



# CHILDREN and YOUTH with NEURO-DIVERSE SPECIAL NEEDS



## Guiding Questions

The Select Standing Committee on Children and Youth is undertaking a special project on children and youth with neuro-diverse (e.g.: ASD, FASD, Developmental Delay) special needs, with a focus on assessment and eligibility processes. The Committee is interested in hearing from parents, service providers, advocates, academics and others with an interest in or experience with children and youth with neuro-diverse special needs. Committee Members would like to learn about their experiences and recommendations for improving services and supports to children and youth with neuro-diverse special needs and their families.

Guiding questions for providing input are outlined below. Your input and the Committee's inquiry are not limited to these questions. The Committee recognizes that individuals, families, service providers and organizations may have different perspectives and roles and that there may be additional challenges or issues not addressed in the questions. As such, you are encouraged to provide input and incorporate or respond to the questions as reflective of your experience and perspectives.

- Briefly describe your experience with children and youth with neuro-diverse special needs. Are you a parent or caregiver of a child with neuro-diverse special needs? A service provider?
- What is your experience with how children and youth with neuro-diverse special needs are identified, monitored, and referred for services? How could this be improved?
- What do you find are the gaps, barriers and challenges with respect to assessments? Do they adequately take into account the needs of the child and the skills and capacities of parents and caregivers? Are there additional factors that should be taken into consideration?
- How does support change from early years to school age and from school age to Community Living BC? What are the challenges with these changes? How could processes and supports at these stages be simplified and improved?
- What changes could be made to eligibility and assessment processes for children and youth with neuro-diverse special needs that would have the most positive impact?

