

Key issues for Canada under the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities: Priority Articles, needed actions, and people of concern



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Contents

- Overview 1
- Method in Brief 2
 - Scope 2
 - Major analytical units 2
 - Scoring and weighting 6
 - “Points of concern” 7
 - Interpretation 7
 - Summarizing the results 8
- Findings 9
 - CRPD Articles that received attention 9
 - Specific actions that were sought 12
 - People at the focus of concern 17
- Conclusion 22
- Appendices 24
 - A. Organizations' reports included in this research and scoring weights for data coding 25
 - B. List of Canadian Civil Society Organizations that jointly submitted their List of Issues Prior to Reporting 26
 - C. List of CRPD Articles 28
 - D. Basic structure of the coding scheme for each CRPD Article 30
 - E. Example coding template for Article 5 31
 - F. Rules for interpreting the submissions 32
 - G. Appendix Tables 33
 - Appendix Table 1. Number (weighted) and percentage of recommendations pertaining to each CRPD Article, by all 58 civil society organizations and the UN Committee 34
 - Appendix Table 2. Number (weighted) and percentage of actions sought by all 58 civil society organizations and the UN Committee under the CRPD 36
 - Appendix Table 3. Number of and percentage recommended actions that pertained to groups of interest under the CRPD, by civil society organizations and the UN Committee 37
- References 38

Overview

This paper provides an analysis of the questions civil society organizations had for the Government of Canada, and which they submitted to the United Nations Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in 2019 for consideration. Those submissions were framed in preparation for Canada's combined second and third periodic reports under the Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities (CRPD). Most of the organizations that submitted reports have mandates related to improving the social and economic situations of people with disabilities. As a baseline for comparison, we have included a summary analysis of the List of Issues Prior to Reporting (LOIPR) that the UN Committee prepared in November 2019 for the Government of Canada to answer (UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, 2019). That document contains follow up questions on progress since Canada's 2017 response to the list of issues the Committee presented to Canada in 2016 (UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, 2016, 2017). That list was in framed in response to Canada's First Report under the CRPD in 2014 (Government of Canada, 2014) and subsequent submissions by civil society organizations.

Our main reason for undertaking this project was to answer the following research questions:

- Which CRPD Articles and associated subject matters have received most attention from civil society organizations in Canada?
- In response to the concerns the organizations raise, what kinds of governmental actions do the organizations call for?
- Which people do the organizations frequently mention as warranting particular attention?
- How do the organizations' priorities for action line up against the priorities reflected in the questions the UN Committee recently presented to Canada? Is there basic congruence between the priorities articulated by Canadian civil society organizations and the UN Committee?
- Can a reasonably efficient and comprehensive methodology be used to summarize submissions under the CRPD for the purpose of answering these and other research questions in the future?

What follows are findings based on our content analysis of the documentation described above, as well as a thumbnail sketch of our methodology. The Appendices provide fuller details on the methodology, the findings, and other matters of interest.

Method in Brief

Scope

We analyzed and coded 4 reports which civil society organizations submitted to the UN Committee. One of these was a lengthy document (78 pages), which 55 organizations jointly submitted as Canadian Civil Society Organizations (CCSO). Staff persons at ARCH disability Law Centre and the British Columbia Aboriginal Network on Disability Society (BCANDS) synthesized and edited a considerably longer draft (117 pages) that the participating organizations originally generated. The edited version was sent as a consolidated report to participating organizations for feedback, which was incorporated before the final version of the report was submitted to the UN Committee. Three other organizations submitted their own reports. These were Autistics United Canada (AUC), the Ontario Network of Injured Workers' Groups (ONIWG), and the Canadian Human Rights Commission (CHRC). The titles of the submissions and their authoring organizations are listed in Appendix A. Appendix B provides a list of the Canadian Civil Society Organizations.

Our analytical approach focused on the questions the organizations proposed the UN Committee to ask the Government of Canada. The questions reflected the issues and people of concern to the organizations. The organizations typically organized their questions in relation to the CRPD Articles to which the questions pertained. A full list of CRPD Articles is provided in Appendix C.

The organizations' submissions typically dealt with matters that fell within Articles 4 through 33, which have been adopted as the parameters for the present paper. We did not scrutinize Articles 34 – 50 or any of the articles in the Optional Protocol, which deal mainly with administrative matters and which the civil society organizations did not address.

Major analytical units

We developed an Excel Workbook with a dedicated Worksheet for each organization that submitted a report to the UN Committee. We divided each Worksheet into 30 major sections, each of which corresponded with a CRPD Article, from Articles 4 through 33.

For each CRPD Article, we used a coding scheme which consisted of over 1,200 blank cells for receiving codes, which we formulated and entered. For each Article, the template was organized according to three dimensions. Dimension A consists of the groups of people, geographic regions and governmental jurisdictions that an organizations placed at the focus of its attention for a given Article. Dimension B reflects the actions the organization was seeking from governments and other stakeholders for the people the organization was concerned about. Dimension C allowed us to link the organization's questions to the actions the organization was seeking and to the people it was concerned about under a given Article.

Dimension A of our coding template was divided into the following broad categories:

- The age group of the people at the focus of attention;
- The gender / gender identity of the people at the focus of attention;
- The geographic region(s) and governmental jurisdiction(s) at the focus of attention;
- Whether the people at the focus of attention were poor / low income / jobless;
- Whether the issue at the focus of attention had implications for racialized, Indigenous, immigrant, refugee, or other ethno-racially diverse people;
- The impairments or "disabilities" of the people at the focus of attention.

Dimension B was divided into broad categories which reflected whether the organization's question pertained to actions that would:

- Ensure equal protections for the rights articulated in the CRPD Article;
- Ensure freedom from discrimination against exercising the Article's rights;
- Ensure necessary conditions are in place for individuals to gain access to and exercise rights enshrined in the Article;
- Strengthen the capacity of systems, programs, workplaces and other dimensions of the local community to ensure the rights enshrined in the Article will be realized;
- Address other issues related to the rights enshrined in the Article.¹

Dimension B corresponds with several societal levels on which interventions typically apply. Appendix D ("Basic structure of the coding scheme...") provides a diagram of the relationships between the categories in Dimension B.

Most categories in Dimensions A and B were subdivided into finer units of analysis, as shown in Text Tables 1 and 2 (below).

¹ We also created a field that we could have used to flag whether an organization's submission dealt with a given Article in a general way, i.e., without delving into specific concerns or recommended actions. This field was not used, however, as the submissions we reviewed all dealt in some detail with the Articles the organizations touched upon.

Text Table 1. Dimension A subcategories: Characteristics of the people, regions and governmental jurisdictions

In general	People in general (regardless of disability)
Age	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Children (and parents) ○ Youth ○ Working-age people ○ Seniors 65 years + ○ General - Age appropriate
Gender and gender identity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Women (and girls) ○ Men ○ LGBTQ2S ○ General - Gender sensitive
Geography / jurisdiction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Federal / national ○ Pan-Canadian ○ Provincial / territorial / regional ○ Urban ○ Rural / remote ○ Geographic - General
Economic status	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Low income / poor / jobless
Race and ethnicity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Indigenous persons ○ Racialized people ○ Newcomers / migrants ○ Refugees ○ General - Ethno-racially sensitive
Diverse impairments / "disabilities"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Psychosocial ○ Deaf ○ Hard-of-hearing ○ Deaf-blind ○ Blind ○ Visual impairment ○ Communicating ○ Mobility ○ Agility / flexibility ○ Cognitive ○ Learning Disability ○ Intellectual disability ○ ASD ○ Memory ○ Other ○ General – All / any disabilities

Text Table 2. Dimension B subcategories: Actions (to be taken or that was to have been taken) that aim to:

▪ Ensure equal protections for the rights reflected in the Article, such as...

- Adopt / target measures (e.g., strategy, program)
- Institute / review / amend legislation
- Institute / review / amend regulations
- Institute / review / amend policy
- Promulgate guidelines / standards
- Designate leadership / responsibility
- Exercise leadership
- Coordinate efforts / collaborate
- Allocate funding
- Monitor / conduct research / report
- Evaluate performance / assess
- Collect / provide (disaggregated) data

▪ Ensure freedom from discrimination against exercising the rights reflected in the Article, such as...

- Institute affirmative action / other rights-/inclusion-focused programming
- Modify/abolish exclusionary, discriminatory or coercive laws, regulations, stereotypes, attitudes, customs and practices (address barriers)

▪ Ensure necessary conditions are in place for individuals' access to and exercise of the rights reflected in the Article, such as...

- Ensure provision of direct service / support
- Ensure provision of suitable technology
- Ensure provision of modified (incl. timing of) routines
- Ensure provision of other / various accommodations
- Ensure provision of other needed deliverables / resources (incl. \$\$)
- Train individuals on rights, opportunities, skills, etc.
- Provide accessible information to individuals (and families)

▪ Strengthen systems-/ program-/ community- capacity to ensure the realization of the rights reflected in the Article, such as...

- Train / educate professionals and service providers
- Promulgate practice standards
- Institute policies/programs to ensure provision of accommodations
- Engage disability organizations in design, providing sup't, monitoring, research, etc.
- Fund (or otherwise support) disability organizations
- Engage other civil society / professional / human rights orgs.

▪ Other related issues

(▪ The organization's report deals with the Article in a general way)

Dimension C allowed us to indicate which of an organization's questions corresponded with the actions sought and the people of concern, as indicated in dimensions A and B. This dimension gave us the capacity to add the number of recommendations that touched upon issues of concern for each CRPD Article. Hypothetically, for instance, an organization may have had only one question (e.g., "#1") for Article 24 (on education). The question may have asked what policy measures were being introduced to address the poor educational situation of children with an intellectual disability. In such a case, in the Dimension B row for "Institute / review / amend policy", we would have placed the organization's question number (i.e., "#1") in one of the Dimension C cells in the same row.² A counter for Article 24 would have tallied all the recommendations for the article. In this instance, the tally would have been 1 because only one question about one action was asked.

In some cases, an organizations raised questions that were "multi-barreled". That is, the questions were about several actions to be taken to improve the rights-situations of several groups of people. Where this was the case, in Dimension C we indicated the organization's question number that corresponded with each action to be taken. For example, if a question asked about legislative, policy and training measures that had been taken to improve teacher competencies related to Article 24, the question number would have been placed on each of the three rows of Dimension B, in the Dimension C cells under Article 24. In this case our counter would have tallied 3 for the question numbers entered in Dimension C, which would have reflected the three points of concern raised by the single question.

In summary, depending on the actions an organization's question asked about, we may have entered the question number several times in Dimension C under a given CRPD Article.

Similarly, for any given action in an Article, more than one question may have asked about the same kind of action, but for different people of concern. For instance, one question may have asked what the Government of Canada had done to work with Provinces/Territories to ensure all *parents with disabilities* have access to *support and services* to fulfil effectively their role as parents (so disability is not used as a reason to remove their children from the home). Another question may have asked what the Government of Canada had done to ensure *First Nations families on reserves* have access to disability-related *family supports* to enable their children with disabilities to be raised at home. Here, in Dimension C we would have indicated the two question numbers on the Dimension B row for "Ensure provision of direct service / support".

Scoring and weighting

Where an organization asked whether an action had been taken to remedy the human rights difficulties a particular group people were experiencing In reference to a given CRPD Article, we flagged the cell that corresponded with the action the organization asked about (in Dimension B) and the group of people the organization was concerned about (in Dimension A). So, for

² We also inserted an Excel Note in the same cell as the question number, into which we either copied and pasted the organization's question in full, or a reasonably complete summary of that question.

instance, we could have flagged the cell in the Dimension B row for “ensure provision of direct service / support” which intersected with the cell in Dimension A for “people with psychosocial disabilities” in Dimension A. Where the organization also specified which level of government would ideally have taken the action to remedy the difficulty (e.g., federal), we would have also flagged the cell(s) for the implicated level(s) of government on the same row as for the action and intended beneficiary group.

It was common for an organization to ask whether several actions had been taken to remedy problems experienced by several groups of people under the same CRPD Article. For instance, Article 27 pertains to employment. Issues of employment affect many people with disabilities overall, and issues of employment differently affect distinct subgroups (e.g., people with mobility impairments vs people with an intellectual disability). Accordingly, the coded page for an organization could have had several flags for Article 27.

For organizations that represent a particular group of people (e.g., Autistics United Canada), we placed a value of “1” in whichever cells we flagged for coding. We also followed that tack when coding the questions from the Ontario Network of Injured Workers Groups, the Canadian Human Rights Commission, and the UN Committee. Values of 1, then, were used to code Dimensions A – C for four organizations. However, the CCSO represents a national consortium consisting of 55 national and provincial organizations. For this organization, we weighted the relevant cells with a value of 55. The reasoning was that, if all 55 organizations had submitted their own reports, and if these were identical to the report the consortium submitted, we would have had the same numerical result by inputting 1s in the relevant cells for 55 separate organizations’ reports.

We developed formulas for the data templates that totaled the number of “points” indicated by the codes we entered for each organization’s Dimension A – C cells for each Article of the CRPD. Appendix E provides an example of an anonymized coding template for Article 5 of the CRPD.

For each organization, we also developed a single summary page that tallied all the subtotals for all the organization’s Dimension A – C cells across all Articles.

“Points of concern”

For the present discussion, we define each of the cells that we coded in Dimensions A and B as “points of concern”. To simplify the language in the present report, we have used that phrase interchangeably with “concerns”.

Interpretation

Generally, the organizations framed their questions under explicitly named CRPD Articles. However, sometimes the organizations’ questions (and analysis and recommendations) spanned more than one Article for a particular line of questioning. In these cases, we tied the questions to Articles that seemed the best matches, given what the organizations indicated.

Occasionally, an organization's question that pertained to one Article also mentioned several other Articles which the organization had some similar concerns about. Here, we dealt with the organization's question in reference to the main Article under which the organization presented the question. We assumed that, if the organization had anything substantive to add or ask under other Articles about the same matter of concern, the organization would raise the question and concern under those Articles.

Sometimes an organization presented recommendations together with its questions. If a recommendation provided clarifying information, we used the recommendation to guide our coding of the question, if the full implications of a question were not already evident from the wording of the question itself. This could have occurred, for instance, if the recommendations indicated more clearly than the question which action was to be taken, which level(s) of government or other stakeholder group(s) were to be involved, and which people were intended as beneficiaries of the action.

Overall, we tried to avoid interpreting what the organizations might have meant by a given question and relied instead on what the organizations said about the actions, intended beneficiaries, and stakeholders with responsibilities for action. As we were unable to completely avoid engaging in interpretation, we adhered to a few further, simple rules, which are discussed in Appendix E.

Summarizing the results

The aim of the present analysis was to look at high-level patterns in the concerns raised by civil society organizations in relation to the CRPD, and to use as a comparator the UN Committee's concerns as reflected in its List of Questions Prior to Reporting. To answer our research questions, for each organization that presented questions, we generated summary information across Dimensions A – C of our coding scheme, for each CRPD article, and for all the CRPD Articles an organization had questions about.

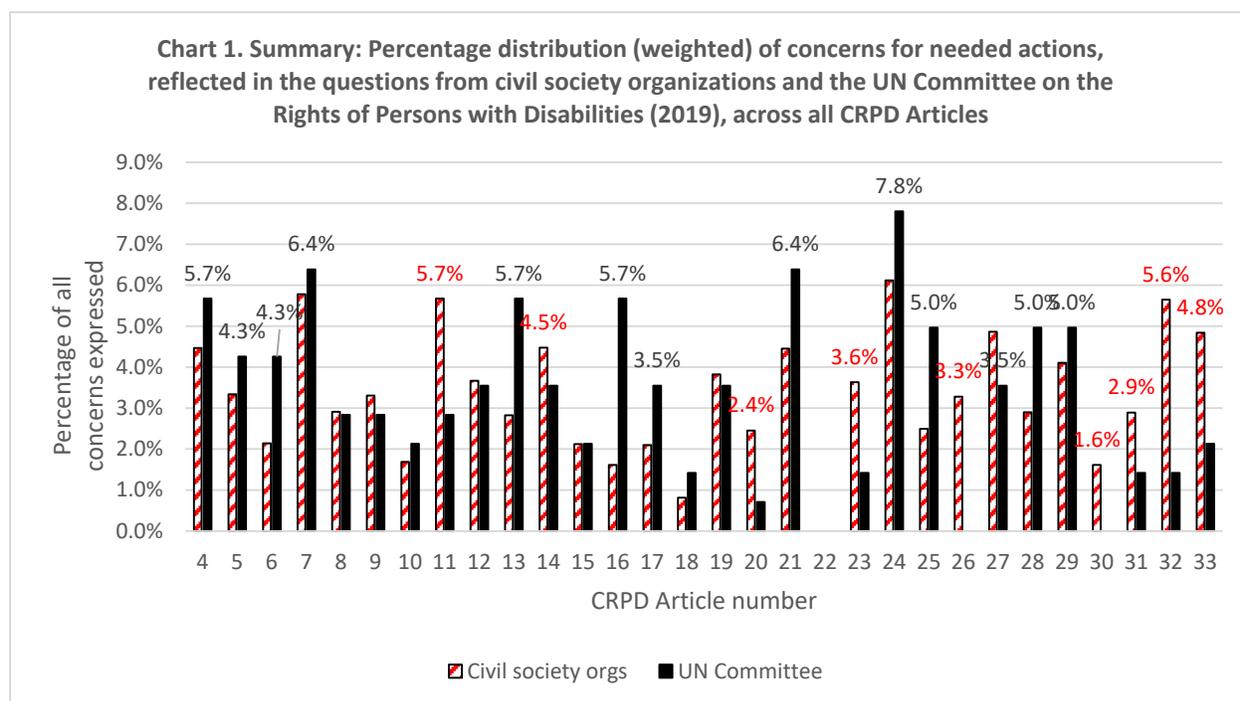
However, this level of detail for several organizations taken individually was difficult to interpret and discuss. Accordingly, we constructed several metadata tables and charts to summarize this information for: a) the concerns reflected in the lists of questions submitted by *all* 58 civil society organizations in Canada; as compared with, b) the concerns as reflected in the list of questions generated by the UN Committee. We converted all raw counts to percentages of the total counts for the civil society organizations and the UN Committee. We used percentages in the high-level summary tables and charts, which are the bases for the findings that follow. Detailed counts and the associated percentages for the metadata can be found in Appendix Tables 1 – 3 in Appendix G.

Findings

CRPD Articles that received attention

Overall

We have focused this part of the discussion on the Articles for which the civil society organizations and the UN Committee indicated that actions were needed. Looking broadly across all the CRPD Articles, Chart 1 shows the relative frequencies of the sought-for actions, as expressed in the questions presented by civil society organizations' and the UN Committee. Appendix Table 1 provides details.



The ten Articles that generated the most frequently asked questions about needed actions

Text Table 3 (below) shows the ten Articles that contain the most frequently asked about actions, which the civil society organizations and the UN Committee thought were needed to remedy human rights problems people with disabilities are experiencing. The table shows that the organizations and the Committee both asked about many actions under Articles 24 (on education) and 7 (on children with disabilities). Both groups' questions also pointed to the need for actions under Articles 4 (general obligations), 21 (freedom of expression and opinion, and access to information), and 29 (participation in political and public life). However, the civil society organizations' questions about needed actions under those three articles were comparatively fewer than those raised by the Committee.

The civil society organizations' questions also touched on the need for some actions that were not included among the top 10 Articles for the UN Committee's concerns about needed actions. Articles of significant concern for the civil society organizations were Articles 11 (situations of risk and humanitarian emergencies), 32 (international cooperation), 27 (work and employment), 33 (national implementation and monitoring of the CRPD), and 14 (liberty and security of persons).

Top 10 Articles for the UN Committee's questions that were not matched by corresponding levels of concern among the civil society organizations were Articles 13 (access to justice), 16 (freedom from exploitation, violence and abuse), 25 (health), and 28 (adequate standard of living and social protection).

Text Table 3. Top 10 CRPD Articles for which most points of concern can be found in the questions of civil society organizations in Canada and of the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (2019)	
Civil society organizations in Canada	UN Committee
24 – Education (6.1%)	24 – Education (7.8%)
7 – Children with disabilities (5.7%)	7 – Children with disabilities (6.3%)
11 – Situations of risk and humanitarian emergencies (5.6%)	21 – Freedom of expression and opinion, and access to information (6.3%)
32 – International cooperation (5.6%)	4 – General obligations (5.6%)
27 – Work and employment (4.8%)	13 – Access to justice (5.6%)
33 – National implementation and monitoring (4.8%)	16 – Freedom from exploitation, violence and abuse (5.6%)
14 – Liberty and security of persons (4.4%)	25 – Health (4.9%)
4 – General obligations (4.4%)	28 – Adequate standard of living and social protection (4.9%)
21 – Freedom of expression and opinion, and access to information (4.4%)	29 – Participation in political and public life (4.9%)
29 – Participation in political and public life (4.1%)	5 – Equality and non-discrimination (4.2%)

In summary, although there were differences in the frequency of concerns the organizations' and the Committee's questions asked about various top 10 Articles, the common five Articles among the top ten were Articles 4 (general obligations), 7 (on children with disabilities), 21 (on freedom of expression and opinion, and access to information), 24 (on education), and 29 (on participation in political and public life).

High-priority Articles under which the civil society organizations expressed more frequent interest than the UN Committee in terms of actions needed were Articles 11 (situations of risk and humanitarian emergencies), 14 (liberty and security of persons, 27 work and employment, 32 (international cooperation), and 33 (national implementation and monitoring of the CRPD).

Higher-priority Articles for the UN Committee in terms of actions needed were Articles 5 (equality and non-discrimination), 13 (access to justice), 16 (freedom from exploitation, violence and abuse), 25 (health), and 28 (adequate standard of living and social protection).

Articles that evoked significantly different levels of interest from the civil society organizations and the Committee

Compared with the number of concerns about needed actions that the UN Committee expressed in its questions across various CRPD Articles, some of the civil society organizations' concerns were represented to substantially different degrees. For instance, Articles where the concerns the organizations raised were at least 30% more frequent (i.e., ≥ 1.3 times) than those of the UN Committee can be found in the organizations' questions under the following Articles:

- 11 – Situations of risk and humanitarian emergencies (5.7% of all the organizations' concerns vs 2.8% of the Committee's concerns about needed actions);
- 20 – Personal mobility (2.4% vs 0.7%);
- 23 – Respect for home and the family (3.6% vs 1.4%);
- 26 – Habilitation and rehabilitation (3.3% vs 0%);
- 27 – Work and employment (4.9% vs 3.5%);
- 30 – Participation in cultural life, recreation, leisure and sport (1.6% vs 0%);
- 31 – Statistics and data collection (2.9% vs 1.4%);
- 32 – International cooperation (5.6% vs 1.4%); and
- 33 – National implementation and monitoring (4.8% vs 2.1%).

In contrast, the civil society organizations' concerns about needed actions were 30% or less frequent (i.e., ≤ 0.7 times) than those of UN Committee under the following Articles:

- 6 – Women with disabilities (2.1% vs 4.3%);
- 13 – Access to justice (2.8% vs 5.7%);
- 16 – Freedom from exploitation, violence and abuse (1.6% vs 5.7%);
- 17 – Protecting the integrity of the person (2.1% vs 3.5%);
- 18 – Liberty of movement and nationality (0.8% vs 1.4%);
- 21 – Freedom of expression and opinion, and access to information (4.5% vs 6.4%);
- 25 – Health (2.5% vs 5.0%); and
- 28 – Adequate standard of living and social protection (2.9% vs 5.0%).

Although the civil society organizations and the UN Committee did not identify similar numbers of issues that required action across the CRPD's Articles, this does not mean that the organizations or the Committee considered some issues completely unimportant or undeserving of attention. That said, it is noteworthy that neither the civil society organizations nor the UN Committee "weighed in" on Article 22 (respect for privacy). It is also noteworthy

that the UN Committee did not address Article 30 in its questions (participation in cultural life, recreation, leisure, and sport).

Specific actions that were sought

Overall

We grouped the frequency of the actions, sought by the civil society organizations and the UN Committee, according to broad categories. Chart 2 presents the results. Appendix Table 2 provides details under each of the broad headings.

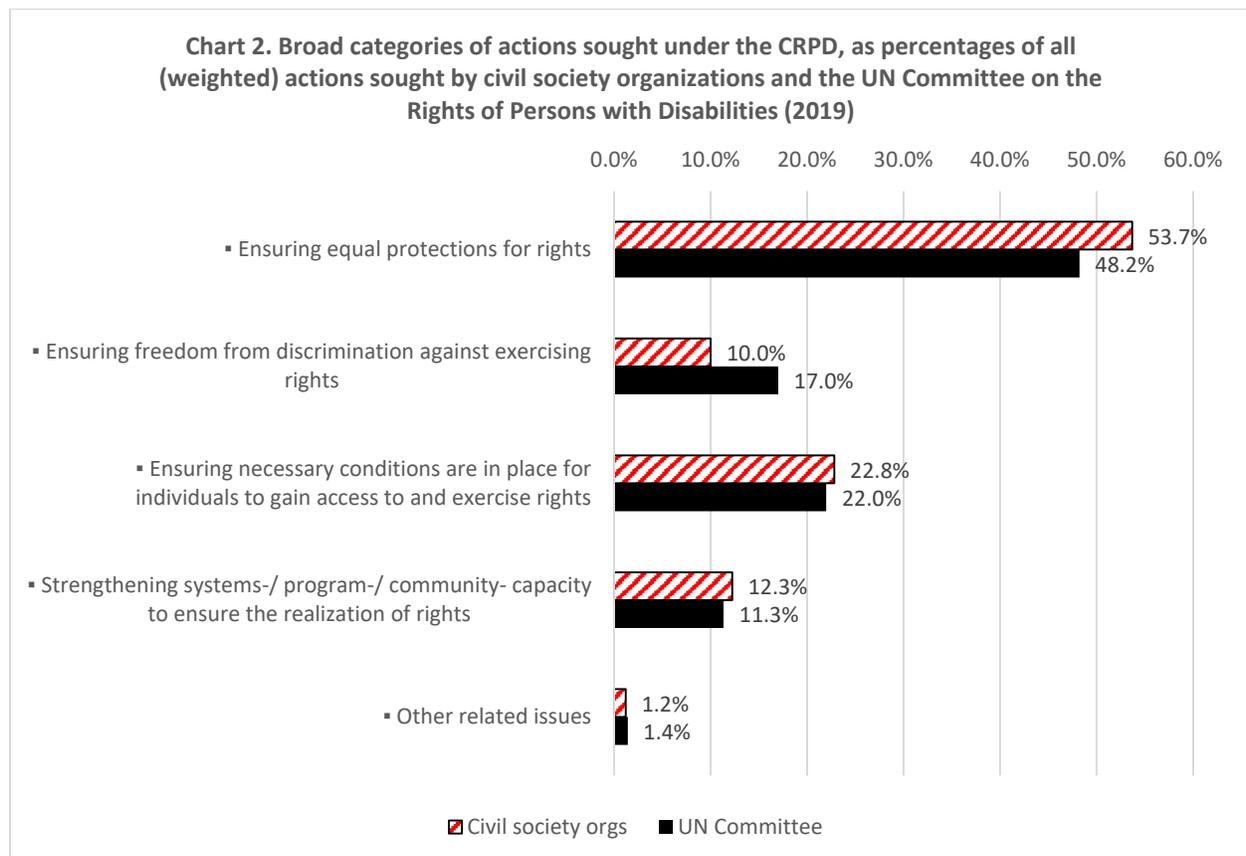
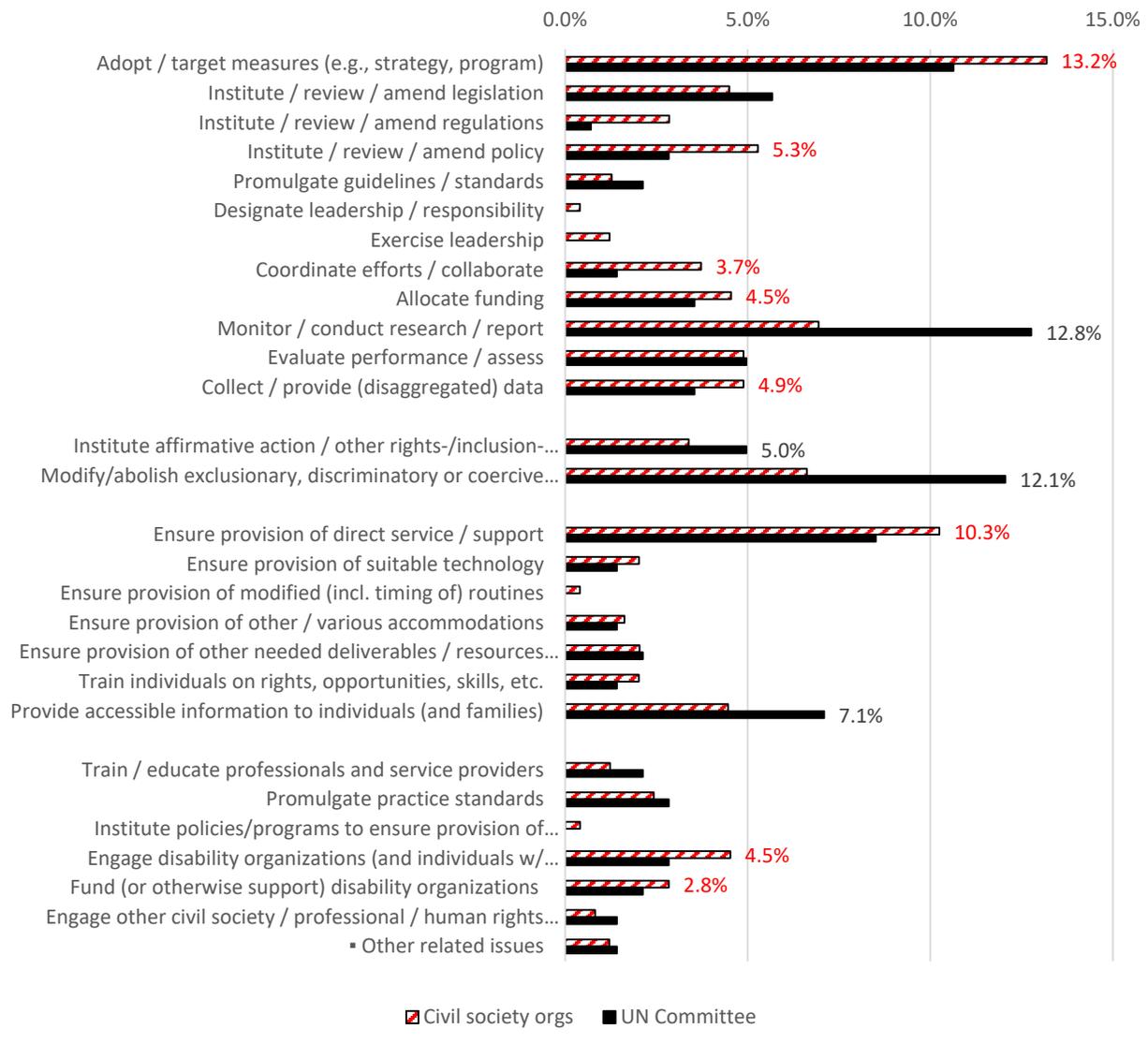


Chart 2 shows slightly greater preference among the civil society organizations than the UN Committee for actions that would positively ensure equal protections for rights (53.7% vs 48.3%). The civil society organizations expressed less frequent interest than the Committee in actions that would ensure freedom from discrimination in the exercise of rights (10% vs 17%). The numbers of questions raised by the organizations reflected about the same level of interest as the Committee in actions that would ensure the necessary conditions are in place for individuals to gain access to and exercise rights (22.8% vs 22%), and that would strengthen community-system capacity to ensure the realization of rights (12.3% vs 11.3%). The

organizations were also about as interested as the Committee in miscellaneous other actions that were related to rights under the CRPD (1.2% vs 1.4%). For instance, the CCSO expressed interest under Article 4 (on general obligations) about how the federal and provincial/territorial governments were *enforcing* the existing CRPD provisions in domestic law, policy, programs, and services. The civil society organizations also expressed interest under Article 6 (on women with disabilities) in steps that were being taken to ensure women with disabilities have full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at *all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life*.

Chart 3 (below) shows the details provided in Appendix Table 2 and which Chart 2 summarizes (above).

Chart 3. Summary of sought-for actions under the CRPD, as percentages of all interests in actions as expressed in the questions from civil society organizations and the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (2019)



Ten actions most often asked about

There was considerable overlap in terms of the actions the civil society organizations and the UN Committee mentioned most frequently in their questions for the Government of Canada. Text Table 4 shows the ten actions the organizations and the Committee most frequently asked about.

Text Table 4. Actions most frequently sought by civil society organizations and the UN Committee in their questions (2019)	
Civil society organizations	UN Committee
• Adopt / target measures (e.g., strategy, program) (13.2%)	• Monitor / conduct research / report (12.8%)
• Ensure provision of direct service / support (10.3%)	• Modify/abolish exclusionary, discriminatory or coercive laws, regulations, stereotypes, attitudes, customs and practices (barriers) (12.1%)
• Monitor / conduct research / report (6.9%)	• Adopt / target measures (e.g., strategy, program) (10.6%)
• Modify/abolish exclusionary, discriminatory, or coercive laws, regulations, stereotypes, attitudes, customs, and practices (barriers) (6.6%)	• Ensure provision of direct service / support (8.5%)
• Institute / review / amend policy (5.3%)	• Provide accessible information to individuals (and families) (7.1%)
• Evaluate performance / assess (4.9%)	• Institute / review / amend legislation (5.7%)
• Collect / provide (disaggregated) data (4.9%)	• Evaluate performance / assess (5.0%)
• Allocate funding (4.5%)	• Institute affirmative action / other rights-/inclusion-focused programming (5.0%)
• Engage disability organizations (and individuals with disabilities) in design, providing support, monitoring, research, etc. (4.5%)	• Allocate funding (3.5%)
• Institute / review / amend legislation (4.5%)	• Collect / provide (disaggregated) data (3.5%)
• Provide accessible information to individuals (and families) (4.5%)	• Institute / review / amend policy (2.8%)

The table shows that the organizations and the Committee frequently enquired about almost all the same kinds of actions. Overall, both groups tended to agree that it was necessary for governments, often in collaboration with other stakeholders, to:

- Adopt or target measures (e.g., by implementing strategies and programs);
- Institute, review, and amend legislation;
- Monitor the situations of people with disabilities, conduct research, and report on findings;
- Evaluate and assess the performance of legislation, policies, programs, and services;
- Collect and make available disaggregated data (e.g., on people with disabilities, programs and services);
- Modify and/or abolish exclusionary, discriminatory or coercive laws, regulations, stereotypes, attitudes, customs, and practices (i.e., barriers);
- Ensure provision of direct services and support to people with disabilities (and their families); and

- Allocate funding, e.g., for programs and services.

The only actions the civil society organizations frequently asked about that were not also mentioned by the UN Committee were about instituting, reviewing or amending policy, and about engaging disability organizations (and individuals w/ disabilities) in program and policy design, providing support, monitoring, conducting research, etc. The only actions the UN Committee frequently asked about that the civil society organizations did not also frequently ask about were about steps taken to provide accessible information to individuals (and families), and to institute affirmative action or other rights- and inclusion-focused programming. Again, just because the organizations or the Committee's questions did not place needed actions near the top of their respective concerns does not mean that the organizations or the Committee lacked any concern about those actions.

Actions that evoked significantly different levels of interest from the civil society organizations and the Committee

Compared with the number of specific actions that the UN Committee asked about in its questions across various CRPD Articles, some of the civil society organizations' concerns were represented to significantly differently degrees. For instance, the civil society organizations asked about some actions they were seeking at least 30% more often (i.e., ≥ 1.3 times) than the UN Committee. The civil society's questions were about measures that had been undertaken to:

- Institute / review / amend regulations (2.9% vs .7%);
- Institute / review / amend policy (5.3% vs 2.8%);
- Designate leadership / responsibility (.4% vs 0%);
- Exercise leadership (often by the federal government) (1.2% vs 0%);
- Coordinate efforts / collaborate (e.g., among levels of government and between governments and other stakeholders (3.7% vs 1.4%);
- Collect / provide (disaggregated) data (4.9% vs 3.5%);
- Ensure provision of suitable technology (2.0% vs 1.4%);
- Ensure provision of modified (including the timing of) routines, as an accommodation for individuals (0.4% vs 0%);
- Train individuals on rights, opportunities, skills, etc. (2.0% vs 1.4%);
- Institute policies/programs (at the organization-level) to ensure provision of accommodations (0.4% vs 0%);
- Engage disability organizations (and individuals with disabilities) in design, providing support, monitoring, research, etc. (4.5% vs 2.8%); and
- Fund (or otherwise support) disability organizations (2.8% vs 2.1%).

In contrast, the sought-for actions that the civil society organizations identified in their questions 30% or less often (i.e., ≤ 0.7 times) than the UN Committee were about measures undertaken to:

- Promulgate guidelines / standards (1.3% vs 2.1%);
- Institute affirmative action or other rights-/inclusion-focused programming (3.4% vs 5.0%);
- Modify/abolish exclusionary, discriminatory, or coercive laws, regulations, stereotypes, attitudes, customs, and practices (barriers) (6.6% vs 12.1%);
- Provide accessible information to individuals (and families) (4.5% vs 7.1%);
- Train / educate professionals and service providers (1.2% vs 2.1%); and
- Engage other civil society / professional / human rights orgs. (0.8% vs 1.4%).

People at the focus of concern

Overall

Chart 4 (below) provides a summary of the people who were featured in the questions of civil society organizations and the UN Committee.³ To keep the graphic elements balanced on the chart, we have excluded people with disabilities in general, who were a major concern for civil society organizations (featured in 38.8% of their questions) and for the Committee (featured in 34.2% of its questions).⁴ Appendix Table 3 provides details for the information shown on the chart.

Ten groups most often asked about

Text Table 5 (below) shows that there was considerable overlap in the groups of people the civil society organizations and the UN Committee asked most frequently about. As with the actions the organizations and the Committee enquired about, there were differences in the numbers of questions about various groups of people. However, leaving aside people with disabilities in general, the civil society organizations and the UN Committee asked most frequently about Indigenous people with disabilities. After that, most of the other groups shown on Text Table 5 were in both the civil society organizations' and the Committee's top ten groups of concern. These people were:

- People with psychosocial disability;
- Children with disabilities (and their parents);
- People with disabilities who require gender-sensitive approaches to policy and programs, e.g., women, girls, people in the LGBT2S+ community;

³ We filtered out of this analysis the organizations' and the UN Committee's mentions of the federal and provincial/territorial governments as entities responsible for taking action.

⁴ The inclusion of people with disabilities in general on the chart would have overwhelmed the other graphic elements.

- People with disabilities who require age-appropriate approaches to policy and programs, e.g., children, youth, seniors;
- Ethno-racially diverse people with disabilities;
- People with an intellectual disability;
- Women (and girls) with disabilities; and
- Low income / poor / jobless people with disabilities.

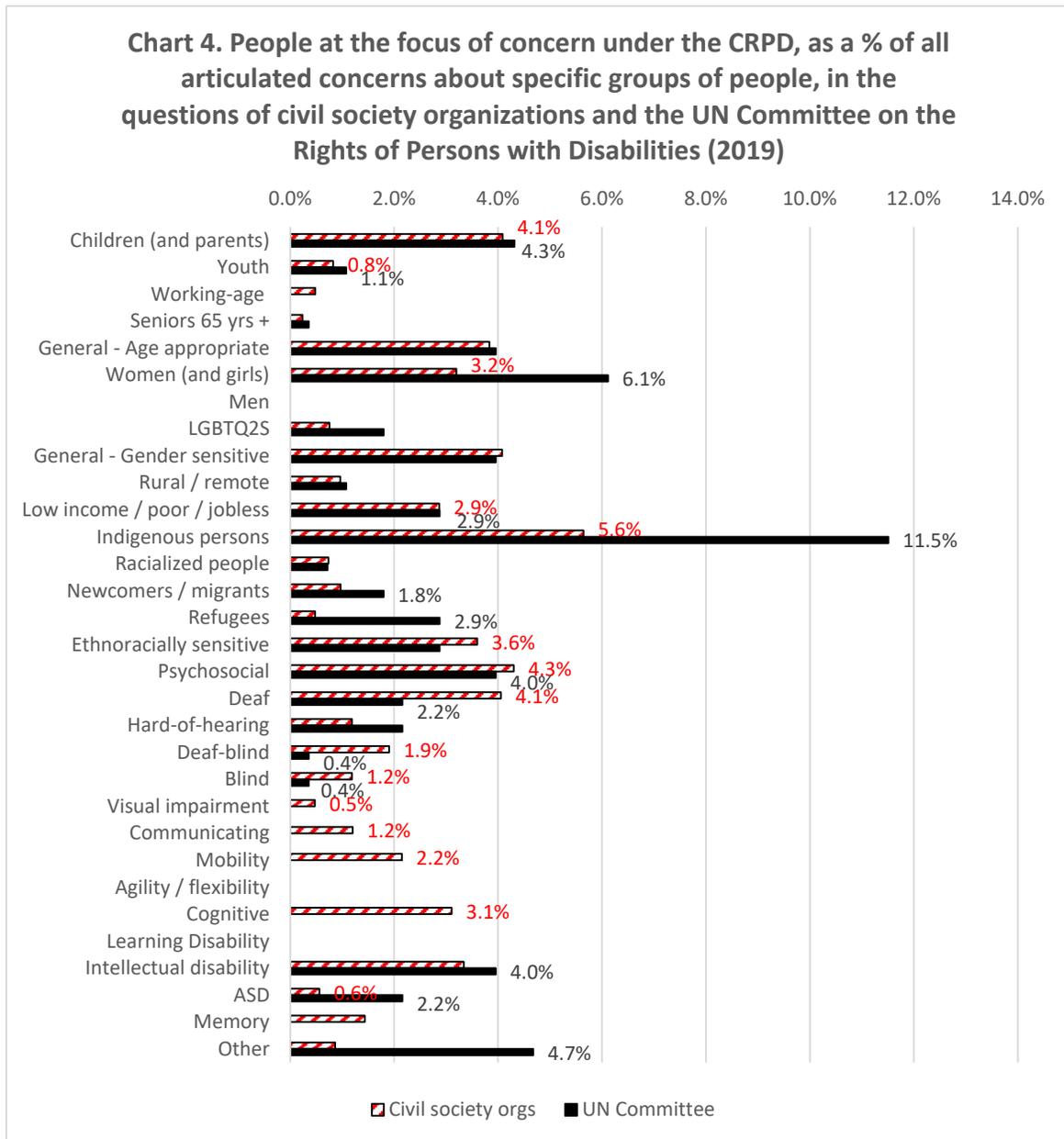
The only people the civil society organizations asked frequently about, who were not also prominent in the questions the UN Committee asked, were d/Deaf people and people with a cognitive disability.

Text Table 5. People that civil society organizations and the UN Committee most frequently asked about in their questions (2019)	
Civil society organizations	UN Committee
• Indigenous persons with disabilities (5.6%)	• Indigenous persons with disabilities (11.5%)
• People with psychosocial disability (4.3%)	• Women (and girls) with disabilities (6.1%)
• Children with disabilities (and their parents) (4.1%)	• Other people with disabilities (4.7%)
• People with disabilities who require gender-sensitive approaches (4.1%)	• Children with disabilities (and their parents) (4.3%)
• People who are d/Deaf (4.1%)	• People with disabilities who require age-appropriate approaches (4.0%)
• People with disabilities who require age-appropriate approaches (3.8%)	• People with disabilities who require gender-sensitive approaches (4.0%)
• Ethno-racially diverse people with disabilities (3.6%)	• People with psychosocial disability (4.0%)
• People with an intellectual disability (3.3%)	• People with an intellectual disability (4.0%)
• Women (and girls) with disabilities (3.2%)	• Low income / poor / jobless people with disabilities (2.9%)
• People with a cognitive disability (3.1%)	• Refugees with disabilities (2.9%)
• Low income / poor / jobless people with disabilities (2.9%)	• Ethno-racially diverse people with disabilities (2.9%)

The only people the UN Committee asked about most frequently, who the civil society organizations did not ask about as often, were refugees and people we classified as “other” in our coding scheme (Text Table 5). The latter people usually had one or more of the disabilities or other characteristics reflected in our coding scheme but had characteristics that we considered as warranting specific mention. These were people who:

- Need palliative / end-of-life care;
- Live in institutions and receive other services, whose situations should be monitored;
- Have been deemed to lack legal capacity to consent;

- Are homeless and have disabilities;
- Live (physically) in First Nation or Inuit communities;
- Use service or guide dogs; or
- Work in sheltered workshops.



Groups of people who evoked significantly different levels of interest from the civil society organizations and the Committee

Compared with the number of times that the UN Committee asked about various people in its questions across various CRPD Articles, the civil society organizations were concerned about

some people to significantly different degrees. For instance, the civil society organizations asked about the following groups at least 30% more often (i.e., ≥ 1.3 times) than the UN Committee. Here, the organizations accorded significantly more attention than the Committee in questions that concerned people who are d/Deaf, blind, have visual impairments or are deaf-blind, have disabilities in the areas of cognition, mobility, or communication, who live in urban communities, or are working-age. The UN Committee did not raise concerns about people with cognitive, mobility, memory, communication, or visual impairments, or who live in urban communities, or are working age.

- d/Deaf (4.1% vs 2.2%);
- Cognitive (3.1% vs 0.0%);
- Mobility (2.2% vs 0.0%);
- Deaf-blind (1.9% vs .4%);
- Memory (1.4% vs 0.0%);
- Blind (1.2% vs 0.4%);
- Communication (1.2% vs 0.0%);
- Visual impairment (0.5% vs 0.0%);
- Urban (0.7% vs 0.0%); and
- Working-age people (0.5% vs 0.0%).

In contrast, the civil society organizations asked about the following groups at least 30% less often (i.e., ≤ 0.7 times less) than the UN Committee:

- Indigenous persons (5.6% vs 11.5%);
- Women (and girls) (3.2% vs 6.1%);
- Hard-of-hearing (1.2% vs 2.2%);
- Newcomers / migrants (1.0% vs 1.8%);
- Other (0.9% vs 4.7%);
- LGBTQ2S (0.8% vs 1.8%);
- Seniors (0.2% vs 0.4%); and
- Refugees (0.5% vs 2.9%).

Further observations

While the organizations and the Committee acknowledged difficulties youth with disabilities experience, neither asked many questions that focused explicitly on youth (0.8% and 1.1%, respectively. See Chart 4 and Appendix Table 3.) The civil society organizations and the UN Committee did not ask many questions about seniors, either (0.2% and 0.4%, respectively). Yet, there are over half a million youths (15 to 24 years) with disabilities in Canada. And disability becomes increasingly common as people get older: over a third of all people with disabilities in Canada are seniors 65 years or older.

Chart 4 and Appendix Table 3 show that neither the civil society organizations nor the UN Committee's questions asked about men with disabilities, people with Learning Disabilities, or people with disabilities in the areas of agility or flexibility. The latter would include many people with arthritis who may be mobile but who have other difficulties reaching, grasping, and bending. It would be difficult for the organizations and governments in Canada to ignore such individuals, as large numbers of people in Canada indicate the presence of difficulties in these areas (Morris, Fawcett, Brisebois, & Hughes, 2018). Notably also, in their reports for the previous UN session under the CRPD, neither civil society organizations nor the UN Committee mentioned people with agility / flexibility disabilities or people with Learning Disabilities. (See Crawford, Hardie, & Wicklund, 2019.)

Poverty, low income and joblessness are disproportionately widespread problems for people with disabilities in Canada, particularly for people with more severe levels of impairment (Morris, Fawcett, Brisebois, & Hughes, 2018). Chart 4 and Appendix Table 3 show that the civil society organizations and the Committee shared the same – and fairly high – level of expressed concern about the situations of people with disabilities who live on low incomes, in poverty or who are jobless. Questions about poor people with disabilities made up 2.9% of the questions of the civil society organizations and the Committee. This is an encouraging development, given the low attention dedicated to these issues in the previous UN session under the CRPD (Crawford et al., 2019).

Conclusion

We found through this research that the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities' priorities for remedying human rights concerns in Canada are similar to but not entirely congruent with those put forward by civil society organizations in this country. Both groups' concerns tended to revolve around Articles 4 (general obligations), 7 (on children with disabilities), 21 (on freedom of expression and opinion, and access to information), 24 (on education), and 29 (on participation in political and public life). Aside from that common ground, Articles of higher priority for the civil society organizations were Articles 11 (situations of risk and humanitarian emergencies), 14 (liberty and security of persons), 27 (work and employment), 32 (international cooperation), and 33 (national implementation and monitoring of the CRPD). Higher-priority Articles for the UN Committee were Articles 5 (equality and non-discrimination), 13 (access to justice), 16 (freedom from exploitation, violence and abuse), 25 (health), and 28 (adequate standard of living and social protection).

As for specific actions that the civil society organizations and the UN Committee considered necessary, both groups were in general agreement that it was necessary for governments to:

- Adopt or target measures (e.g., by implementing strategies and programs);
- Institute, review, and amend legislation;
- Monitor the situations of people with disabilities, conduct research, and report on findings;
- Evaluate and assess the performance of legislation, policies, programs, and services;
- Collect and make available disaggregated data (e.g., on people with disabilities, programs and services);
- Modify and/or abolish exclusionary, discriminatory or coercive laws, regulations, stereotypes, attitudes, customs, and practices (i.e., barriers);
- Ensure provision of direct service and support to people with disabilities and their families; and
- Allocate funding, e.g., for programs and services.

The only actions the civil society organizations frequently asked about, which the UN Committee did not also ask frequently about, were about instituting, reviewing or amending policy, and about engaging disability organizations (and individuals w/ disabilities) in program and policy design, providing support, monitoring, conducting research, etc. The only actions the UN Committee frequently asked frequently about, which the civil society organizations did not also frequently ask about, were about steps taken to provide accessible information to individuals (and families), and to institute affirmative action or other rights- and inclusion-focused programming.

Concerning the people at the focus of concern for the civil society organizations and the Committee, again there was considerable overlap. The organizations and the Committee both asked most of their questions about:

- Indigenous people with disabilities;
- People with psychosocial disability;
- Children with disabilities (and their parents);
- People with disabilities who require gender-sensitive approaches to policy and programs, e.g., women, girls, people in the LGBT2S+ community;
- People with disabilities who require age-appropriate approaches to policy and programs, e.g., children, youth, seniors;
- Ethno-racially diverse people with disabilities;
- People with an intellectual disability;
- Women (and girls) with disabilities; and
- Low income / poor / jobless people with disabilities.

The only people the civil society organizations asked frequently about, who were not also prominent in the questions the UN Committee asked, were d/Deaf people and people with a cognitive disability. The only people the UN Committee asked about frequently, who the civil society organizations did not ask about as often, were refugees and people we classified as “other”, who we describe in the body of this report.

In terms of methodology, the approach developed for the present paper was a refinement of the methodology we used for an earlier report we produced that was similar in many ways. (See Crawford et al., 2019). The methodology again yielded what we consider to be interesting results that will hopefully prove useful to the organizations whose submissions we reviewed. A few categories for coding could perhaps be added and repositioned without significantly increasing the time required for data coding and analysis. As we indicated in the previous report, consideration could also be given to developing a database version of the tool rather than the spreadsheet-based version. While beyond the scope of the present project, a database could provide more flexibility for cross-tabulating and reporting on details, such as the actions organizations have identified as needed for youth *and* women *and* Indigenous persons under various CRPD Articles. That said, the tool used, here, was again reasonably straightforward and efficient to apply, and effectively helped in categorizing, summarizing, and analyzing the information contained in the submissions we reviewed. We continue to consider it a useful tool for coding and analyzing the considerable volume of qualitative data that organizations submit in their reports for the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities under the CRPD.

Appendices

A. Organizations' reports included in this research and scoring weights for data coding

Organization	Submission title	Number of national/ provincial/ territorial organizations represented (scoring weight)
Autistics United Canada	<i>List of Issues on Canada: Submission for the 22nd Session of the United Nations Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, August 26 to September 20, 2019</i>	1
Canadian Civil Society Organizations	<i>Submission of Canadian Civil Society Organizations to the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities: On the List of Issues Prior to Reporting [Canada] to be adopted during the 22nd Session of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities</i>	55
Canadian Human Rights Commission	<i>Submission to the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in advance of the Committee's development of the List of Issues Prior to Reporting for Canada's 2nd Periodic Review, July 2019</i>	1
Ontario Network of Injured Workers Groups	<i>Deeming laws and practices as violations of the rights of people with work-acquired disabilities in Canada: Submission to the 22nd Session of the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities held 26 August to 20 September 2019 in Geneva, Switzerland</i>	1
UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities	<i>List of issues prior to submission of the combined second and third periodic reports of Canada</i>	1

B. List of Canadian Civil Society Organizations that jointly submitted their List of Issues Prior to Reporting

- Abilities Centre Durham
- Abilities Centre Ottawa
- Accessibility for All
- Action Canada for Sexual Health and Rights
- Alliance for Equality of Blind Canadians (AEBC)
- Alzheimer Society of Canada
- ARCH Disability Law Centre
- British Columbia Aboriginal Network on Disability Society (BCANDS)
- Canada Without Poverty (CWP)
- Canadian Association for Community Living (CACL)
- Canadian Association of the Deaf (CAD)
- Canadian Centre on Disability Studies Incorporated (CCDS) o/a Eviance
- Canadian Council on Rehabilitation and Work (CCRW)
- Canadian Disability Participation Project
- Canadian Health Coalition
- Canadian Labour Congress (CLC)
- Canadian National Institute for the Blind (CNIB)
- Canadian Paralympic Committee
- Carleton University
- CNIB Deafblind Community Services
- Communication Disabilities Access Canada (CDAC)
- Council of Canadians with Disabilities (CCD)
- Disability Alliance British Columbia (DABC)
- DisAbled Women's Network Canada (DAWN)
- Easter Seals Canada
- Inclusive Education Canada (IEC)
- Independent Living Canada (ILC)
- Institutes for Research and Development on Inclusion and Society (IRIS)
- International Federation of Adapted Physical Activity, Mount Royal University
- International Network on the Disability Creation Process (INDCP)
- Keremeos Measuring Up Team
- Kéroul
- Mad Canada Shadow Reporting Group
- March of Dimes Canada
- McGill University

- Mouvement PHAS
- National Coalition of People who use Guide and Service Dogs in Canada
- National Educational Association of Disabled Students (NEADS)
- National Network for Mental Health (NNMH)
- Not Dead Yet
- Participation & Knowledge Translation in Childhood Disability, McGill University (PARKT Lab)
- People First of Canada (PFC)
- Dementia Alliance International
- Québec Accessible
- Realize
- Rehabilitation International
- Revved Up, Queen's University
- Rick Hansen Foundation
- Spinal Cord Injury Canada (SCI)
- Sport for Life
- The Steadward Centre for Personal & Physical Achievement, University of Alberta
- Toronto Accessible Sport Council
- Universal Design Network
- University of British Columbia
- University of Ottawa

C. List of CRPD Articles

Preamble

Article 1 - Purpose

Article 2 - Definitions

Article 3 - General principles

Article 4 - General obligations

Article 5 - Equality and non-discrimination

Article 6 - Women with disabilities

Article 7 - Children with disabilities

Article 8 - Awareness-raising

Article 9 - Accessibility

Article 10 - Right to life

Article 11 - Situations of risk and humanitarian emergencies

Article 12 - Equal recognition before the law

Article 13 - Access to justice

Article 14 - Liberty and security of persons

Article 15 - Freedom from torture or cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment

Article 16 - Freedom from exploitation, violence and abuse

Article 17 - Protecting the integrity of the person

Article 18 - Liberty of movement and nationality

Article 19 - Living independently and being included in the community

Article 20 - Personal mobility

Article 21 - Freedom of expression and opinion, and access to information

Article 22 - Respect for privacy

Article 23 - Respect for home and the family

Article 24 - Education

Article 25 - Health

Article 26 - Habilitation and rehabilitation

Article 27 - Work and employment

Article 28 - Adequate standard of living and social protection

Article 29 - Participation in political and public life

Article 30 - Participation in cultural life, recreation, leisure and sport

Article 31 - Statistics and data collection

Article 32 - International cooperation

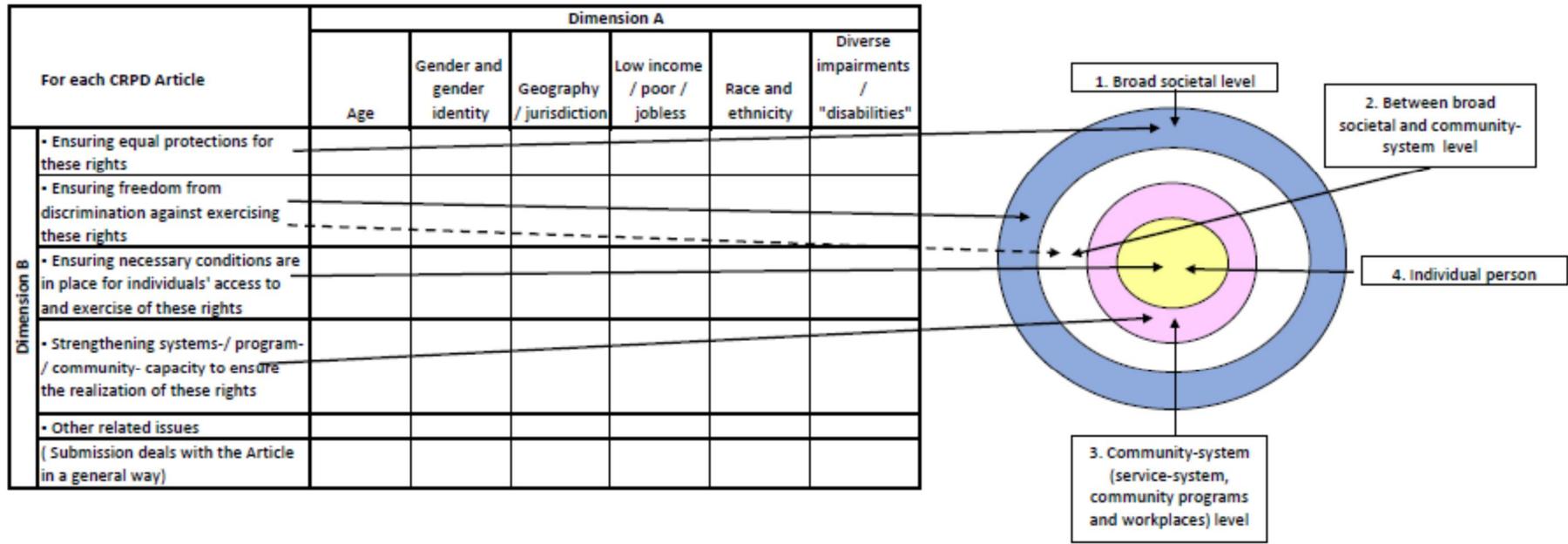
Article 33 - National implementation and monitoring

Article 34 - Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

Article 35 - Reports by States Parties

Article 36 - Consideration of reports
Article 37 - Cooperation between States Parties and the Committee
Article 38 - Relationship of the Committee with other bodies
Article 39 - Report of the Committee
Article 40 - Conference of States Parties
Article 41 - Depositary
Article 42 - Signature
Article 43 - Consent to be bound
Article 44 - Regional integration organizations
Article 45 - Entry into force
Article 46 - Reservations
Article 47 - Amendments
Article 48 - Denunciation
Article 49 - Accessible format
Article 50 - Authentic texts

D. Basic structure of the coding scheme for each CRPD Article



The diagram above shows the broad categories of information within which our coding scheme captured more specific details reflected in the questions organizations raised for the Government of Canada to answer. Dimension B corresponds with several societal levels on which interventions typically apply: the *broad societal level*, which affects many activities across multiple domains of activity; the *community-system level* (service-system, community programs, schools, workplaces, places for commerce and leisure, etc.), which affects activities in the local communities where people live, work, learn, recreate and so on; the *individual person level*; and a *level between the broad societal and community-system level* which directly involves actions taken by governments and other stakeholders to influence conditions and activities in organizations and programs. Those actions in turn have repercussions at the individual person level.

F. Rules for interpreting the submissions

In addition to the notes provided in the body of this report on the rules we followed for interpreting submissions under the CRPD, we followed a few other rules as well.

1. In most cases, the organizations' submissions included background contextual information in their submission related to a given CRPD Article. This information included mini-situational reports of how people with disabilities were faring in relation to the guiding principles and stated rights of a given CRPD Article, or provided recommendations, or details about legislation, relevant features of public policy and programs, etc. While we examined the contextual information, we did not draw from it when coding unless it was critical for understanding a given question and to whom it applied.
2. In some instances, an organization's questions were quite clear about which order of government ought to undertake a specific action, such as the federal government for reviewing and amending details that fall within a piece of federal legislation. Such questions were quite straightforward to code. In other cases, however, the questions were clear about an action that was needed, but did not specify who should be responsible for taking the action, and the other material provided in the submission did not clarify this detail. Where a matter was left for "Canada" or an unstated party to address, but without further direction, we inferred that the federal government was at the very least implicated in the action and coded the action accordingly. In still other instance, a question indicated that something was to occur to remedy a problem, e.g., "what steps have been taken", but did not specify the action(s) to be taken. In these instances, we coded the concern as something which called for the adoption or targeting of some measure (e.g., a strategy or program). Where the level of government or other players were not specified, we inferred that the federal government was at the very least implicated in the measure that was to be pursued.

G. Appendix Tables

Appendix Table 1. Number (weighted) and percentage of recommendations pertaining to each CRPD Article, by all 58 civil society organizations and the UN Committee

Article #	Civil society orgs		UN Committee	
	N	%	N	%
4	609	4.5%	8	5.7%
5	455	3.3%	6	4.3%
6	292	2.1%	6	4.3%
7	788	5.8%	9	6.4%
8	397	2.9%	4	2.8%
9	451	3.3%	4	2.8%
10	230	1.7%	3	2.1%
11	774	5.7%	4	2.8%
12	500	3.7%	5	3.5%
13	385	2.8%	8	5.7%
14	610	4.5%	5	3.5%
15	289	2.1%	3	2.1%
16	220	1.6%	8	5.7%
17	286	2.1%	5	3.5%
18	111	0.8%	2	1.4%
19	521	3.8%	5	3.5%
20	334	2.4%	1	0.7%
21	607	4.5%	9	6.4%
22	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
23	495	3.6%	2	1.4%
24	834	6.1%	11	7.8%
25	340	2.5%	7	5.0%
26	447	3.3%	0	0.0%
27	663	4.9%	5	3.5%
28	395	2.9%	7	5.0%
29	560	4.1%	7	5.0%
30	220	1.6%	0	0.0%
31	394	2.9%	2	1.4%
32	770	5.6%	2	1.4%
33	660	4.8%	3	2.1%
All Articles covered	13,637	100.0%	141	100.0%

Explanatory Note for Appendix Table 1:

It will be observed on Appendix Table 1 that the raw counts for the civil society organizations are high when compared with the counts for the UN Committee. This is because of the weights assigned to the participating civil society organizations' questions. One row of data in Dimension C for the civil society organizations could have a value of 55 if only the CCSO had a recommendation that corresponded with a cell at the intersection of Dimensions A and B on the same row of data as in Dimension C. However, the score could be 58, assuming the CCSO, the CHRC, ONIWG and AUC all had one question related to the issues on the same row. Here, a value of 55 would have been assigned for the CCSO, plus 1 for the CHRC, plus 1 for the ONIWG, plus 1 for AUC. The value could be higher than 58 if, for instance, some of the organizations had more than one question that pertained to cells at the intersection of Dimensions A and B on the same row of data as in Dimension C. It must also be remembered each of the rows reported in Appendix Table 1 represent a summary of *all* cells in *all* rows in Dimension C for a given Article. For each article, there are up to 28 rows of data that correspond with actions (in Dimension B). For each organization, we found that the organizations generally required four or fewer cells to capture recommendations for the points of concern the organizations may have had across Dimension A for a given row of possible actions indicated in Dimension B. There is a possibility of $4 \times 28 = 112$ cells for recommendations in Dimension C for each article. Some organizations used several of these cells for any given Article. For instance, for Article 24 on education, the CCSO presented questions that touched on 15 points of concern. Those questions were each weighted as representing 55 organizations, so overall the score for CCSO was 825 (55×15) on Article 24. In comparison, the CHRC's single but multi-barreled question touched on 3 points of concern, the two questions of AUC touched on 6 points, and the ONWIG did not raise questions on Article 24 (0). Accordingly, the summary score for Article 24 in Appendix Table 1 shows a value of 834 ($825 + 3 + 6 + 0$). For many Articles, several recommendations from across the civil society organizations touched upon multiple points that were captured in Dimension C.

The weights pertain only to the civil society organizations, however. They represent the relative weight assigned to the organizations' expressed concerns about a given point of discussion. The most impactful of all the civil society scores for the present analysis are those of the CCSO because those scores represent the views of 55 out of 58 civil society organizations.

Appendix Table 2. Number (weighted) and percentage of actions sought by all 58 civil society organizations and the UN Committee under the CRPD

	Civil society orgs		UN Committee	
	N	%		%
▪ Ensuring equal protections for rights				
Adopt / target measures (e.g., strategy, program)	1,799	13.2%	15	10.6%
Institute / review / amend legislation	613	4.5%	8	5.7%
Institute / review / amend regulations	389	2.9%	1	0.7%
Institute / review / amend policy	720	5.3%	4	2.8%
Promulgate guidelines / standards	174	1.3%	3	2.1%
Designate leadership / responsibility	55	0.4%	-	0.0%
Exercise leadership	166	1.2%	-	0.0%
Coordinate efforts / collaborate	508	3.7%	2	1.4%
Allocate funding	620	4.5%	5	3.5%
Monitor / conduct research / report	947	6.9%	18	12.8%
Evaluate performance / assess	666	4.9%	7	5.0%
Collect / provide (disaggregated) data	666	4.9%	5	3.5%
▪ Ensuring freedom from discrimination against exercising rights				
Institute affirmative action / other rights-/inclusion-focused programming	462	3.4%	7	5.0%
Modify/abolish exclusionary, discriminatory or coercive laws, regulations, stereotypes, attitudes, customs and practices (barriers)	903	6.6%	17	12.1%
▪ Ensuring necessary conditions are in place for individuals to gain access to and exercise rights				
Ensure provision of direct service / support	1,398	10.3%	12	8.5%
Ensure provision of suitable technology	276	2.0%	2	1.4%
Ensure provision of modified (incl. timing of) routines	55	0.4%	-	0.0%
Ensure provision of other / various accommodations	222	1.6%	2	1.4%
Ensure provision of other needed deliverables / resources (incl. \$\$)	278	2.0%	3	2.1%
Train individuals on rights, opportunities, skills, etc.	275	2.0%	2	1.4%
Provide accessible information to individuals (and families)	609	4.5%	10	7.1%
▪ Strengthening systems-/ program-/ community- capacity to ensure the realization of rights				
Train / educate professionals and service providers	168	1.2%	3	2.1%
Promulgate practice standards	331	2.4%	4	2.8%
Institute policies/programs to ensure provision of accommodations	56	0.4%	-	0.0%
Engage disability organizations (and individuals w/ disabilities) in design, providing sup't, monitoring, research, etc.	617	4.5%	4	2.8%
Fund (or otherwise support) disability organizations	387	2.8%	3	2.1%
Engage other civil society / professional / human rights orgs.	112	0.8%	2	1.4%
▪ Other related issues	165	1.2%	2	1.4%
▪ Report deals with Articles in a general way	-	0.0%	-	0.0%
All actions	13,637	100.0%	141	100.0%

Appendix Table 3. Number of and percentage recommended actions that pertained to groups of interest under the CRPD, by civil society organizations and the UN Committee

Groups of interest	Civil society orgs		UN Committee	
	N (weighted)	%	N	%
People in general (irrespective of disability)	337	1.5%	-	0.0%
Children (and parents)	945	4.1%	12	4.3%
Youth	191	0.8%	3	1.1%
Working-age adults	112	0.5%	-	0.0%
Seniors 65 yrs +	55	0.2%	1	0.4%
General - Age appropriate	886	3.8%	11	4.0%
Women (and girls)	739	3.2%	17	6.1%
Men	-	0.0%	-	0.0%
LGBTQ2S	175	0.8%	5	1.8%
General - Gender sensitive	942	4.1%	11	4.0%
Urban	166	0.7%	-	0.0%
Rural / remote	223	1.0%	3	1.1%
Geographic - General	113	0.5%	2	0.7%
Low income / poor / jobless	663	2.9%	8	2.9%
Indigenous persons	1,304	5.6%	32	11.5%
Racialized people	170	0.7%	2	0.7%
Newcomers / migrants	224	1.0%	5	1.8%
Refugees	111	0.5%	8	2.9%
Ethno-racially diverse	832	3.6%	8	2.9%
Psychosocial disability	994	4.3%	11	4.0%
Deaf	937	4.1%	6	2.2%
Hard-of-hearing	275	1.2%	6	2.2%
Deaf-blind	440	1.9%	1	0.4%
Blind	275	1.2%	1	0.4%
Visual impairment	110	0.5%	-	0.0%
Communicating	278	1.2%	-	0.0%
Mobility disability	497	2.2%	-	0.0%
Agility / flexibility disability	-	0.0%	-	0.0%
Cognitive disability	718	3.1%	-	0.0%
Learning Disability	-	0.0%	-	0.0%
Intellectual disability	772	3.3%	11	4.0%
ASD	130	0.6%	6	2.2%
Memory disability	332	1.4%	-	0.0%
Other disability	200	0.9%	13	4.7%
All / any disabilities	8,963	38.8%	95	34.2%
All	23,109	100.0%	278	100.0%

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