

advocates within their own countries. Such support in part was provided through Canadian organizations of disabled people which received project funding for such purposes, but also through "Mission Funds" available through Canadian Embassies for small project support. Both the initiatives by disability organizations and the nature of support by government have been quite unique. Having said this, there have been significant struggles for organizations of disabled people to obtain funding in support of international development work on a sustained basis, particularly in recent years.

6. A number of Universities and Colleges along with university affiliated centres became involved in international CIDA funded projects which were supportive of community inclusion. Again, funding for initiatives supporting the social inclusion of disabled people has not been easy to get, and many possibilities have been by-passed. Never-the-less, the fact that there have been some successes and that these are relatively unique on the world stage is worthy of note.
7. Efforts were made to have Canada-based international development organizations along with CIDA incorporate disability as a conscious part of their agenda. Though very mixed in success, there is evidence that a gradual shift has taken place in the nature of development projects related to disability - from predominantly medical rehabilitation and "sheltered workshop" in orientation towards a greater emphasis on community inclusion.

These and other activities reached their peak in the late 1980s. They ebbed in early 1990s as the attention of governments shifted to other agendas, particularly those of reducing public spending and promoting trade within the context of globalization. One couldn't say that disability has been totally lost in these changes as a number of disability related international development initiatives are ongoing, but its centrality as a focus of attention within the international agendas intentionally pursued by the Government of Canada certainly has been placed in doubt.