



**ONTARIO
AUTISM
COALITION**

876 Atwater Avenue, Mississauga, Ontario, L5E 1M1 (416) 451-8315

MEDIA ADVISORY

April 4, 2020

Virtual Public Forum

Issues Affecting People With Disabilities During COVID-19 Pandemic

Date and Time: Tuesday, April 7, 2020, from 10:00 to 11:30 am.

YouTube Link: <https://www.youtube.com/c/OntarioAutismCoalition>

This virtual public forum, jointly organized and hosted by the [AODA Alliance](#) and [Ontario Autism Coalition](#), will address the impact of COVID-19 on the disability community. We will speak with leading experts about the additional barriers and hardships that over 2.6 million Ontarians with disabilities are now facing during the COVID-19 crisis. We will offer the Government constructive ideas on what should be done in the face of these additional hardships. Moderating the discussion will be OAC President Laura Kirby-McIntosh and AODA Alliance Chair David Lepofsky.

The Ontario Autism Coalition will provide captioning for this event.

Ideas for discussion topics, questions, and comments can be emailed to PWFForum@gmail.com. No individual responses will be sent. The account will be monitored during the forum, as will the YouTube comments. Please understand that we cannot answer individual emails.

The panel will include:

Barbara Collier	Communication Disorders Association of Canada
Irwin Elman	Former Provincial Advocate for Children and Youth
Yola Grant	Executive Director, Income Security Advocacy Centre
James Janeiro	Community Living Toronto
Thea Kurdi	DesignABLE Environments
Rob Lattanzio	Arch Disability Law
Karen McCall	Accessible Document Design Consultant & Trainer
Jane Meadus	Advocacy Centre for the Elderly
David Onley	Former Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario
Wendy Porch	Centre for Independent Living Toronto

The Twitter hashtag before, during, and after this virtual public forum, is: #DisabilityUrgent

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For more information please contact:

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David Lepofsky, Chair, AODA Alliance, aodafeedback@gmail.com

#AutismDoesntEndAt5

The Ontario Autism Coalition is a non-profit Ontario corporation dedicated to advocacy and political action on behalf of people with autism.

www.ontarioautismcoalition.com