



Registered Disability Savings Plan

Securing the future for Canadians with disabilities

On March 19th, Finance Minister James Flaherty made history when Canada became the first country to create a Registered Disability Savings Plan.

The RDSP, which will become available in 2008, will benefit nearly three quarters of a million Canadians with disabilities. Over time, people's RDSPs will provide billions of dollars to supplement income, enable home ownership, purchase supports, services and products and ultimately, enhance quality of life.

In addition, the Disability Savings Grant and Bond will provide a federal contribution to assist families in saving for the future.

Highlights of the RDSP and the Disability Savings Grant and Bond

- Registered Disability Savings Plan characteristics:
 - ~ \$200,000 lifetime contribution limit
 - ~ Contributions permitted by the individual, any family members or friends
 - ~ No annual limits on contributions
 - ~ Contributions grow interest free
 - ~ No restrictions on when the funds can be used or for what purpose.
- The Disability Savings Grant will match contributions for 20 years as follows:
 - ~ Annual family income is less than \$74,357 – three dollars for each dollar contributed on the first \$500 and two dollars for each dollar contributed on the next \$1,000 contributed.
 - ~ Annual family income is more than \$74,357 – one dollar for each dollar contributed on the first \$1,000.
- For adults with disabilities or families with incomes of \$20,833 or less, the Disability Savings Bond will provide \$1,000 per year for 20 years to a RDSP without any contribution.
- People who qualify for the Disability Tax Credit will be eligible to open a RDSP.

Five Actions to Stay Informed and Get Involved!

- Sign up for our public policy ezine, *ActionPLAN*
- Visit our new RDSP Blog at www.rdsp.wordpress.com
- Register for a free RDSP Tele-learning Workshop
- Write Minister Flaherty to thank him for his work on the RDSP
- Write your MP to let them know how the RDSP will help your family
(Details at www.plan.ca)