

-: Hello I am Raymond Cho Ontario's minister for seniors and accessibility.

Welcome to this amazing virtual symposium. These events are important. They are key opportunities to share best practices and to throw inspiration from the passion of others.

I would like to thank you Tina Doyle for both inviting me to share these greetings with you today. And also for her showing leadership in chairing the Post Secondary Education Standards Development Committee. The standard development committees that followed government to identify and remove various faced by Ontarians with the disabilities.

We have a two, they are specifically focused on education. One that is targeted for kindergarten to grade 12 and the other targeted for post secondary education. These committees and our governments work through our advancing accessibility in Ontario framework and built on the idea of a collaboration.

We know that creating a more open and inclusive Ontario is a journey that is made by many partners or working together towards our shared goal. Events Like this are a key part of increasing awareness of the challenges faced by many Ontarians. They help increase awareness of a barriers that people with disabilities face and they teach us how to help take these barriers down

2.6 million Ontarians currently live with a disability while some of these disabilities are visible, many are invisible . To help remove accessibility barriers, we need input from experts and those directly affected by barriers, together we're working to increase accessibility through our many programs and partnership.

Committees like those chaired by Tina help Us to identify barriers and enabling all Ontarians to enjoy the equality of opportunity that is the Ontario dream. We must all do our part to identify and help remove barriers to accessibility.

When organizations and businesses are more accessible, everyone benefits. I wish everyone a productive and enlightening conference through your example and your teaching. You are inspiring the leaders of tomorrow.

Thank you for joining us and for allowing me to share in your symposium today.