



Best Practises for Inclusion for People with Disabilities in the VAW Sector & Research

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Introduction

- ▶ My name is Melanie or “she carries the Light woman” my Indigenous name given to me by a well known Elder.
- ▶ Currently I work at Springtide resources as the Women with disabilities and deaf women coordinator, manager of inclusion and accessibility.

1. When doing research explore:

- who is not at the table?

2. When you chose to invite folks to be apart of your research, please include them at all levels.

What does this mean?

3. Compensate them with:

- healthy food
- an honoraria

and please listen to what they are saying, by honouring their words. Ask for stories.

4. Remember when a person with a disability is leaving an abusive situation they cannot just pick up and leave a shelter, they must consider numerous factors.

5. Remember we are people first, some of us have intersections of:

- identities
- class
- race
- ability.

6. Remember your own bias

7. Greeter Guide

-how to approach and work with individuals who have traumatic brain injury

8. Best practises guide for the Accessibility Directorate of Ontario (ADO)

- Centered around disability
- Created by us for us
- Address gaps in the VAW shelter system

THANK YOU!



Melanie Marsden
melanie@springtideresources.org