

on the support of community leaders. The band leadership must not only have information about relevant programs but also must make the needs of disabled persons a priority in the community. For instance, the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development's (DIAND's) On-Reserve Housing Program uses the Social Housing Program of Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation to provide accessible housing to Aboriginal people with disabilities. DIAND pointed out, however, that the demand for accessible housing varies from region to region and from band to band.

The need for cooperation and support at the community level will be even greater as more programs are transferred to the band level for delivery. Departmental officials firmly believe that this transfer process will better coordinate programs at the community level. The Medical Services Branch of Health and Welfare Canada, for example, has developed a health transfer program to give bands south of the sixtieth parallel the option of

