by Shannon Devine (*McGill Reporter*). "'I love it! It's fun, it's fresh, it's user friendly.' That's what Lina Di Genova said to Sheri South about McGill's new website. The two planning analysts in the Office of Planning and Institutional Analysis had nothing but raves for the 'great' look when they turned on their computers yesterday morning. 'It's easy on the eyes,' South agreed. 'There's more functionality and we can be more creative in how we group information.' The new site, launched August 23, presents a more dynamic, informative and user-friendly face to the world. It is the first of an ongoing website make-over of a staggering 25,000 webpages designed to freshen the look, provide more and better organized information and make it easier for people to find what they are looking for. . . . The webpages must be accessible to everyone, including people with visual impairments. By separating the content and style formatting, the information can be read independently of the graphic elements, which makes McGill's sites one of the leading sites in Canada for accessibility. 'For people with disabilities who are using special assistive technologies such as text-to-speech browsers, they're able to interact with the pages easily,' said Jarosiewicz." <http://www.mcgill.ca/reporter/39/01/web/>

SECONDARY/PRIMARY EDUCATION

Aiming for Diversity, Textbooks Overshoot - by Daniel Golden (*The Wall Street Journal*).

"The prop room on the fourth floor of Houghton Mifflin Co.'s offices here holds all manner of items, including a blackboard, a globe, an aquarium -- and a wheelchair. Able-bodied children selected through modeling agencies pose in the wheelchair for Houghton Mifflin's elementary and secondary textbooks. If they're the wrong size for the wheelchair, they're outfitted with red or blue crutches, says photographer Angela Coppola, who often shoots for the publishing house. Ms. Coppola estimates that at least three-fourths of the children portrayed as disabled in Houghton Mifflin textbooks actually aren't. 'It's extremely difficult to find a disabled kid who's willing and able to model,' she says. Houghton Mifflin, which acknowledges the practice, says it doesn't keep such statistics."

http://online.wsj.com/public/article/SB115595234477240157-RhaWj2JLBSK5vWf_z_2LGU4TkzU_20060829.html?mod=blogs

Guidance and Career Counselors' Toolkit: Advising High School Students with Disabilities on Postsecondary Options - "This brand new resource contains answers to counselors' most frequently asked questions about postsecondary opportunities for students

with disabilities. Contact HEATH to request a free copy on CD-Rom or [click here](#) to access the Toolkit online."

<http://www.heath.gwu.edu/>

NIMAS in IDEA: Response to public comments and final regulations - by Jon Whiting (*Web Aim*). "The [final federal regulations are now available for the National Instructional Materials Accessibility Standard \(NIMAS\)](#) in Part B of IDEA 2004. They were published by the Department of Education Thursday in an "unofficial " form pending their publication in the Federal Register. Although the document is well over 1700 pages, staff from [NCDAAE](#) (a partner) has [collected only those items that pertain to NIMAS](#). Verbatim excerpts are divided into three sections:

1. A [summary of changes](#) to NIMAS
2. The Department of Education's [analysis of comments and change](#)
3. The [final regulation, including the technical standard](#)

Currently, the regulations are only available as a poorly-styled Microsoft Word document or as an untagged PDF file. It is unfortunate that a document detailing accessibility standards is not structured in a more accessible manner. Still, it is an important set of regulations that should have a significant impact on the accessibility of instructional materials."

<http://webaim.org/blog/2006/08/05/nimasregs/>

SNOW – Special Needs Opportunity Windows - "The Special Needs Opportunity Windows or SNOW Project is a provider of online resources and professional development opportunities for educators and parents of students with special needs. Our online workshops, curriculum materials, open discussion forums and other resources are available to assist you in using new technologies to benefit all of your learners."

<http://snow.utoronto.ca/>

The Universally Designed Classroom: Accessible Curriculum and Digital Technologies -

Edited by David H. Rose, Anne Meyer, and Chuck Hitchcock - "The Universally Designed Classroom addresses crucial questions about how to create full access to the general education curriculum for children with disabilities. Based on years of research and innovation at CAST (The Center for Applied Special Technology), the book provides a helpful overview of the digital solutions that are at the forefront of efforts to create universal access. It also looks closely at the major policy and practice issues connected to this initiative."

<http://qseweb.harvard.edu/hepg/universallydesigned.html>

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EMPLOYMENT

Blind Teens Explore Careers in Fragrance at L'Occitane's Perfume School in France -

"This summer four teens with vision loss became experts in fragrance at L'Occitane's summer perfume workshop, Provence dans tous les sens (Provence in every sense), in the south of France. Alexandria Parrish, Thane Sanzo, Nikki Singh and Jennifer Suchan spent four days developing their own perfumes, and bath and body products, and learning about the scents and aromatic plants of Provence. The students were selected through a

competitive application process in the spring of 2006 run by L'Occitane and the American Foundation for the Blind."

<http://www.afb.org/Section.asp?SectionID=47>

Employability in Canada - by Sharon Manson Singer (*CPRN*). "Sharon Manson Singer appeared before the Standing Committee on Human Resources, Social Development and the Status of Persons with Disabilities in June. She spoke about CPRN's work on labour markets and workplace change; and the evolving relationship between learning and work."

<http://www.cprn.org/en/doc.cfm?doc=1516#>

Paving the Way to Work: A Guide to Career-Focused Mentoring - "The creation of the Mentoring Guide is rooted in the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy's (ODEP) charge to find and promote the most effective research-based policies and practices to improve transition outcomes for youth with disabilities. Mentoring is recognized as one of the most important strategies for assisting youth in making a positive transition into adulthood."

http://www.ncwd-youth.info/resources_&_Publications/mentoring.html

Reasonable Accommodations for Attorneys with Disabilities - (*ILR*). "Diversity in the legal profession has been the subject of much discussion and study for a number of years. A 2003 report by the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), entitled *Diversity in Law Firms*, notes the significant role that lawyers play in social, economic, and political life and the influence that minorities and women have been able to attain as their numbers in the legal profession increase. This fact sheet addresses the application of the reasonable accommodation obligation to attorneys and their employers."

<http://digitalcommons.ilr.cornell.edu/eeoc/7/>

Top Ten ADD Traps in the Workplace, and how to avoid getting caught by them! - by Kathleen G. Nadeau (*The Attention Deficit Disorder Association*). "Many people with ADD ask, 'What are the best jobs for someone with ADD?' If you talk to a number of ADD experts you will receive a jumble of responses. . . . A better question to ask, in seeking career advice, is what are the characteristics that make a particular job 'ADD-friendly'? The truth is that almost every career path contains jobs which are very good for someone with ADD, as well as those which could be disastrous for someone with ADD. The key is to find or to create ADD-friendly jobs within your career track."

<http://www.add.org/articles/worktraps.html>

The Top 10 Companies for People With Disabilities - "The companies on this Top 10 list demonstrate a nurturing, respectful corporate environment where all employees can reach their potential. To ascertain this list, we looked at recruitment and marketing programs aimed at people with disabilities, employee-resource groups, diversity training and we examined the Web sites of the company's to see if they mentioned and featured images of people with disabilities. We also consulted with leading national disability organizations."

http://www.diversityinc.com/public/21636.cfm?cat=email_NL&list=diversitynews_12june06

Youth with disabilities learned valuable lessons at forum – by Lynnae Ruttledge (*The Olympian Online*). "When you were 17, what career did you want to pursue? Professional

tennis? Modeling? Culinary arts? Legal research? Veterinarian's assistant? Elected official? Cruise ship massage therapist? Truck driver? Journalist? Social studies teacher? Therapeutic riding instructor? Sign language teacher with children who are nonverbal? Public speaker? These are some of the expressed 'hopes and dreams' of this year's participants in the Youth Leadership Forum at The Evergreen State College from Aug. 6 to Aug. 11. Developed by the Governor's Committee on Disability Issues and Employment, YLF is an excellent career leadership training program for high school juniors and seniors with disabilities from across the state. By serving as delegates from their communities, young people with disabilities cultivate their potential leadership, citizenship and social skills."

<http://159.54.227.3/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20060818/OPINION03/608180360>

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ETHICS

Unnatural selection - "Last month, national media celebrated a new IVF technique that can screen out certain genetic diseases. Readers discuss what this may mean for disabled people. Parents using IVF treatment can now choose to remove embryos which have genetic diseases such as cystic fibrosis (CF) and Duchenne muscular dystrophy, using a procedure called pre implantation genetic heliotyping (PGH). I have CF, so if PGH had been around 28 years ago and my parents had required help to have a child, I may not have been born. I know CF is not a nice disease and I have had trouble coping with it, but not being born at all does not bear thinking about; not just for me, but for all the other inspirational people with CF I have met."

http://www.disabilitynow.org.uk/search/z06_08_Au/unnatural.shtml

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GENERAL INTEREST

ADDA Teleclass Series - "Learn about Attention Deficit Disorder from the comfort of your own home or office! ADDA is offering a series of classes that anyone with a telephone can attend. These 'teleclasses' are interactive courses conducted over the telephone through a teleconferencing bridge system. This marvelous new communication medium allows people all over the world to learn more about living with AD/HD from the comfort of their home or office. The fall teleclass series starts in August. Classes will be offered the first four weeks of the month, led by experts in the field of AD/HD. The teleclasses focus on four major areas: life skills, strategies for the workplace, home/family issues, and AD/HD treatment advances. This fall 16 professionals in the fields of nutrition, medicine, coaching, career counseling and organizers will lead the classes. A new feature of our series—the teleclasses will be recorded so they are available on the ADDA website. "

<http://www.add.org/store/teleclasshome.html>

Critical Information for Air Travelers with Disabilities - "Federal sources have clarified key points as part of a campaign to alert potential air travelers with disabilities or medical conditions to the nature of the elevated threat level, and encourage them to take proactive

and necessary steps to alleviate potential adverse impacts, and provide connections to further information and assistance."

<http://www.spinalcord.org/news.php?dep=1&page=0&list=880>

Darol Kubacz attempts history - by Kevin Cherilla (*Paralinks*). "Darol Kubacz and I along with 18 other members of the Uhuru Ascent team will make an attempt at history on Mt. Kilimanjaro in Africa. If successful, Darol will become the first paraplegic in history to summit Mt. Kilimanjaro completely unassisted. Darol is a remarkable athlete with an incredible mission in his life. The climb will begin on Aug. 10th and if all goes well, a summit will be made on August 17th or 18th. We believe the many thoughts and prayers sent our way from family and friends will help us accomplish this goal. As the expedition leader of this team, we appreciate all of your support!"

http://www.paralinks.net/DarolkubaczParaplegic_%20Kilimanjaro.html

Disability Awareness - Do It Right! - "Your all-in-one how-to guide: Tips, techniques & handouts for a successful Awareness Day from the Ragged Edge Online community."

<http://www.advocadopress.org/dadir.html>

Female entrepreneur: Disability does not mean inability - "Julia Moloi launched the first magazine about disability in South Africa in 2003, She is the first black female entrepreneur into publishing in South Africa. As a disabled person, she has taken pride in turning the magazine into the voice of the many 100,000 's handicapped people in South Africa, who want to create a job and a future for themselves. Last year she was awarded the Shoprite/Checkers prize for her work. The prize represent the premier accolade for achievement by women in South Africa. In the township Soweto outside Johannesburg people hide their disabled kids. The general belief is, that understanding that disable people are demonized. 'Disability does not mean inability. I want to give those kids something to be proud of,' says Julia Moloi."

http://www.peterhorn.dk/ExecutiveMagazine/Stoppress/060824_disability_does_not_mean_inability.asp

Olympic Gold Medalist Bruce Jenner Has Learning Disability - By Daniel J. Vance (*Hawaii Reporter*). "New York native Bruce Jenner won an Olympic gold medal in 1976 by breaking the world record in the decathlon. . . . But perhaps you aren't aware of his experiences with a learning disability. 'I flunked second grade and was held back,' said Jenner in a telephone interview, talking of his lifelong struggle reading because of dyslexia. 'My biggest fear as a kid was going to school, because I was afraid the teacher was going to make me read (out loud) in class. That was the most traumatic experience anyone could have. I got sweaty palms. I didn't want to look bad in front of friends. And they think you're stupid because you can't read well'."

<http://www.hawaiireporter.com/story.aspx?1e6e47e6-aa6c-45b2-888b-6c0edf5a6773>

Sam Sullivan: Still Reaching - by Tim Gilmer (*New Mobility*). "Anyone who has met Sam Sullivan -- not only mayor of the third largest city in Canada, but also a C4-5 quadriplegic from a 1979 skiing injury sustained at the age of 19, a Welfare recipient for seven years, founder of the Sam Sullivan Disability Foundation and a member of the Order of Canada -- would instantly sense his uneasiness at wearing the title, 'His Worship.' He is soft-spoken

and unassuming, a polite man with a boyish smile. His gray-tinged hair imparts an air of respectability, and at times he seems almost shy. Yet hundreds of millions of television viewers watched worldwide as he accepted the Olympic flag from the mayor of Torino, Italy, at the Winter Olympics closing ceremony, and later, the Paralympic flag, waving each from his power wheelchair with the help of a specially-made holster and his trusty joystick."

http://www.newmobility.com/review_article.cfm?id=1183&action=browse

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Government US

An ADA Guide for Local Governments - Making Community Emergency Preparedness and Response Programs Accessible to People with Disabilities - "One of the most important roles of local government is to protect their citizenry from harm, including helping people prepare for and respond to emergencies. Making local government emergency preparedness and response programs accessible to people with disabilities is a critical part of this responsibility. Making these programs accessible is also required by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA)."

<http://www.usdoj.gov/crt/ada/emergencyprepguide.htm>

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Health

IDRC's Reception at the World Congress on Public Health Links - (*IRDC*). "More than 100 people joined IDRC, the Canadian Public Health Association, and the Canadian Embassy in Brazil at a reception they co-hosted on August 22nd at the 11th World Congress on Public Health in Rio de Janeiro. The reception provided Canadian project partners, including public health practitioners, decision-makers, and researchers an opportunity to discuss current projects and work underway on public health issues and to investigate further collaboration among Canadian institutions and participants from other countries."

http://www.idrc.ca/en/ev-102371-201-1-DO_TOPIC.html

IDRC at the World Congress on Public Health - "The 11th World Congress on Public Health 'Public health in a globalized world: breaking down social, economical and political barriers' will take place 21-25 August 2006 in Rio de Janeiro. IDRC, through its [Ecosystem Approaches to Human Health](#) (Ecohealth) and [Governance, Equity and Health](#) (GEH) programs, is sponsoring eight panels that will include the participation of approximately 40 researchers from 17 countries from Africa, Asia, the Americas, and Europe." (includes the IDRC [briefing](#))

http://www.idrc.ca/en/ev-99236-201-1-DO_TOPIC.html

Morbidity Experiences and Disability Among Canadian Women - by Marie DesMeules, MSc (*Health Canada*). Linda Turner, PhD (*CIHI*); and Robert Cho (*Health Canada*). "Overall morbidity is commonly defined as "departure from an overall state of health ". Although this concept is relatively narrow in the context of a broad population health assessment framework, it is nevertheless an essential component to consider when describing the health of a population. Women have a longer life expectancy than men (as described in the chapter

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on 'Mortality and Life Expectancy of Canadian Women'), but they do not appear to have a similar advantage when morbidity is defined in a variety of ways (e.g. hospitalization rates, prevalence of chronic conditions, or disability). Canadian data from health surveys and hospital morbidity databases support these findings. No single explanation fully accounts for these sex discrepancies, which should, rather, be examined in the context of biological/medical, social, economic, and environmental determinants."

http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/publicat/whsr-rssf/chap_9_e.html

The Pain Falls Mainly on the Brain - by Richard Holicky (*New Mobility*). "Pain comes in different guises, but however it shows up, it is always an unwelcome guest. 'I had this distinct, weird pain in my groin and hip area,' Randy Snow recalls, 'from my knees to my belly button, deep into the bones of the hip on one side. It was like an electric pain on the surface of the other side and it always caused me to pull my head down. The pain was burning, aching and nagging, and it was always taking from me, always demanding of me.' The pain was ever-present, doing to Snow what the wind does to the ocean, generating huge waves of pain sometimes and minor ripples of discomfort at other times. Either way, it was always there and never the result of injury or activity. It just was."

http://newmobility.com/review_article.cfm?id=1182&action=browse

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LEGAL

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA): The Definition of Disability - Nancy Lee Jones (*JLR*). "The Supreme Court in the landmark decision of *Sutton v. United Air Lines* examined the definition of disability used in the ADA and found that the determination of whether an individual is disabled should be made with reference to measures that mitigate the individual's impairment. This holding and related ones in other Supreme Court decisions have spawned new issues regarding the definition of disability in recent lower court cases. This report will briefly discuss the Supreme Court's opinions and analyze how the lower courts are interpreting the Supreme Court's holdings. It will be updated as appropriate."

<http://digitalcommons.ilr.cornell.edu/crs/8/>

Court says autism therapy age limit is not a form of discrimination - "A court in Canada has ruled that the government's refusal to provide expensive therapy for all autistic children older than five is not age discrimination. The Ontario Court of Appeal ruling was issued following a lower court's ruling in favour of parents forced to pay tens of thousands of dollars a year for treatment. That original ruling by the Ontario Superior Court found the cut-off to be discriminatory on the basis of age, and therefore a violation of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms."

<http://www.news-medical.net/?id=18770>

Driving-school settlement could affect schools statewide - (*Kare 11*). "Getting behind the wheel has been harder for Amelia Boos than for most teenagers. She is hard of hearing, which means she couldn't complete driving school without an interpreter who spoke sign language. 'As far as her moving on and getting a job, it just seemed like not having her license really put a damper on anything that she was able to do,' her mom, Ruth, said. When

a private driving school in St. Cloud refused to provide an interpreter, Amelia's family - and four others - sued all five of the city's private driving schools."
http://www.kare11.com/news/news_article.aspx?storyid=131835

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MEDICAL

Back From the Dead - by Gary GreenbergPage (*Wired*). "A small but passionate group of doctors say that electricity applied deep in the brain can jolt patients out of irreversible comas. That's when the real problems begin. For someone left for dead 12 years ago, Candice Ivey seems to be doing pretty well. She's still got her homecoming queen looks and A-student smarts. She has earned a college degree and holds a job as a recreational therapist in a retirement community. She has, however, lost her ballerina grace and now walks a bit like her feet are asleep. She slurs her words a little, too, which sometimes leads to trouble."
<http://www.wired.com/wired/archive/14.09/brainshock.html>

Bedsores cost billions, defy easy treatment - (*CBC.ca*). "Painful bedsores or pressure ulcers cost billions of dollars to treat each year, but little is known about how to prevent them, Canadian researchers say. . . . 'There seems to be a huge mismatch between the billions of dollars we're spending on treating this condition, including an incredible amount of nursing time, and the relatively little effort in determining best practices for prevention,' said the study's senior author, Dr. Paula Rochon, a geriatrician and researcher at Baycrest Geriatric Health Care System in Toronto." (Research abstract is [available](#), full text is subscription only).
<http://www.cbc.ca/story/health/national/2006/08/22/bed-sores.html>

Guiding Principles for the Diagnosis and Treatment of Attention Deficit/ Hyperactivity Disorder - (*The Attention Deficit Disorder Association*). "The ADDA Guiding Principles for the Diagnosis and Treatment of AD/HD represent an attempt to improve the overall health care of individuals who are affected by AD/HD and the health of their families. These Guiding Principles seek to define the elements of diagnosis and treatment which are essential in producing high quality care. The Guiding Principles should not be viewed as a diagnostic tool or a therapeutic cookbook. Rather, they represent a framework to help focus on understanding essential ingredients of diagnosis and treatment."
<http://www.add.org/pdf/GuidingPrinciples021206Rev%5B1%5D.pdf> (pdf)
<http://www.add.org/> (ADDA)

Stem cell trial proves successful - "Patients with complicated bone fractures are being helped to avoid permanent disability in a pioneering trial at a Shropshire hospital. The stem cell therapy research is being carried out at Oswestry's Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital. Under the trial the patient's bone marrow is used to literally reproduce their own bones that help the fracture heal itself."
http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/england/shropshire/5244490.stm

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MEDIA

Down to Earth - (*Sunday Herald*). "For years in Hollywood, autism has only meant one thing: Dustin Hoffman in *Rain Man*. That Oscar-winning performance in 1988 brought the condition to a mass audience but, though undoubtedly well-intentioned, Hoffman's obsessive toothpick-counting character has become cultural shorthand for a very complicated condition. In her new film *Snow Cake*, Sigourney Weaver plays a very different kind of autistic. Her character, Linda, keeps a very clean house but also has an unorthodox approach to Scrabble, bounces around on a backyard trampoline and – in the quirk that gives the film its title – enjoys eating snow in her Ontario back garden. Her relatively carefree existence is disturbed by the arrival of an English ex-convict (Alan Rickman), bearing news that her daughter has been killed in a car accident, which marks the start of a very unusual relationship."
<http://www.sundayherald.com/57057>

Films Involving Disabilities - "Welcome to this list of feature films which involve disabilities. This site presents a detailed list of 2,500 feature films which involve in one way or another various disabilities. It is directed towards teachers, students and anyone who has an interest in how disability is represented in films."
<http://www.disabilityfilms.co.uk/>

Images of disability website launched - (eGov). "A new website, <http://www.imagesofdisability.gov.uk>, which contains guidance about portraying disabled people in communications materials, was launched. The website is aimed primarily at communications professionals to provide them with support and guidance in producing effective and inclusive depictions of disabled people. It has been compiled through extensive consultation with the Images of Disability Steering Group¹ which includes representatives from the Disability Rights Commission, to ensure both accuracy of information and to gain support and input."
<http://www.egovmonitor.com/node/7122>

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POLICY/RESEARCH

CNIB Vision Newsmagazine - "CNIB Vision is a bilingual, nationally distributed newsmagazine published three times a year. Launched in August 2006, CNIB Vision reaches a broad spectrum of consumers and professionals who have an interest in vision health issues in Canada. To receive this free publication by mail in the format (print, audio or Braille) and language (English or French) of your choice, contact us at 1-800-563-2642 or cnibvision@cnib.ca."
<http://www.cnib.ca/eng/publications/vision-newsmagazine/index.htm>

Disability figures drop in new data - by Robert Gebeloff (*Star-Ledger*). "One of the most striking statistics from the 2000 Census [US] was the disability rate. Today, as the Census releases the first results from a mid-decade survey, the disability statistics are again among the most surprising, but this time for the opposite reason. Since the 2000 Census, the bureau has admitted there were problems with the way it counted the disabled. And so the

2005 estimates are much lower -- by about 10 million nationwide, nearly 450,000 in New Jersey. 'People call me for statistics all the time and they're kind of disappointed when I tell them they can't use the 2000 Census numbers because they're too high,' said Kaye."
<http://www.nj.com/news/ledger/index.ssf?/base/news-8/1155621073248070.xml&coll=1>

National Council Of Welfare: Welfare Incomes 2005 - (*National Council of Welfare*). "Welfare Incomes 2005 estimates total welfare incomes for four types of households in each province and territory, for a total of 52 scenarios. The four household types we use are a single employable person, a single person with a disability, a lone-parent with a 2-year-old child, and a two-parent family with two children aged 10 and 15. The National Council of Welfare has published similar estimates since 1986."
<http://www.ncwcnbes.net/htmldocument/reportWelfareIncomes2005/WI2005ENG.pdf>

Fact Sheet: Welfare Incomes by Province and Territory, Peak Year and 2005 - (*National Council of Welfare*). "This table shows, for each province and territory, the year that welfare incomes peaked for each household type and compares it to 2005 welfare incomes. All figures are in 2005 constant dollars to take into account the effects of inflation. Most incomes peaked in 1994 or earlier."
<http://www.ncwcnbes.net/htmldocument/reportWelfareIncomes2005/FactsheetsENG/WI2005FactSheet01ENG.pdf>
http://www.ncwcnbes.net/htmldocument/principales/FactsheetsWI2005_e.htm (Welfare Income Fact Sheets Index)

In rich Canada, welfare worsens - by Thomas Walkom (*The Toronto Star*). "Here in Canada, in one of the richest countries of the world, the very poorest are getting poorer. . . . In Conservative Alberta, rates for a single person on welfare have dropped by \$4,800 — or roughly 50 per cent in inflation-adjusted terms — over the past 20 years. In British Columbia, now run by a nominally Liberal government, welfare recipients with disabilities get less in real terms than they did in 1989. . . . In Ontario, a disabled person on welfare gets \$12,057 — or about 58 per cent of what StatsCan figures the average single person needs to live. Other kinds of welfare recipients get even less."
http://www.thestar.com/NASApp/cs/ContentServer?pagename=thestar/Layout/Article_Type1&c=Article&cid=1156456211710&call_pageid=968332188774&col=Columnist969907626796

IDEA - Regulations - "As you may know, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) was amended by Congress in December 2004. In an amazing feat of timeliness and determination, OSERS staff released a draft set of implementing regulations on June 10, 2005, conducted public meetings to receive comments from stakeholders, and set about revising the draft, with the end result being that, as of August 2006, we have final regulations on this newest iteration of the IDEA. We give you links below to connect with this exciting development in the field of special education."
<http://www.nichcy.org/idearegs.htm>

NZ Disability Strategy five year progress review - (*NZ Government Release*). "Disability Issues Minister Ruth Dyson has welcomed the release of the terms of reference to review of how the New Zealand Disability Strategy is being implemented and its impact on the lives of

disabled people. 'In 2001, when Cabinet approved the release of the New Zealand Disability Strategy, it also asked for a review of progress to be conducted at five and ten years intervals. This April marked the five year anniversary of the Strategy and I am pleased to announce that terms of reference for the five year review are now available'."

<http://www.scoop.co.nz/stories/PA0608/S00229.htm>

Primer on Public Involvement – by Julia Abelson, François-Pierre Gauvin, Mary Pat MacKinnon, Judy Watling (*Health Council of Canada*). "Recently, several trends have brought democratic renewal and public involvement to the forefront of the public agenda. Policy-makers, decision-makers, and researchers are now exploring new approaches to involve the public in democratic decision-making processes in Canada. The purpose of this paper is to help inform the deliberations of the Health Council of Canada about the role and parameters of public involvement."

<http://www.cprn.org/en/doc.cfm?doc=1519>

The Red Book - "The Red Book serves as a general reference source about the employment-related provisions of Social Security Disability Insurance and the Supplemental Security Income Programs for educators, advocates, rehabilitation professionals, and counselors who serve people with disabilities."

<http://www.socialsecurity.gov/disabilityresearch/redbook.htm>

Survey reveals gaps in care provision - by Priya Kotecha (*Disability Now*). "A new survey of public attitudes towards social care highlights a huge gap between what people expect from services and what disabled people receive. The Ipsos Mori survey for the Disability Rights Commission (DRC), published last month, showed 90 per cent of people would want support allowing them to live at home, if they developed an impairment or long-term health condition. Two-thirds of respondents would expect support from social care agencies to stay in work and 87 per cent believed they should have a choice of accommodation other than residential care. The results contradict the reality of social care provision as highlighted in the Wanless Review – an independent review into adult social care provision – published in March, which showed 300,000 people are currently living in institutions with no alternative and no right to live at home."

http://www.disabilitynow.org.uk/search/z06_08_Au/survey.shtml

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REHABILITATION

The American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) - "Consumer educational materials about the role of physical therapists, 'health care professionals who diagnose and treat people of all ages who have medical problems or other health-related conditions that limit their abilities to move and perform functional activities in their daily lives.' Includes tips for choosing a physical therapist, a database of physical therapists, articles (on topics such as arthritis, back care, and fitness), and more. APTA is a professional organization for physical therapists." (Copyright 2006 by Librarians' Internet Index)

<http://www.apta.org/Content/NavigationMenu/Consumers/consumer1.htm>

Multiple sclerosis: Disproving the myths of disability - by Mayo Clinic Staff (*Mayo Clinic.com*). "As a physical therapy student in the 1970s, Thomas Holtackers learned to help people overcome injuries that interfered with their daily activities. When Holtackers was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis (MS), he supplemented his physical therapy work with insight gained from personal experience. These days, a retired Holtackers actively encourages positive thinking to help people with disabilities meet the challenges of daily life."
<http://www.mayoclinic.com/health/disability/WL00009>

Toronto Rehab Scholarship in Rehabilitation-Related Research for Students with Disabilities - "The scholarship supports the education and training of masters and doctoral students with disabilities who are studying in a rehabilitation-related field and intend on contributing to rehabilitation science as researchers. The Toronto Rehabilitation Institute (Toronto Rehab) established the scholarship program in 2005 with a pledge of \$300,000 from the TD Bank Financial Group. The first scholarships were awarded for the 2006/07 academic year. The next round will be awarded for the 2007/08 academic year."
<http://www.torontorehab.com/research/disabilityscholarship.htm>

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SELF HELP

The American Pain Foundation - "Founded in 1997, the American Pain Foundation is an independent nonprofit 501(c)3 organization serving people with pain through information, advocacy, and support. Our mission is to improve the quality of life of people with pain by raising public awareness, providing practical information, promoting research, and advocating to remove barriers and increase access to effective pain management." This site includes 'PainAid Online Community,' 'Pain Resource Locator,' 'Online Advocacy Center,' and 'Clinical Trials Center' as well as a fair number of publications including the [Pain Monitor](#) which is full of valuable information.
<http://www.painfoundation.org/>

Nursing Home Guide - (*Consumer Reports.org*). "An in-depth look at the [US] nursing home industry--and tips to help you choose the right home for yourself or a loved one. . . . The Consumer Reports Nursing Home Quality Monitor identifies nursing homes that are likely to provide better-quality care and those likely to provide poorer-quality care. The data is U.S., but much of the information 'How you can find good nursing home care' and 'Ensuring good care' can be generalized beyond the U.S."
http://www.consumerreports.org/cro/health-fitness/nursing-home-guide/0608_nursing-home-guide.htm

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TECHNOLOGY

'Seeing shoes' offer help to blind - (*AFP*) - "Guide dogs may soon be out of a job thanks to a high-tech pair of glasses and shoes invented by Hong Kong scientists that help blind people navigate the trickiest of terrain, a report said. The researchers at Hong Kong Polytechnic University say the glasses and shoes, which have a built-in computer, can detect objects

within close proximity through echo location then send a vibrating warning signal to the wearer. Ultrasonic waves are sent out and when they bounce back they are interpreted by a receiver."

<http://sg.news.yahoo.com/060806/1/42lbb.html>

SWAN system to help blind and firefighters navigate environment – (*EurekaAlert!*). "Imagine being blind and trying to find your way around a city you've never visited before -- that can be challenging for a sighted person. Georgia Tech researchers are developing a wearable computing system called the System for Wearable Audio Navigation (SWAN) designed to help the visually impaired, firefighters, soldiers and others navigate their way in unknown territory, particularly when vision is obstructed or impaired. The SWAN system, consisting of a small laptop, a proprietary tracking chip, and bone-conduction headphones, provides audio cues to guide the person from place to place, with or without vision."

http://www.eurekaalert.org/pub_releases/2006-08/qiot-sst080706.php

World's first free talking computer software for the blind launches today. - (*yourable.com*).

"The world's first ever free talking computer software, 'Thunder', is being launched in London today (Thursday 27 July) to bring computers and the internet alive for blind and partially-sighted people across the world. The Thunder screenreader turns a normal PC into a talking computer by reading out loud what's on screen. It will enable blind and partially-sighted people to listen to internet sites, shop online, hear their emails and, with the software reading out to them as they type, create letters and other documents with ease."

<http://www.youreable.com/TwoShare/getPage/01News/01Current/July2006/worlds%20first%20free%20talking%20software>

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WELLNESS

Health Care And Wellness - (*Disability Studies Syracuse University*). "The health needs of women with disabilities have been ignored in the past, but that no longer seems to be true. The resources included here cover interrelated topics such as health and aging and health care access/barriers for women with different disabilities as well as articles concerning adjustment to disabilities such as traumatic brain injury and spinal cord injury and some resources that are specific to women's health issues in general."

<http://disabilitystudies.syr.edu/resources/healthcare.aspx>

Health Promotion 2020: Promising practices for Ontario's health promotion resource centres - "In the spring of 2006, a team representing the Ontario Health Promotion Resource System engaged in a dialogue with colleagues in capacity building organizations in the United States on promising practices for health promotion resource centres. The goal of this project is to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of health promotion resource centres ([Ontario Health Promotion Resource System](#)) by identifying promising practices among well-established U.S.-based resource centres. We have entitled this dialogue Health Promotion 2020 because the end goal of capacity building is to help organizations and communities improve our population's health. The dialogue is forward thinking and encourages a focus on the future of health promotion."

<http://www.opc.on.ca/english/hp2020/index.htm>

Health Promotion: Can Disability, Chronic Conditions, Health and Wellness Coexist? -

(The National Center on Physical Activity and Disability (NCPAD)). "Can disability, chronic conditions, health and wellness coexist? This question has broad and significant implications on the quality of life for people with chronic conditions and disabilities. . . The assumption that health, wellness and disability cannot coexist is a myth. Providers who understand that people with disabilities can be healthy, active, and assertive participants and co-managers of their health and health care, can be of tremendous assistance in helping people select and practice tailored health promotion behaviors and activities directed at increasing a person's level of well-being."

http://www.ncpad.org/wellness/fact_sheet.php?sheet=106

Health Promotion: A Primer on Stress Management - (*National Center on Physical Activity and Disability (NCPAD)*). "Though we all encounter many types of stress in our daily life, we must remember that ultimately, we have control over how it affects us. Through awareness and education, negative stressors can be managed, and positive stressors can be utilized as an impetus for change and added creativity in your life. As managing stress in your life requires proactive and consistent behavioral change, this article addresses how to adopt such changes on a gradual basis."

http://www.ncpad.org/wellness/fact_sheet.php?sheet=414&PHPSESSID=8d7b9

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CONFERENCES

(☀ Recently added conferences)

CANADIAN

- ☀ **The 15th Annual St. Amant Conference - Developmental Disabilities and Autism** - October 5-6, 2006 | Winnipeg Manitoba. "Welcome to the Celebration of St. Amant's 15th Annual Conference. For years, the Conference has promoted progressive learning, research and collaboration in the area of developmental and intellectual disabilities. Again this year, we offer exciting opportunities to explore trends, innovations, best practices and emerging issues in this field. The Conference enables us to gain perspectives from those in other professions, to debate issues and make important connections in our field of practice."
<http://www.stamant.mb.ca/Centre/files/StAmantConferenceAdvanceProgramweb.pdf>
- ☀ **Hard-Wiring Inclusion - A Conference about Building an Accessible ICT World** - October 26-27, 2006 | Winnipeg, Manitoba. "The Dis-IT Research Alliance is pleased to announce that our conference HARD-WIRING INCLUSION will take place in Winnipeg on October 26 and 27, 2006. This conference will bring together disability advocates, designers, product developers, manufacturers and service providers, policy makers, and researchers to share knowledge about accessible/inclusive information and communications technology (ICT) and develop strategies to mobilize that knowledge into action and change."
<http://www.dis-it.ca/events/2006conference.php>

- **Patient Care and Education** - October 26-28, 2006 | Toronto, Ontario. "The Evolving Architecture of Research, Patient Care and Education " is a national forum for spinal cord injury clinicians, educators, researchers and consumers. The conference will showcase Canadian expertise and will include pre-course, plenary sessions, poster displays and concurrent workshops that are intended to promote collaboration and exchange among attendees in a variety of formats."

<http://www.torontorehab.com/education/scrindex.htm>

Alzheimer Society of Canada 28th National Conference - Alzheimer Research and Innovation: Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow - Nov. 6-8, 2006 | Toronto, Ontario. "In 2006 it will be 100 years since Dr. Alois Alzheimer first described Alzheimer Disease. To mark this, we will showcase advances in research and innovation at the 28th Alzheimer Society of Canada National Conference. Alzheimer Research and Innovation: Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow will be a special event in this 100th anniversary year and we're expecting up to 800 delegates to this exciting conference -- leading researchers and academics, health-care professionals, people with Alzheimer Disease, caregivers and policy makers."

<http://www.alzheimer.ca/english/newsevents/conference-intro.htm>

- **11th Biannual NEADS National Conference : Creating Our Future: On Campus and Beyond** . - November 10 -12, 2006 | Ottawa, Ontario. "This year's conference will be an exciting opportunity for students, consumer advocates, service providers, employers and all others interested in exploring key issues of equal access to post-secondary education and employment for students and graduates with disabilities. We welcome delegates from across Canada and around the world."

<http://www.neads.ca/conference2006/en/info.php>

Festival of International Conferences on Disability, Aging and Technology - June 16-19, 2007 | Toronto, Ontario. "The *Festival of International Conferences on Caregiving, Disability, Aging and Technology (FICCDAT)* will bring together five important and different conferences all focused on enhancing the lives of seniors, persons with disabilities and their family caregivers.

- [Growing Older with a Disability](#)
- [The 2nd International Conference on Technology and Aging \(ICTA\)](#)
- [Advances in Neurorehabilitation](#)
- [Caregivers: Essential Partners in Care](#)
- [Improving Medical Device Usability \(CMBES\)](#)"

<http://www.ficdat.ca/>

TRANSED 2007 - 11th International Conference on Mobility and Transport for Elderly and Disabled Persons - June 18-21, 2007 | Montreal, Quebec. "Canada is proud to host the 11th International Conference on Mobility and Transport for Elderly and Disabled Persons (TRANSED), to be held June 18-21, 2007, at the Palais des Congrès in Montréal under the theme 'Benchmarking, Evaluation and Vision for the Future'. The conference will review advances in research, evoke international break throughs and explore perspectives for technological innovations in order to respond to the mobility challenges of an aging population and of persons with disabilities, as part of an inclusive society."

<http://www.tc.gc.ca/pol/en/Transted2007/home.htm>

The 12th World Congress of the International Society for Prosthetics and Orthotics - Moving Beyond Disability - July 29 - August 3, 2007 | Vancouver, British Columbia.

"Welcome to the web page for the ISPO 2007 World Congress. The ISPO World Congress is the premiere global event for multidisciplinary prosthetic and orthotic care. The ISPO Canada National Society is pleased to welcome you to Vancouver to enjoy the scientific sessions, workshops and symposia, expansive trade exhibits, and active social programs. "

<http://www.ispo.ca/congress/>

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U.S.

- ✿ **The US Business Leadership Network - 9th Annual National Conference** - October 4-6, 2006 | Minneapolis, Minnesota. "The U. S. Business Leadership Network (USBLN) invites you to join us for the 9th Annual National Conference, which will be held October 4-6, 2006 at the Minneapolis Marriott City Center hotel in Minneapolis, MN. This year's annual conference is being hosted by the Minnesota Business Leadership Network. Hundreds of attendees are expected from BLN chapters across the country, as well as leaders and professionals from corporations, service providers and the workforce development community. These leaders and professionals recognize the benefits of including people with disabilities in their workforce and marketplace and view people with disabilities as strategic business partners in today's workplace."
<http://www.mnbln.org/USBLNconference/>

2006 Call For Proposals - 28th International Conference on Learning Disabilities - Research in Context: A Capital Idea for 200 - October 20-22, 2006 | McLean, Virginia.

"The Council for Learning Disabilities (CLD) invites proposals from the full range of professionals who serve individuals with learning disabilities, including classroom teachers, administrators, speech/language pathologists, diagnosticians, researchers, higher education teacher preparation faculty, consultants, and others."

<http://www.cldinternational.org/Conference/conference.asp>

ASSETS 2006 Conference on Computers and Accessibility - October 23-25, 2006 |

Portland, Oregon. "The ASSETS series of conferences is aimed at providing a technical forum for presenting and disseminating innovative research results that address the use of computing and information technologies to help persons with disabilities."

www.acm.org/sigaccess/assets06/

- ✿ **Conference for Education, for Businesses, for Web and Media Designers** - November 7-10, 2006 | Boulder, Colorado. "Accessing Higher Ground focuses on the implementation and benefits of Assistive Technology in the university and college setting for sensory, physical and learning disabilities. Other topics include legal and policy issues, including ADA and 508 compliance, and making campus media and information resources - including Web pages and library resources - accessible."
<http://www.colorado.edu/ATconference/>

2006 TASH Conference - Call for Presentations - November 8-11, 2006 | Baltimore, Maryland. "The TASH Board and 2006 Conference Committee invite you to submit

proposals for presentations that support and contribute to valued outcomes for individuals with disabilities. Proposals are sought that address how policy, research and practice converge to produce the full inclusion and active participation of individuals with disabilities in school, community, and employment settings. For 31 years, TASH members have advocated for and implemented progressive policy, practices, and research to ensure that all people - regardless of their label or perceived level of disability - have the supports they need to lead valued lives. TASH is dedicated to disseminating information that reflects value-based and evidence-based strategies to pursue equitable access, participation and full inclusion in school, community, and work for people labeled with disabilities - particularly those who are at most risk of being excluded from community life."

<http://www.tash.org/2006tash/index.htm>

✿ **RESNA 2007** - June 15-19, 2007 | Phoenix, Arizona. "RESNA 2007 will feature assistive technology's leading researchers, renowned clinicians and policy experts creating a conference program with unmatched levels of knowledge and expertise. RESNA presenters and attendees will experience a surprisingly intimate conference environment where:

- information is contemporary and innovative
- uncommon questions find in-depth answers
- sharing knowledge, ideas, and experiences is easy, and
- new connections last a lifetime.

RESNA 2007 will offer an exciting Exhibit Hall featuring product demonstrations and training sessions, two days of Pre-Conference Instructional Courses, and 3 full-days of Workshops, Interactive Poster Sessions, Themed Paper Sessions and distinguished speakers."

<http://www.resna.org/Conference/Conference.php>

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OVERSEAS

2006 International Conference on Disability, Virtual Reality and Associated Technologies

- September 18-20, 2006 | Esbjerg, Denmark. "Welcome to the International Conference Series on Disability, Virtual Reality and Associated Technologies website. Here you will find all the information for the upcoming ICDVRAT 2006 conference, 18-20 September 2006, plus archive information from previous ICDVRAT conferences, including full conference proceedings of all past conferences."

<http://www.icdvrat.reading.ac.uk/>

International Forum on Disability Management - October 8-11, 2006 | Brisbane, Australia.

"The Centre of National Research on Disability and Rehabilitation Medicine (CONROD) at The University of Queensland and Griffith University have been invited to host the 3rd International Forum on Disability Management in Brisbane from 8 to 11 October, 2006. The forum will build on initiatives and progress following the first forum 'Work Retention Strategies in a Global Society' held in Vancouver 2002 and the second forum 'Disability Management works' held in Maastricht in 2004. The forum will be in the format of Plenary Sessions and Workshops."

<http://www.ifdm.com.au/index.html>


Assistive Technology in the Spotlight - October 10-12, 2006 | Hong Kong. "From 10 to 12 October 2006, Hong Kong will be the venue for the first Assistive Technology Conference entitled 'Assistive Technologies: Expanding a Universe of Opportunities for People with Disabilities'. The conference is the first in a series of three and is hosted by Assistive Technology News (ATN) and Concurrent Technologies Corporation Foundation (CTCF) with assistance from the International Paralympic Committee (IPC), Disabled Persons' International and the Asia Pacific Centre on Disability. The aim of the conference is to expand the awareness of Assistive Technology (AT) products in the Asia-Pacific. Targeted audiences are individuals working in the areas of disability in the Asia-Pacific Rim and persons with a disability."
http://www.paralympic.org/release/Main_Sections_Menu/News/Current_Affairs/2006_07_31_a.html

ARATA 2006 National Conference - Connecting People & Community Through Technology - October 17-20, 2006 | Perth, Australia. "On behalf of the conference organising committee, it is my pleasure to invite you to Fremantle, Perth for the ARATA 2006 National Conference 'Connecting People and Community Through Technology', to be held from Tuesday 17th until Friday 20th October, 2006. The 2006 conference aims to enable participants to understand how the application of technology can allow inclusion of all people into everyday activities, home, school, work and leisure by:

- Increasing awareness of the potential of technology
- Presenting new developments and research
- Sharing information and exchanging ideas
- Providing resources, product information and a trade."

<http://www.e-bility.com/arata/conf.php>

Mobility for all - The use of Ambient Intelligence in addressing the mobility needs of people with impairments: the case of ASK-IT - October 26-27, 2006 | Nice, France. "The ASK-IT International conference marks the two year point of this EU research funded project and the conference will provide the opportunity to take stock of the progress made in ASK-IT so far. It will also provide a unique occasion for different stakeholders, whether it be telecom providers, industry, user representatives, research institutes or local authorities, to gather together to discuss the role of Information Communication Technology in aiding and improving the everyday lives of mobility impaired people. It will include high level speakers and experts from around the world who will look at various issues, such as making content accessible, accessible tools and Ambient Intelligence. The conference will provide state-of-the-art information on accessibility initiatives in Europe and beyond."
www.ask-it.org/conference/ASKIT_Callforpapers.php

 **Disability 2006 Conference and Expo** - November 1-3, 2006 | Gallagher Estate, Midrand, Gauteng, South Africa "Mainstreaming Disability in Society' is the theme of this year's three-day Conference, which starts one day before the Expo ie. on 1 November. Explains Conference Spokesperson Kim Krynauw: 'Disability needs to become and remain part of mainstream development, planning and implementation. Despite great strides made over the past decade, people with disabilities (PWDs) in South Africa continue to face barriers that prevent them from enjoying their full rights - civil, political, economic, social, cultural and

developmental.' Estimates suggest that more than 7 per cent (3 million people) of South Africa's population have disabilities."

<http://www.safmh.org.za/untitled/disconf.htm>

DPI 7th World Assembly – "Asserting Our Rights, Celebrating Our Achievements and Building Our Future: Towards A Society For All" - December 1-4, 2006 | Johannesburg, South Africa.

<http://www.dpi.org/en/events/events.htm>

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