

November 2, 2018

Standing Committee on Human Resources, Skills
And Social Development and the Status of Persons
With Disabilities
6th. Floor, 131 Queen Street
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

Re: Bill C- 81 - The Accessible Canada Act

Dear Committee Member,

Spinal Cord Injury Ontario co-leads the Ontario Spinal Cord Injury Alliance with the Ontario Neurotrauma Foundation. We are a network of 70 organizations and 250+ members with a mandate to address and resolve systemic barriers that impact the quality of life of people with spinal cord injuries in Ontario. We are writing to you with a single recommendation:

1. Accept the recommendations produced by the Federal Accessibility Legislation Alliance (FALA) for C-81

We are a proud member of FALA and an active participating partner in Spinal Cord Injury Canada's Canadian Access and Inclusion Project (CAIP) in 2016. Over the last 3 years we have enjoyed a rigorous and comprehensive process of inclusion from Spinal Cord Injury Canada's leadership. We can confidently say that CAIP and FALA have truly and efficiently captured the voices of people with disabilities across Canada and that their recommendations are an honest reflection of what Canadians want. Our community has been offering best advice, direction, and contributing specific input to the FALA Leadership. FALA's recommendations have the endorsement of our community.

We have also been working with ARCH and The AODA Alliance and support many of their recommendations that mirror those of FALA.

We believe in a partnership between government and community organization and that we need to share the responsibilities and accountabilities of important legislation like C-81. We thank the committee members for all their work to date and urge them to continue to work diligently to ensure that this legislation is passed before the next election.

Yours Truly,



Dr. Stuart Howe
Chief Executive Officer