



April 26, 2023

Families of Breton Ability Centre Residents

Dear Sir/Madam:

RE: FAMILY COMMUNIQUE RE RELEASE OF THE REMEDY

Earlier today the Department of Community Services released an Expert Report prepared by external, independent experts in the field of disability. Commonly referred to as “The Remedy,” the report sets out recommendations to address the finding of systemic discrimination resulting from the Disability Rights Coalition’s Human Rights Complaint.

The Department of Community Services plans to hold a roadshow for families, participants, and Service Providers in May and June 2023. Through that forum, we hope to gain a better understanding of the report’s recommendations.

We will provide more information once we know more and have taken some time to digest the detailed report. In the meantime, we wanted to share with you that we believe the release of this report is exciting news for our program participants, especially those who are ready to transition to community. It’s also great news for Breton Ability Centre and for the Disability Support Program Sector as a whole. There are no real surprises in the recommendations. It’s more a matter of shifting the gears on the work we have already been doing to help our program participants to develop the skills they need to live their best lives in community. The goal is to implement the remedy over the next five years.

That said, we know that moving forward with DSP Transformation faster than originally planned represents significant change for our organization and for individuals (and their families) who have lived here for many years; and that can be unsettling and cause some concern, especially as we don’t know all the answers yet. The important thing to keep in mind is that the individuals are at the center of this transformation, families have a key role to play, and Breton Ability Centre has a future in a transformed DSP system. The place where we work may be different and we expect to see more changes in the types of services and programs that we provide, but we will continue to support your loved ones to reach their individual goals and improve their quality of life. So, in fact, transformation presents many opportunities. No one knows our program participants better than we (families and us) do; and there are no better organizations than ours to help them to successfully transition to community. We will continue to work collaboratively with the Department of Community Services to ensure our program participants have choice and the individualized supports they need to allow them to live healthy and inclusive lives.

As promised above, we will follow up once we have more details to share.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Harman Singh".

Harman Singh, CEO
Breton Ability Centre