**Five Strategic Directions**

**Applications will be considered in the following areas:**

* **Build a Positive Image of Disability**
  + Goals include:
    - Promote a positive and respectful image of disability
    - Build public understanding of barriers experienced by persons with disabilities
    - Increase knowledge within private public and non-profit sectors about creating barrier free environments
    - Increase knowledge and acceptance of the rights of persons with disabilities
* **Engage Persons with Disabilities in Decision-Making**
  + Goals include:
    - Incorporate expertise and knowledge of people with personal experience of disability into government policies, programs and services
    - Support the capacity of community organizations of and for persons with disabilities to engage with government of policy directions
    - Support planning processes at local, community, regional and provincial levels to be inclusive of persons with disabilities
* **Increase Access to Disability-Related Supports**
  + Goals Include:
    - Reduce financial costs associated with having a disability for individuals and their families
    - Incorporate flexibility into programs and services for families and individuals
    - Improve access to disability-related supports including personal supports and assistive technologies
    - Build knowledge of disability-related supports throughout the province
* **Deliver Services with Dignity, Fairness and Support**
  + Goals Include:
    - Facilitate public and private sector providing services to persons with disabilities on an equal basis with others
    - Increase knowledge of disability-related supports and ways to remove barriers amongst providers
    - Deliver timely provision of complete and accurate information about Provincial Government programs and services
    - Incorporate inclusion and disability perspectives into existing and future policy frameworks
* **Increase Accessibility in the Built Environment**
  + Goals include:
    - Maximize accessibility of existing buildings and facilities and new buildings and facilities where there is public access
    - Increase options for accessible housing within public and private sectors and promote visibility and universal design throughout the province
    - Increase accessible and affordable transportation options throughout the province
    - Incorporate Universal Design principles into policy, procedures and legislation