



Learning Disabilities Association of Ontario

July 13, 2007

Helena C. Birt  
Transition Director  
Human Rights Legal Support Centre

Dear Ms. Birt,

The Learning Disabilities Association of Ontario (LDAO) is the provincial association representing the interests of persons with learning disabilities (LDs) throughout Ontario. Originally founded in 1963 to assist parents of children with learning disabilities to obtain access to special education services, the LDAO has expanded its mandate to include adolescents and adults who have learning disabilities, in postsecondary and employment sectors.

The Learning Disabilities Association of Ontario has participated in many consultations over the last few years regarding the development of the Ontarians with Disabilities Act (ODA), the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA), and various policy documents of the Ontario Human Rights Commission (OHRC). In November 2006 we submitted a response to Bill 107 to the Standing Committee on Justice Policy of the Ontario Legislature, and a copy is attached.

LDAO is very concerned that the accommodation needs of individuals with learning disabilities often go unrecognized because the disabilities are invisible in nature. It is very important that these needs are understood in the planning stages of the Human Rights Legal Support Centre. The Learning Disabilities Association of Ontario is a charitable organization with no government funding to provide support to individual adults with LDs. However we have developed expertise in planning for accommodation needs and we would welcome an opportunity to share this knowledge with you and your staff, in order to ensure equitable access to the human rights complaints process for those who have learning disabilities. We would be happy to meet with you at a time of your convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Chaban', written over a white background.

Peter Chaban  
LDAO Chairperson

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Diane Wagner', written over a white background.

Diane Wagner  
Coordinator, Public Policy &  
Client Services

[www.ldao.ca](http://www.ldao.ca)