Canada Israel Inclusion Mission

ITINERARY - February 12 – 20, 2019

The mission will acquaint Canadian disability service providers, policy makers and persons with lived experience, with Israeli models of accessibility and service provision, as well as, provide a glimpse of the pluralistic Israeli society, and develop relationships between our countries to further the development of technology, policies and services for people with disabilities.

Day 1  Tuesday, February 12, 2019  Shalom and Welcome to Israel!

Lunch at the Yarkon Afek National Park, (near Rosh Ha’Ayin) is one of the most popular picnic sites in Israel.

Hotel Check-in and Rest

Tel Aviv – Discover the early beginnings from the Yemenite neighborhood to the neighborhoods of Nachalat Benyamin, Bialik and Rothchild. How does Tel Aviv create an accessible community?

Dinner at Hotel / Overnight: Tel Aviv

Day 2  Wednesday, February 13, 2019

ALEH Negev-Nahalat Eran Rehabilitation Village, located in Israel’s southern region. The village is a multifaceted facility that provides young adults with multiple disabilities the opportunity to live a rich and productive life within a safe environment.

On the Border with Gaza - Participate in a mosaic workshop and hear from a personal perspective on the Israel-Palestine conflict.
Visit the Israel Guide Dog Centre in Beit Oved.

Attend The Hazmanah L'Sheket Exhibit at the Holon Museum, an experience that will leave you speechless.

Evening Speaker/Panel – Dialogue with Colleagues

**Overnight: Tel Aviv**

**Day 3    Thursday, February 14, 2019**

Visit Beit Issie Shapiro in Raanana. Israel’s leading developer and provider of innovative therapies and state-of-the-art services for children and adults across the entire range of disabilities impacting on over half a million people annually.

Lunch & learn in a Druze home in Daliyat Al Carmel. Learn about Druze culture and history from your hosts and from the food you eat.

Visit ReWalk Robotics in Yokneam an innovative medical device company that is designing, developing and commercializing exoskeletons.

**Overnight: Galilee with an evening of music and song**
Day 4  Friday, February 15, 2019

Nazareth, the childhood home of Jesus, is closely associated with Christianity and attracted many pilgrims throughout the last two thousand years. The standout site in Nazareth is the Basilica of the Annunciation, the largest Christian Church building in the Middle East, dedicated in 1964 on the Papal visit of Pope John Paul VI.

Meet local service providers and Stop at El Babour Spice Store.

Peer hosting at Kishorit - a “home for life” for adults with special needs in Western Galilee. It is a supportive community that provides a continuum of residential, social and vocational services.

Overnight: Galilee and Shabbat dinner

Day 5  Saturday, February 16, 2019

Shabbat (optional Shabbat Observant Program) OR Early Sunrise Tour

Tour the Hula Valley, important resting place for migrating birds and many species of rare fish and plants creating a wonderland of flora and fauna.

Visit Mount of Beatitudes overlooking the Sea of Galilee where Jesus preached the Sermon on the Mount.

Continue to the northern shore of the Sea of Galilee to Capernaum, a fishing village in the days of Jesus.

Hike the Israel National Trail, a favourite of Israel's nature lovers.
Discover Etgarim, “challenges”, a non-profit organization dedicated to the empowerment and social integration of people with disabilities through outdoor sports.

Overnight: Jerusalem

Day 6

Sunday, February 17, 2019

Yad Vashem

Yad Vashem is an unforgettable place of tribute and remembrance, where we will learn about the T4 program and the efforts to exterminate the disabled.

Head out to the alleyways of Machane Yehuda – the place to go if you really want to get the feel for Jerusalem.

An afternoon visit with Special in Uniform - Special in Uniform is changing the fabric of Israeli society, helping create a more caring and inclusive environment by integrating citizens with disabilities into the Israeli army.

Overnight: Jerusalem with peer to peer roundtable.
Day 7  Monday, February 18, 2019

Begin the day – ancient streets modern accessibility - by looking over Jerusalem from the **Mount of Olives**

Visit the Jewish Quarter and **Western Wall where ancient and modern blend.** Wander through the **Arab shuk.**

Go up to **Mount Zion** see the **Cenacle Room** where two major events in the early Christian Church are commemorated - The **Last Supper,** and the coming of the **Holy Spirit** on the apostles.

Visit the **Holy Sepulcher.** The Church contains the last five Stations of the Cross including the sites of Jesus’ crucifixion and burial.

**Overnight: Jerusalem**

Day 8  Tuesday, February 19, 2019

Local round table with peers

Jerusalem - Organizations Tour

Visit local partnerships and research centres relating to disabilities, e.g. Elwyn, ALYN Hospital, Beit Hagalgalim, Hat Kadima, Shalva
David Citadel Night - Amidst the archaeological remains in the David Citadel courtyard the story of Jerusalem unfolds through virtual reality images. The Night Spectacular uses trompe l’oeil technology – the stones of the walls and structures fade into the scenes and the viewers are part of a multi-sensory experience.

Day 9  
Wednesday, February 20, 2019

L’hitraot – taking it home

Compare and contrast – Israel vs Canada’s Social Services (Jerusalem Municipality)

Our final meal will be a special Biblical meal at Neot Kedumin, the Biblical Landscape Reserve in Israel.

Transfer to Ben Guiron Airport with optional post tours in Israel or Jordan.

Please note: Due to timing, this itinerary is subject to change according to the abilities of the individual participants.