

Please send updates to my email address: \_\_\_\_\_

## WHAT'S MOST IMPORTANT TO YOU IN THE CANADA DISABILITY BENEFIT?

Thank you to the many local organizations that have joined in advocating for the CDB over the past two years, including Extend-A-Family Waterloo Region, Independent Living Waterloo Region, KW AccessAbility, KW Habilitation, and Karis Disability Services!

### WHAT'S NEXT?

While regulations are being developed, my team and I continue to call for: the government to follow the amendment I added requiring collaboration with people with disabilities on the design of the benefit, for the governing party to move more quickly in finalizing the benefit, and to allocate funds for CDB in the upcoming federal budget!

As always, it's important for me to hear your perspectives. Please fill out this card, or send me an email, to share your thoughts with me on the Canada Disability Benefit.

## ABOUT THE CANADA DISABILITY BENEFIT

No person with a disability should be deciding between food or their medication in this country. Yet for Canadians with disabilities living in legislated poverty, this is all too often the case.

**1.4 MILLION** PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES LIVE IN POVERTY IN CANADA

**41 PERCENT** OF PEOPLE LIVING IN POVERTY IN CANADA HAVE A DISABILITY

The limited supports currently provided just aren't enough. In Ontario for example, the maximum shelter allowance for those receiving funds through the Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) is \$556 a month. There isn't a single apartment in our community available for that amount.

The Canada Disability Benefit (CDB) would provide a basic income to Canadians living with disabilities. The benefit would stack on top of provincial disability benefits, like ODSP, ideally lifting Canadians with disabilities out of legislated poverty.

## INFO

### COMMUNITY OFFICE

305 King Street West  
Suite 303  
Kitchener ON N2G 1B9

Tel. 519-741-2001

Open Mondays, Tuesdays,  
and Thursdays from 10am  
to 4:30pm

✉ [mike.morrice@parl.gc.ca](mailto:mike.morrice@parl.gc.ca)

🌐 [mikemorrice.ca](http://mikemorrice.ca)



Scan to watch my  
advocacy for the CDB  
in Parliament



**MIKE MORRICE**  
Member of Parliament  
Kitchener Centre

/morricemike

morricemike

Mike Morrice Kitchener Centre



# THE CANADA DISABILITY BENEFIT (CDB): A TIMELINE OF EVENTS AND ADVOCACY

Thanks to disability advocates, the federal government committed to a CDB years ago. Despite this, a benefit had never come to fruition. Canadians with disabilities can't wait. That's why I've been committed to keeping the pressure on to not only fast-track and fund the CDB, but to ensure people with disabilities are involved in its development.



**February 2022** I presented Motion 48 and a petition, with 18,000 signatures, calling to fast-track the CDB.

**April 2022** I initiated a letter of support for the rapid implementation of the CDB to the Prime Minister, supported by over 70 MPs from four parties.

**June 2022** Bill C-22 (The Canada Disability Benefit Act) was introduced in the House of Commons.

**October 2022** I sponsored a parliamentary reception alongside Disability Without Poverty to encourage the governing party to reintroduce the bill in the House. Bill C-22 was brought back that day, and passed its second reading the next.

**December 2022** I proposed 14 amendments in consultation with the disability community to strengthen Bill C-22. Five of them passed, more than all other MPs combined.

**February 2023** Bill C-22 passed its third reading in the House of Commons.

**May 2023** The bill passed its final reading in the Senate.

**June 2023** Bill C-22 receives royal assent.

**Ongoing** I continue to push to have funds allocated for the CDB in the upcoming budget.

## AMENDMENTS TO BILL C-22

**In consultation with the disability community, I proposed 14 amendments to Bill C-22 (the Canada Disability Benefit Act).**

Of the amendments we put forward, the Parliamentary committee reviewing and voting accepted five, making up more than half of the passed amendments:

- To include a definition for the term 'disability' to ensure consistent and equitable access and eligibility.
- A requirement for the federal government to publicly share the agreements they sign with the provinces and territories.
- For the benefit to be barrier-free, meaning recipients shouldn't have to complete a cumbersome application to be eligible - this could include a potential recipient being automatically enrolled when completing their taxes.

- Direction for those who write the regulations to require the benefit to be indexed to inflation.
- A requirement that people with disabilities be meaningfully engaged in developing regulations.

While this wasn't all I had asked for - I also hoped to see the adoption of an amendment that would have ensured seniors with disabilities would be able to access the benefit, for example - I'm glad for the improvements we secured.



Parliamentary Reception October 2022

## EMERGENCY INTERIM SUPPORT

The governing party has announced it could be more than a year still until the CDB would be in the bank accounts of those who urgently need it!

People with disabilities in our community living in legislated poverty can't wait. That's why I've been lifting up calls for a Disability Emergency Response Benefit (DERB) until the permanent one is in place, recently rising in Parliament to bring forward a petition signed by almost 6,400 people who have joined the disability community in calling for DERB.

While we wait for the implementation for the CDB, I have continued my advocacy for the urgency of this benefit in the House - including to the Prime Minister directly.



**MIKE MORRICE  
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT  
CONFEDERATION BUILDING  
OTTAWA ON K1A 0A6**