A third theme is that the **disability movements as other social movements reflect the values of their countries of origin**. Certainly within Canada the respect for the rule of law, of a democratic process in decision making and the concept of the "just society" is in evidence both in Canadian-based organizations working abroad and in Canadians working within international organizations. Canadians also have a sense of caring for what happens to people in other countries as is evidenced by humanitarian assistance in many international disasters. The principle of participation has drawn the attention of many people at the United Nations to talk about the "Canadian model". They characterize this as the participation of citizens in government to develop policies and program direction. Certainly these values have had important impact in influencing the role that Canadians have played in international disability issues...

The values of participation and democratic decision-making also have been brought into international disability organizations by Canadians in leadership positions. These include Disabled Peoples' International, Inclusion International and others. Further, the more than one hundred years experience with forming and operating small and large disability related non-governmental organizations, amongst the most extensive in the world, contributed to development of a strong sense of those organizational values that are important to effectiveness. These too have been transmitted to international organizations.

A fourth theme is the **priority placed by Canada on multi-lateral policy** within the United Nations. Canada has always supported multi-lateral institutions and emphasized their importance. Together with this has been a policy on the **importance of the voluntary or non-governmental sector**. As a result of these policies, Canada has supported in a variety of ways the emergence of the disability movement within the United Nations. This approach was evident in developing the activities of the International Year of Disabled Persons, the United Nations World Programme of Action, the United Nations Standard Rules for Equalization of Opportunities, and the introduction of the resolution to conduct an international study on the violation of the rights of disabled people. These are only a few examples.

A fifth theme is the **strong sense of mission** that can be identified in the international work of Canadians in leadership positions. This mission has often been driven by the desire to create change. In order to create change they have had to advocate for strategic changes such as at the United Nations and also within the Canadian government. The disability movement promoted the human rights framework within CIDA already back in early 1980's when the officials within CIDA clearly stated that human rights has nothing to do with development. Over the years considerable influence was brought about by the disability movement. Within international organizations Canadians have often modeled new and creative approaches, based on models developed within Canada. The idea of developing an international development program that would promote organizational development was initiated within the Canadian context and promoted through Disabled Peoples' International. The models of community participation, grassroots empowerment and human rights emerged in Canada out of a historic orientation towards rehabilitation and medical and charity models towards disability that institutionalized hundreds of thousands of people within Canada. The leaders have taken the new ideas developed within Canada as a reaction to the old paradigms and promoted them internationally.

A final trend of note is that those people from Canada who have played international leadership roles almost invariably came from **personal experiences of marginalization or oppression.** They typically came from regions of the country that were economically disadvantaged, or from minority or immigrant backgrounds. These experiences seemed to contribute to a style of leadership emphasizing participation, human rights, community, and democratic decision-making processes within to the international organizations.