

#BetterTheBenefit Advo-Kit

Thank you for your dedication in making the **Canada Disability Benefit** better! Together, we can make a difference.

How to Prepare:

- **Understand the Issue:** Familiarize yourself with the key messages and the urgent need to improve the CDB. Review the one-pager and talking points provided.
- **Practice Your Story:** Be ready to share a personal or community story that highlights the importance of the CDB. Stories resonate with decision-makers.
- **Coordinate with DWP:** Attend the town hall and use the materials provided to feel confident in your advocacy role.

How to Get Meetings With Your Member of Parliament (MP).

- **Identify Your MP:** Find your local MP using the [House of Commons MP Search Tool](#).
- **Request a Meeting:** Use the email/letter template provided to request a meeting. Highlight your role as an advocate and your interest in discussing the CDB.
- **Follow Up:** If you don't hear back within a week, follow up with an email or call.

What to Say:

- **Introduction:** Introduce yourself and your connection to the issue.
- **Key Points:** Share the key messages and a personal or community story to illustrate the importance of the CDB.
- **The 3 Asks:** Urge the MP to support:
 1. **Increasing the amount** of the CDB to lift people out of poverty.
 2. **Keeping the application process easy and accessible**—no restrictive barriers.
 3. **No clawbacks** from any level of government.
- Ask them to **publicly support these improvements** and push for them in decision-making spaces.

What to Do During the Meeting:

- **Be Respectful:** Listen actively and thank the MP (or their staff) for their time.
- **Stay Focused:** Stick to the key messages and avoid getting sidetracked.
- **Take Notes:** Record key points discussed, including commitments or questions.

How to Follow Up:

- **Send a Thank-You Note:** Email the MP (or their staff) to thank them for the meeting and reiterate your key points.
- **Provide Additional Info:** If the MP requested further details, follow up promptly with the necessary materials.
- **Stay Engaged:** Keep the conversation going by sharing updates from the campaign and asking about progress on their commitments.

Reporting Back to DWP

After the meeting, email hello@disabilitywithoutpoverty.ca with:

- Your Name
- MP Name
- Meeting Date
- Key Points Discussed
- MP Response and Feedback
- Any Follow-Up Needed
- Additional Notes

Email Templates

1. Request a Meeting with Your MP

Subject: Request to Discuss Strengthening the Canada Disability Benefit

Dear [MP Name],

I am requesting a meeting to discuss the **Canada Disability Benefit (CDB)** and how we can ensure it truly lifts people with disabilities out of poverty. As your constituent and a community advocate with **Disability Without Poverty**, I am deeply concerned about the **1.6 million Canadians with disabilities living in poverty** who need meaningful support.

While the CDB was passed in 2023, key issues remain:

- A **maximum of \$200/month** is far too low to make a real difference.
- The **application process must stay simple and accessible**—no unnecessary barriers.
- **No clawbacks** from provincial or federal programs should apply.

I would appreciate the opportunity to meet and discuss how we can work together to **#BetterTheBenefit**. Please let me know a time that works for you—I'm happy to adjust to your schedule.

Thank you for your time and commitment. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,
[Your Name]

2. Thank-You Email After Meeting

Subject: Thank You for Discussing the Canada Disability Benefit

Dear [MP Name],

Thank you for taking the time to meet with me on **[Date]**. I appreciated the opportunity to discuss the **Canada Disability Benefit (CDB)** and its crucial role in supporting **1.6 million Canadians with disabilities living in poverty**.

As we discussed, the CDB must be strengthened to **increase the amount, keep the application process accessible, and prevent clawbacks**. Your advocacy on these key improvements will be essential to ensuring the CDB fulfills its promise.

Please don't hesitate to reach out if you need further information. I will also stay in touch with updates on this critical issue.

Thank you again for your time and commitment. I look forward to working together to **#BetterTheBenefit**.

Sincerely,
[Your Name]

3. Follow-Up Email with Additional Info

Subject: Follow-Up on Strengthening the Canada Disability Benefit

Dear [MP Name],

Following our meeting on **[Date]**, I wanted to share additional resources on the **Canada Disability Benefit (CDB)** and the urgent need for improvements. Attached, you'll find key materials outlining:

- Why **\$200/month is insufficient** to lift people out of poverty.
- The importance of an **easy, accessible application process**.
- The risk of **clawbacks** undermining the benefit's impact.

Your support in ensuring these improvements will make a real difference for **millions of Canadians with disabilities**. If you need any further details, please let me know.

Thank you again for your time and advocacy.

Sincerely,
[Your Name]