



Phone Calls and Candidate Meetings

Please contact your local election candidates to tell them you care about the health of individuals with intellectual disabilities.

Please tell them they must commit to changing the deadly and unacceptable health conditions faced by B.C.'s citizens with intellectual disabilities.

Here are some ideas of comments you can raise with your local candidates.

- People with intellectual disabilities are dying up to 20 years earlier than other citizens.
- They experience two to three times more preventable hospitalizations.
- They suffer from dramatically higher rates of obesity, mental illness, over-medication, and poor oral health.
- This isn't because people with intellectual disabilities are less healthy by nature. It's because of challenges with systems, communication, and education. It's because of things we can change.
- The problems are more urgent than ever because of COVID-19. They can mean the difference between life and death.
- Special Olympics BC has issued an important challenge to all the candidates in the B.C. election. I want to know how you respond to the questions they sent you.
- Will you commit to ending the deadly and unacceptable health conditions faced by individuals with intellectual disabilities?
- Will you talk with individuals with intellectual disabilities and their supporters while working on issues impact their health and wellbeing?
- When in government, will you make sure the Ministry of Health makes it a priority to improve the health and quality of life of people with intellectual disabilities?
- Will you commit to making a government task force to improve the health of people with intellectual disabilities?
- Will you make sure there is enough provincial funding and resources to help people intellectual disabilities be equal in health and in life?
- Please visit Special Olympics BC's website to learn more about these important issues: <https://www.specialolympics.ca/british-columbia/2020-election>

Please don't hesitate to add your own ideas and experiences.

Thank you for your time and efforts. Your voice matters!