

EVENT SUMMARY REPORT

PWD Application Webinar

Persons with Disabilities

February 24, 2026

6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Virtual · Zoom

112 Participants

In partnership with **Disability Alliance BC (DABC)**

Click here for the [Event PowerPoint](#),
[Q&A](#), and [event recording](#)!

1 Event Overview

The **Persons with Disabilities (PWD) Application Webinar** was hosted by the **Vancouver Division of Family Practice** in collaboration with **Disability Alliance BC**. The webinar was designed to support primary care providers in navigating the PWD application process and strengthening their ability to assist patients in completing applications. This session was developed in response to provider feedback indicating a need for clearer guidance on completing PWD applications, including eligibility criteria, documentation expectations, and common reasons applications may be denied. The event featured a detailed presentation followed by a moderated Q&A.



2 Objectives

- Increase provider understanding of PWD eligibility criteria and application requirements
- Provide practical guidance on how to complete PWD applications effectively
- Highlight common documentation challenges and application denial reasons
- Introduce providers to support services available through Disability Alliance BC
- Create space for provider questions and discussion regarding the PWD process

3 Presentation Highlights

Overview of Disability Assistance Programs

- Income Assistance (IA) – foundational income support program
- Persons with Persistent Multiple Barriers (PPMB) – for those facing sustained obstacles to employment
- Persons with Disabilities (PWD) – enhanced designation with additional income and benefit supports

PWD Eligibility Criteria

KEY REQUIREMENTS

- A severe and persistent medical condition expected to last **two or more years**
- Significant restrictions affecting **activities of daily living (ADLs)**
- Demonstrated need for assistance from another person, assistive devices, or support services



Structure of the PWD Application

SECTION	COMPLETED BY	KEY FOCUS
Section 1 – Applicant Self Report	Patient	Describes disability and functional limitations in their own words
Section 2 – Medical Report	Physician / Nurse Practitioner	Severity, expected duration, links conditions to functional restrictions
Section 3 – Assessor Report	OT, Social Worker, Psychologist, etc.	Detailed descriptions of how impairments affect daily functioning

Documentation Best Practices

- Provide specific and quantifiable examples of functional limitations
- Clearly describe how impairments affect activities of daily living
- PWD and CPP Disability application advocacy
- Disability Tax Credit and Registered Disability Savings Plan support
- Legal advocacy and information services
- Use consistent language across all application sections
- Indicate frequency and duration of restrictions (e.g., majority of the time, specific days/week)

Providers were encouraged to connect patients with DABC when additional advocacy or application support is needed.

Common Reasons for Application Denials

WATCH OUT FOR

- Insufficient detail regarding functional limitations
- Lack of alignment between different sections of the application
- Failure to demonstrate impact on daily living activities
- Medical conditions not expected to persist for two or more years



4 Key Themes from Participant Feedback

THEME 01

Practical & Relevant Content

Providers consistently noted the topic was highly relevant to everyday clinical practice — PWD forms are commonly encountered but rarely taught during training. Appreciated: step-by-step walkthroughs, practical documentation tips, and real-world examples.

THEME 02

Increased Confidence

Many providers reported feeling more confident completing PWD applications. Key takeaways: documenting functional limitations in detail, quantifying frequency and duration, and ensuring consistency across application sections.

THEME 03

Awareness of Community Supports

Providers valued learning about Disability Alliance BC and available supports for patients. Participants indicated they would consider referring patients to DABC for application support and advocacy.

THEME 04

Length & Information Density

While feedback was overwhelmingly positive, some participants noted the session felt long or information-heavy, with some very detailed examples. Additional Q&A time was requested.

3 Evaluation Feedback

112

POST-EVENT SURVEY RESPONDENTS

97

FAMILY PHYSICIANS (86.6%)

15

NURSE PRACTITIONERS (13.4%)

6

PCNS REPRESENTED

FUTURE ENGAGEMENT

98.2%

of respondents would attend another PCN event

Overall evaluation results indicate very strong satisfaction, with most ratings above 4.4 / 5 across all engagement metrics.

Engagement Metrics



8 Opportunities for Improvement

- Shorten the presentation or split content into multiple sessions
- Provide slides, recordings, and written Q&A summaries after the event Include case-based examples or challenging patient scenarios
- Invite physician speakers or Ministry representatives to provide additional perspectives
- Increase interactive discussion time

9 Potential Engagement Topics Identified from Evaluations

Disability & Government Forms

Disability Tax Credit (DTC)

CPP Disability (CPP-D)

ICBC & WorkSafeBC Forms

Income Assistance / PPMB

Clinical Practice Topics

Mental Health Resources

Chronic Pain Management

Complex Chronic Conditions

ADHD Treatment Strategies

System Navigation

Community Resources for Vulnerable Populations

Medication Coverage Programs

Supports for Frail Seniors & Caregivers



Next Steps

This session is just the start. We plan to share more learning opportunities, Q&As, and helpful resources ahead.

Connect with your CNM!

The CNM's role is to help the providers and clinics in their PCNs to access resources, get support and connect with other folks in their PCN.

Find your CNM contact information [here](#).

Thank you!