



CANADIAN CENTRE ON DISABILITY STUDIES

research and education on issues that affect us all



2009-10 Annual Report



CCDS Profile

Mission Statement

The Canadian Centre on Disability Studies (CCDS) is a consumer-directed, university-affiliated centre dedicated to research, education and information dissemination on disability issues.

Through our activities we promote full and equal participation of people with disabilities in all aspects of society – locally, nationally and globally.

CCDS is committed to fostering a spirit of collaboration between the disability and academic communities and other interested parties on initiatives of mutual concern and benefit. Our model is to seek partnerships with the disability community, the corporate sector, the academic world and governments.

Philosophy

The Canadian Centre on Disability Studies is guided by the philosophies of independent living and community living, emphasizing human rights, self-determination, interdependence, equality, a cross-disability focus, and full and valued participation of the community. Members of the disability community are key participants in directing CCDS policies and participating in CCDS' activities.

CCDS Staff - 2009-10

Olga Krassioukova-Enns

Executive Director

Allen Mankewich

Communications Coordinator/
Policy Analyst

Janalee Morris-Wales

Research Affiliate

Ivanka Slywynska

International Project Coordinator

Iryna Khomenko

International Project Coordinator

Eleanor Chornoboy

Policy Analyst

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Laura Rempel

Researcher

Suzanne Gessler

Researcher and
Policy Analyst

Colleen Watters

Researcher

Norm Magnusson

Accountant

Denise Desmond

Administrative Assistant



Letter from the President

Dear Members,

As summer turns to fall and the leaves begin to change colour, we at CCDS can reflect on the changes that have occurred over the past year. New project initiatives have provided opportunities and changes at a staff and board level. Judith Sandys, Len Steingarten, Ivanka Slywyska, and Laura Rempel are among the trusted members moving on to other pursuits. All have made major contributions to CCDS, and on your behalf, I thank them.

As the President of CCDS, I am proud that our work has so much impact regionally, nationally and internationally. Regardless if we are talking about policy development within Canada, or if we are entering into societies that are working towards things that we take for granted, CCDS embodies the idea of commitment and development by a symbiotic relationship where everybody learns from everybody else. A perfect example of this is the work we are doing in Ukraine around Inclusive Education. In Canada we did a lot of this work in the 70's and 80's.



Letter from the Executive Director

"Transformational Leadership for Tomorrow"

As we look back to the 2009-2010 fiscal year, it is important to reflect on our progress at CCDS as we follow our four strategic directions: enabling community-based participatory action disability research; leading disability studies growth globally; providing a platform for knowledge transfer, exchange, and capacity building on disability issues; and growing as an enabling organization.

Disability issues are as diverse as this world, and there is no one solution or approach to every scenario in life. However, there is a fundamental knowledge that should navigate our actions and decisions. It is our individual responsibility to actively seek this fundamental knowledge and apply it in our daily lives.

We are consciously 'checking the pulse' of the world we live in – locally and globally – where political, economic and natural environments affect our lives. Economic challenges, cultural diversity, global migration, and social issues are all drivers for change, and contribute to understanding relationships between diverse needs and the capability of society to meet such needs.

The chance to do this in Ukraine is eye-opening, and it has given me the opportunity to understand what my parents went through to make it possible for me to succeed.

In short, friends, CCDS is a growing, dynamic organization with positive changes occurring throughout the project and administrative structure. At the same time, the retention of long-term staff and volunteers acknowledges that we continue to have both the stability and institutional memory needed to sustain us over the long term.

Finally, I get to thank you, our members for your unwavering support over the years. Without your considerable and diverse talents CCDS simply would not be what it is today. I am proud of our organizational accomplishments, and I hope you will all be around to see more of them in the future.

Sincerely,

Darcy L. MacPherson
President and Chair of the Board

Changing lives is what CCDS is about. Changing attitudes and understanding disability starts with educating students who will guide the next generation of professionals. CCDS continues to grow as an active learning site for students and young researchers from Canada and abroad who will be the future leaders of disability research. Disability studies knowledge, paired with leadership development and community and resource mobilization, is influencing policy development.

We are excited about opportunities for global learning, and establishing more sustainable links between the disability community, academia and government. We continue to be involved with the Canadian Disability Studies Association and support the development of a network of Disability Studies in Canada and internationally. CCDS supports and celebrates interdependence between individuals, organizations, researchers, practices and policies, the state and civil society.

"Knowledge is of no value unless you put it into practice."
(Anton Chekhov)

Sincerely,

Olga Krassioukova-Enns
Executive Director

Program Highlights - Education Committee

Committee Membership and Purpose

Nancy Hansen (Chair), Heidi Janz, Vanessa Warne, Ravi Malhotra, Irene Carter, Devon Sivil, Bonnie Brayton.

Staff representatives Olga Krassioukova-Enns and Janalee Morris-Wales (CCDS)

The Education Committee facilitates and oversees the development and implementation of the CCDS education program within the organization's overall mandate to promote Disability Studies as an academic discipline.

Committee Activities

- CCDS prepared a presentation on "Livable and Inclusive Communities" for the Canadian Disability Studies Association annual conference in June 2009 in Ottawa.
- The Education Committee planned a Student Poster Session and speaker on Disability Studies for the CCDS Symposium to take place in September 2010.
- Olga Krassioukova-Enns, Don Fuchs, and Darcy MacPherson are members of the steering committee for the Master of Disability Studies Program at the University of Manitoba
- Olga Krassioukova-Enns, Janalee Morris-Wales, and Nancy Hansen continue on a steering committee for the University of Winnipeg's Undergraduate Program in Disability Studies to ensure linkages between CCDS, the University of Manitoba, and the University of Winnipeg. Janalee Morris-Wales also teaches the Introduction to Disability Studies II (online course) for the program.

CCDS Board of Directors - 2009/10

Executive:

President:

Darcy MacPherson

Faculty of Law

University of Manitoba

Winnipeg, MB

Secretary:

Karen Schwartz

Faculty of Education

University of Manitoba

Winnipeg, MB

1st Vice President:

Don Fuchs

Faculty of Social Work

University of Manitoba

Winnipeg, MB

Treasurer:

Leonard Steingarten

Steingarten, Schechter & Co.

Winnipeg, MB

2nd Vice President:

Judith Sandys

School of Social Work

Ryerson University

Toronto, ON

Member at Large:

Heidi Janz

John Dossetor

Health Ethics Centre

University of Alberta

Edmonton, Alberta

Board:

Bonnie Brayton

D.A.W.N.

Montreal, QC

Robert Elliott

M.A. Student

Vancouver, BC

Carmela Hutchison

Alberta Mental Health

Self Help Network

Irricana, AB

Larry Hurtig

The Post-Polio Support

Network

Winnipeg, MB

Ian Buck

C.O.S.C.O.

Vancouver, BC

Christine Kelly

PhD Candidate

Canadian Studies

Carleton University

Kristen Klassen

University of Manitoba

Winnipeg, Manitoba

Program Highlights - Research Committee

Committee Membership and Purpose

Donna Collins (chair), Cary Brown, Trish Wielandt, Colleen Watters, Shahin Shooshtari, Gina Sylvestre, Judith Sandys, Don Fuchs
CCDS Staff: Olga Krassioukova-Enns, Suzanne Gessler, Janalee Morris-Wales, Laura Rempel, Allen Mankewich

The CCDS Research Committee facilitates and oversees the development and implementation of the research program of CCDS within its overall mandate to promote Disability Studies as an interdisciplinary program. In addition, the Committee consults with the disability community and fosters a dialogue between community, academia, and government. It also provides overall direction for CCDS research activities, as well as support and direction to the CCDS research and program staff. The committee oversees the Small Grants Program and focuses on the research areas of the CCDS strategic plan.

Research Priorities

The Committee considers any research areas that influences inclusive policy development, reflects global learning, and advances the Disability Studies agenda across Canada. Currently the Committee's research priorities include:

- Aging and disability (aging with a disability and aging into disability)
- Research related to issues of concern to Aboriginal persons with disabilities
- Youth and disability
- Visitability
- Livable and inclusive communities
- Support to emerging/new researchers

Small Grants Program

Two annual grants funded by Society for Manitobans with Disabilities (SMD) and CCDS are administered and facilitated by CCDS. The following 2008-09 Small grants projects have been completed:

- (1) "Campus Recreation and Athletics Opportunities for University Students with Disabilities" by Jennifer Gillies, Department of Recreation and Leisure Studies, University of Waterloo.
- (2) "Reciprocal Conciliation - Enhance or hinder practical applications for accessibility" by Judy Redmond and funded by CCDS' George Dyck Memorial Small Grant.
- (3) "Human Resources Professionals and People with Disabilities", by Kim Wrigley-Archer and funded by a CCDS Small Grant supported by the Society for Manitobans with Disabilities.

11 small grant proposals were reviewed in 2009 and the following two proposals were granted funding for 2010-2011:

1. The Meaning of Dignity within the Lives of People with Physical Disabilities

Applicants: Donna Goodwin, Associate Professor Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation, University of Alberta and Executive Director of the Steadward Centre, University of Alberta
Keith Johnston, M.A, Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation, University of Alberta

2. Robot control via augmentative communication devices by children with disabilities for performing math curriculum activities

Applicant: Kim Adams, Ph.D. Candidate in Rehabilitation Science, University of Alberta

The 2010-2011 Small Grants Call for Proposals was distributed in 2010 and it is anticipated that the successful recipients will be announced at our December 2, 2010 CCDS gala. Funds raised from this event will support the CCDS Small Grants Program.

New Projects

“Livable and Inclusive Communities for Seniors with Disabilities and All Citizens: Model and Tools for Actions”

In 2010, the Canadian Centre on Disability Studies received approval from the Office for Disability Issues (Human Resources and Skills Development Canada) to continue testing a model (Livable and Inclusive Communities Model) and applying a set of tools that would assist in understanding the makeup of and processes required to create communities that are livable and inclusive for seniors with disabilities. The project is premised on the idea that a more integrated and holistic planning process is needed to help government and community develop livable and inclusive communities.

Other Committee Activities

Visitable Housing

The CCDS-based Visitable Housing Working Group has established a relationship with a University of Manitoba Graphic Design professor, in which he defined the need for a visitable housing marketing campaign as a student project. The students learned about the inclusive concept and developed a range of ideas and approaches. The Working Group is discussing the possibility of using these ideas for a marketing campaign.

CCDS staff have continued to build relationships with the Association of Manitoba Municipalities (AMM), with a focus on visitable housing education and awareness as it relates to livable and inclusive communities. In November 2009 a presentation was made to the AMM annual convention on visitable housing and an article written in the Municipal Leader Journal that goes to all of their membership.



An example of a visitable house

Committee Membership and Purpose

Don Fuchs (chair), Norm Magnusson, Judy Redmond, Oscar Nieto, Pat Gamvrelis, Michael Baffoe
CCDS Staff: Olga Krassioukova-Enns, Iryna Khomenko, Ivanka Slywynska, Eleanor Chornoboy, Allen Manke-
wicz

The International Program's role is to foster and share knowledge specific to advancing education on disability issues, disability studies, related research, and policy development. The International Committee provides leadership in developing and implementing CCDS international projects. The committee promotes and nurtures links to appropriate sectors and initiatives at national and provincial levels, and also provides an impetus for global learning and culturally relevant research.

Projects and Initiatives

International Summer Placement from the Canadian Mennonite University (CMU)

CCDS hosted Amanda Derksen from CMU during her summer internship. The student supported several CCDS projects, but the majority for her efforts were devoted to the project in Ukraine. CCDS plans to continue to collaborate with the CMU.

Student Exchange Program between the University of Manitoba and the University of Ghana, Legon

In partnership with the University of Manitoba, CCDS has hosted the field placements of one Communications and one Social Work Master's student (each 6 months). One more student will participate in the exchange program from September 2009- March 2010. The student alumni of this exchange program have formed the Center for Inclusive Policy and Program Development, which is a not-for-profit organization in Ghana.

Canada/Russia Northern Development Program- NORDEP (funded by the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada)

The purpose of this project was to improve the social integration and inclusion of youth and their families through the provision of quality services and activities. The project introduced changes into the built environment by addressing and removing physical barriers and creating better access to regional facilities. The project contributed towards capacity building, knowledge development of inclusive and participatory practices and policies.

"Partnership for Research on Ugandan Women with Disabilities (PROUWD): A research partnership between CCDS and the National Union of Women with Disabilities in Uganda (NUWODU), Phase 1" (Funded by the International Development Research Centre (IDRC))

During Phase 1, CCDS and NUWODU created a preliminary literature review and environmental scan. In September 2009, three members of the CCDS research team travelled to Kampala, Uganda, for one week to meet with community and student groups, as well as government officials and academics. Members of the research team (both CCDS and NUWODU) conducted focus group discussions with local women with disabilities to help to define research questions for the larger project. Phase 2 of this project will begin in 2011.

"Inclusive Education for Children with Disabilities in Ukraine"- Canada-Ukraine Project (Funded by the Canadian International Development Agency, April 2008- March 2013)

The Canadian Centre on Disability Studies is the lead agency in implementing the project "Inclusive Education for Children with Disabilities in Ukraine." We are working with four key partners, in Canada (Edmonton) - Grant MacEwan University and in Ukraine (Kyiv) - Step by Step, the National Assembly of the Disabled in Ukraine (NADU) and the Institute of Special Pedagogy. Two pilot regions in Ukraine, Lviv and Simferopol (Crimea), are central to this project.

The approach of the project is based on equal partnership among academics, government and community, with a particular focus on the social model of disability, gender equality, knowledge transfer, and inclusive

policy development. The project will focus on changing the attitudes of government, education institutions and educators, and non-government organizations towards disability in inclusive and participatory ways by introducing different building blocks of an inclusive education: policy development, civil society and preparation of professionals.

The expected impact of the project is a strengthened civil society and improved policies to establish, support and advance inclusive education for children with disabilities and their families in Ukraine.

West Africa Social Inclusion Project- Canada-Ghana Partnership for Disability Studies (Funded by the Canadian Institute for Health Research)

The Canada-Ghana Partnership for Disability Studies laid the groundwork for knowledge exchange in Disability Studies. By focussing on the first priority identified by our Ghanaian partners: “Support for development of Disability Studies curriculum”, we provided the foundation for Disability Studies education within the University. This in turn will increase the capacity of those academics to engage in Disability Studies research. Through partnership building with community groups, NGOs, and government departments, both the Canadian and Ghanaian partners have begun to identify the areas of research needed within the community for policy and program development. Canadian partners have acquired a deeper understanding of global disability issues, including the strong link between disability, health, and poverty. Information gained from these workshops and meetings has been analyzed to create a synergy of research ideas and focused research proposals.



PROUWD project participants meet with the Canadian delegation

Auditor's Report

To the Members of Canadian Centre on Disability Studies Incorporated:

We have audited the statement of financial position of Canadian Centre on Disability Studies Incorporated as at March 31, 2010 and the statements of operations, changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements

are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In our opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the company as at March 31, 2010 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

Winnipeg, Manitoba Original signed by PPW LLP
July 24, 2010 Chartered Accountants

ASSETS	2010	2009	2010	2009
CURRENT			FUNDED PROJECT REVENUES	\$ 1,228,916
Cash	\$ 522,960	\$ 71,164	(Note 6)	\$ 992,445
Accounts receivable	3,609	267,155	FUNDED PROJECT EXPENSES	
Due from Endowment Fund (Note 5)	113,637	-	Direct expenses	1,084,168
Prepaid expenses	7,088	7,815	Administrative expenses	144,748
	647,294	546,134		1,228,916
ENDOWMENT FUND	1,585,902	1,580,902		-
INVESTMENTS (Note 5)			OTHER REVENUES	
SCHOLARSHIP FUND -	33,521	21,995	Donations and memberships	2,399
CASH	\$ 2,266,717	\$ 2,149,031	Interest	-
			Other	22,588
LIABILITIES				24,987
CURRENT			EXPENSES	
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 221,183	\$ 190,845	Bank Charges	1,724
Due to Endowment Fund (Note 5)	-	142,005	Wages and benefits	64,294
Deferred revenue	248,328	298,032	Office and sundry	31,324
	469,511	630,882	Professional fees	7,789
NET ASSETS (Page 4)			Rent	56,447
General fund	177,783	(84,748)	Communications	6,326
Endowment fund (note 3)	1,585,902	1,580,902	Travel	2,136
Scholarship fund (note 3)	33,521	21,995	Expenses allocated to funded project	(144,748)
	\$ 1,797,206	\$ 1,518,149		25,292
	\$ 2,266,717	\$ 2,149,031	EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF	\$ (305)
			REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	\$ 37,404

A complete version of the Audited Statements by PPW Chartered Accountants LLP is available from CCDS.

Our Impact

Societal Impact

“For me the biggest learning is understanding how important culture, tradition, social policy, and social expectations are and how they’re interrelated in terms of making any changes in society when it comes to people with differences and the broader acceptance of society, particularly people with disabilities”

- Norm Magnusson, CCDS Committee Member



Canadian and Ukrainian partners with the Inclusive Education for Children with Disabilities in Ukraine project



A group of women with disabilities meet in the Wakiso District of Kampala, Uganda, to share their lived experience with the research team

“Partnership for Research on Ugandan Women with Disabilities (PROUWD): A research partnership between CCDS and NUWODU, Phase 1” (Funded by the International Development Research Centre (IDRC))

“I feel I don’t have enough words or actions to express my gratitude for the visit. I for sure don’t know how to thank you enough. I thank you for having mobilized resources for the visit. I can assure you if you had not fundraised for this activity, it would not have been possible to do all that we did.

To me, it was not only a partnership development process but also a learning process. It is amazing that I learnt a lot in just a week that we spent together and I am just wondering how much I would learn if I got an opportunity to stay with you for just a month!

The benefits of the learning were for both organizational and personal development. For once, I have realized that with a bit more diverse, wide and creative thinking utilizing the resources around us, we can make NUWODU sustainable. To be honest your visit made a big change in my life and work performance and I can assure you I will never be the same again.”

- Cissy Nalusiba, Information Officer, National Union of Women with Disabilities in Uganda

West Africa Social Inclusion Project- Canada-Ghana Partnership for Disability Studies (Funded by the Canadian Institute for Health Research)

“The workshop to me was a big success. I felt very satisfied with the way it was carried out because it was just appropriate to the new approach envisaged for social work training of our students in the school. Through these workshops our students can acquire skills even before they go for their major fieldwork practical. It is hoped that what the faculty and students have learned would be translated into organizing other vulnerable groups for poverty alleviation.

The participants were cheerful and thankful for the opportunity to express their feelings about their disability and their conditions of living. It was a first time experience to most of them to be called upon to participate in a workshop like this.

The staff and students wish to thank you for your support and hope to continue our collaboration .”

- D.Y.N Gbeawu, Principal, School of Social Work, Accra, Ghana



David Gbeawu reveals newly constructed ramps to the school’s classrooms and administrative offices to the Canadian delegation