

## *THE RE-ENTRY STRATEGY FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES TASKFORCE*

# Virtual Town Hall Summary

*July 2020*

## OVERVIEW

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The Re-entry Strategy for Persons with Disabilities hosted a town hall on July 10, 2020 to begin a conversation with government and the disability community on their goal to create inclusive relaunch guidelines. This town hall was held on Zoom Video Communications and attended by 100 participants.

## PURPOSE

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The purpose of the town hall was to share the policies and programs that have been working well to meet the needs of persons with disabilities in Alberta, across Canada, and in other countries. As well, the town hall helped the taskforce confirm their priorities and find gaps in COVID-19 guidelines using input from organizations, policymakers, academics, service providers, persons with lived experience, families, and caretakers.

## FORMAT

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At the town hall, participants heard the taskforce's four main focus areas for safe, inclusive re-launch. The taskforce has split into four subcommittees to develop each of these areas and research best practices. Following subcommittee presentations, the host created a live poll for attendees so the taskforce could see which recommendations would make the attendees feel safe and included. Live poll results can be found at the end of each subcommittee's summarized recommendations. The taskforce presented their four focus areas in the following order:

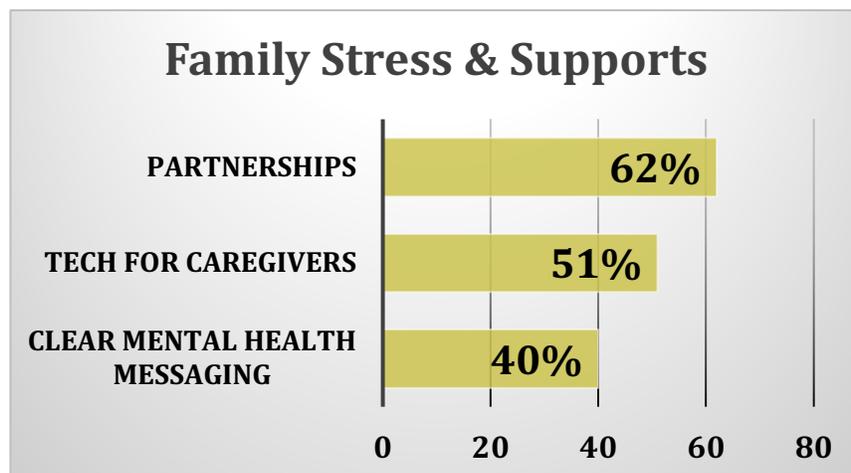
1. Family stress & natural supports
2. Transportation
3. Safe and inclusive design
4. Getting out. Staying in.

# FAMILY STRESS & NATURAL SUPPORTS

## Recommendations

- Partnership between the family and all funding/educational and health providers, including FSCD, PDD, AISH, AHS (Home Care) and Education to create person-directed plans
- Clear messaging for families on how to access mental health supports
- Technology for caregivers to better support clients with virtual programming
- Create a Mobile/Roving Infectious Disease Advisor that could visit homes or agencies to make sure the environment is safe for staff and clients
- Publish a guide for families and caregivers with guidelines and tools to reduce risk

## Live Poll Results

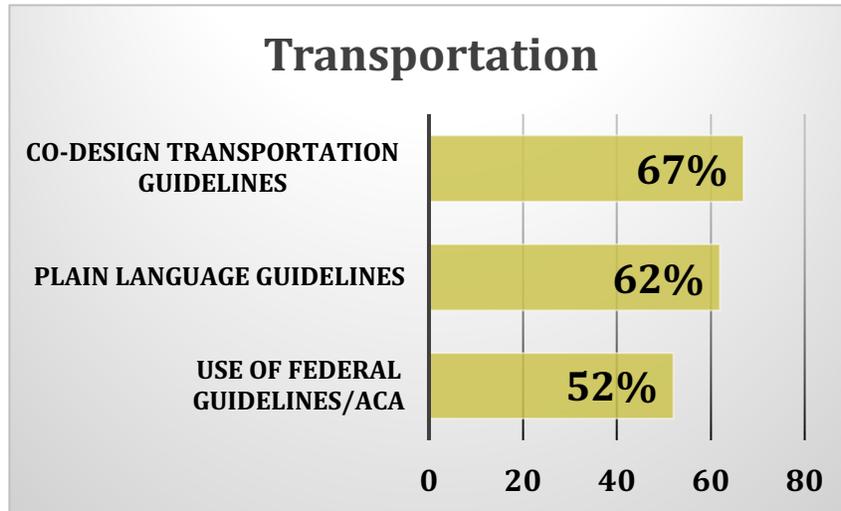


# TRANSPORTATION

## Recommendations

- Create targeted, plain language guidelines that address a variety of disabilities
- Speak with persons with lived experience and community organizations to collaborate in development of transportation access and navigation guidelines
- Set up guidelines under federal guidelines and under the Accessible Canada Act

## Live Poll Results

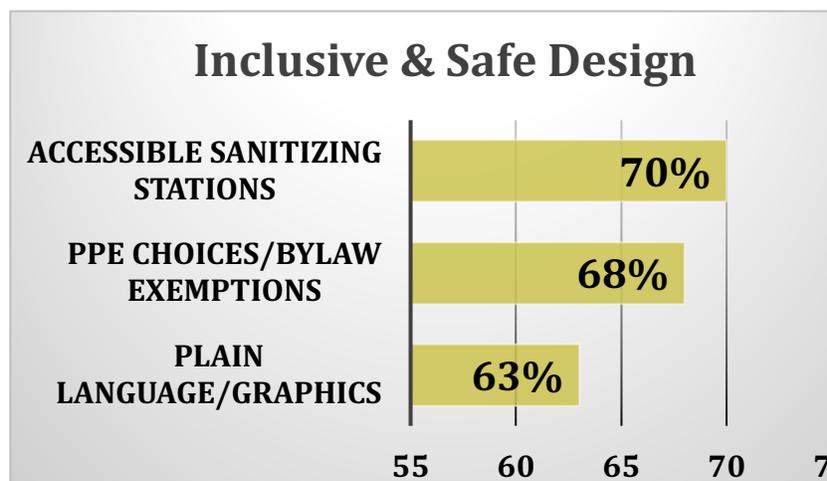


## SAFE & INCLUSIVE DESIGN

### Recommendations

- Place hand sanitizing stations next to automatic door buttons at a proper height to allow automatic dispensing for one-hand accessibility
- Redesign directional stickers using CNIB guideline; create wider paths of travel and, for the time being, create more accessible parking by open entrances
- For directional barriers, use 1500 mm passive travel as a minimum interior and exterior distance
- Use images of persons with disabilities in informational posters
- Provide clear information using infographics as much as possible and plain language as needed

## Live Poll Results



# GETTING OUT. STAYING IN.

## Recommendations

- Clear guidelines in plain language with infographics that provide guidance on safely going to public spaces as well safely staying home
- Choices that make getting out and staying in safe and accessible (for example, giving choices for PPE, such as masks and face shields)
- Choices in programming beyond virtual programs
- Open-source government COVID-19 visuals so organizations can use and change them for the needs of their clients
- Public education campaigns to raise awareness about the challenges persons with disabilities are facing to safe re-entry (for example, public education around the challenges of mask-wearing)

## Live Poll Results

