

5. CONSULTATION— 'GIVE AND TAKE'

- 1. We believe all activities that affect Aboriginal people with disabilities must be directed by and meaningfully involve them.*
- 2. We believe that all activities of this nature must build on the capacity of Aboriginal people with disabilities to contribute to their society, both within their neighbourhood and all the way up to the national level.*
- 3. We believe that all activities undertaken in partnership with political organizations, consumer groups and educational institutions should be conducted—within the legal, financial, and ethical framework—as if they were relationships between equals.*
- 4. We believe all activities should serve to empower Aboriginal people with disabilities. They should help to develop their skills, their knowledge, and instill in them a greater sense of confidence in their ability to influence policies and programs that ultimately affect their lives.*
- 5. The last principle that we strongly support is that all activities should respect the regional and cultural diversity of First Nations across this country.*

Statement of Principles by the
National Aboriginal Network on Disability,
Minutes, Issue 39, p.7, 27 November 1990

In its statement of principles, the National Aboriginal Network on Disability (NAND) said it all: the people most affected by decisions want a say in the process. In its 1990 presentation to this Committee, NAND emphasized that the nature—and lack—of consultations between the federal bureaucracy and Aboriginal people continues to obstruct the effective delivery of services to those