**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