

DIANE RICHLER

Diane Richler is President of Inclusion International, a grassroots human rights organization dedicated to promoting the full inclusion of persons with an intellectual disability and their families. Inclusion International has 200 member national societies in 115 countries and is one of the seven international disability organizations recognized by the United Nations.

Diane has worked to link disability to broader issues of social policy, human rights, democratization and the strengthening of civil society. She has played a leadership role in Canadian strategies to promote inclusive education, close institutions and develop social policies which will promote the inclusion of persons with a disability and their families in all aspects of community life. Internationally, she has promoted the participation of persons with a disability and their families and organizations in all aspects of civil society.

Diane has served as Director of the Roeher Institute, Executive Vice-president of the Canadian Association for Community Living, Policy Advisor to the Canadian Minister of Human Resource Development and as a consultant for the World Bank, Inter-American Development Bank, UNESCO and the OECD. In 2004 Diane was awarded the order of Canada in recognition of her contribution to improving the lives of Canadians.

DIANE RICHLER

CURRENT POSITIONS:

President
Inclusion International

Senior Policy Advisor
Canadian Association for Community Living

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OTHER POSITIONS:

- 2000 – 2002 President-elect and Secretary General, Inclusion International
- 1997 – 2000 Executive Vice-President, The Canadian Association for Community Living
- September - December 1996 Policy Advisor to The Minister of Human Resources Development Canada
- 1984 - 1987 Director, The Roeher Institute
- 1980 - 1987 Research Associate, National Institute on Mental Retardation
- 1979 - 1980 Consultant, Regroupement des Associations des personnes handicapées de l'Outaouais
- 1973 - 1979 Director, Association Support and Development, Canadian Association for the Mentally Retarded
- 1971 - 1973 Research Assistant, National Institute on Mental Retardation

PUBLICATIONS:

- Richler, D. & Roberto Leal, "Voters with Intellectual Disabilities: Extending the Franchise." Elections Today, Vol. 10, Number 1, Winter 2002, (pp. 11-12)
- Richler, D. "Hard Challenge Ahead." Social Development: Inter-American Development Bank, Nov. 2001.

- Richler, D. "Abuso Sexual: La Caja Pandora." Ararú, No. 30, May-July 2000, (pp. 35-37).
- Richler, D. "The Americas: The Declaration of Managua as a Framework for International Human Rights Co-Operation." Comparing National Strategies for Reforming Intellectual Disability Service: Kings Fund, London, 1996, (pp.35 - 39).
- Richler, D. "Vincular Discapacidad y Derechos Humanos: Instrumento Para Fortalecer La Sociedad Civil." (*Linking Disability and Human Rights: A Tool for Strengthening Civil Society*): Memorias: Concapad- Shia - Asnic, Managua, August, 1996.
- Rioux, M. and Diane Richler "Whose Fault Is This Deficit Anyway? or How Can an Association for Community Living Stop Worrying About Deficits and Influence Social Change?" Values and Visions: Changing Ideas in Services for People with Learning Difficulties, Edited by Terry Philpot and Linda Ward: Bristol, U.K., 1995, (pp.377 - 388).
- Richler, D., "The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child: A Tool for Advocacy" As If Children Matter, Perspectives on Children, Rights and Disability: LInstitut Roeher Institute, 1995, (pp. 57 - 65).
- Richler, D. "Newfoundland: Demonstrating Success." Entourage, Vol. 8, No. 3 (pp. 6-7).
- Richler, D. "Organizing for Social Change: How to get what we want." Entourage, Summer 1991, (pp. 2 - 4).
- Porter, G. & Diane Richler, eds. Changing Canadian Schools: Perspectives on Inclusion and Disability: The G. Allan Roeher Institute, 1991.
- Richler, D. "Emerging Realities: The Case for Community Living, The Case Against Segregation." Abilities, Spring 1991, (pp.19 - 21).
- Richler, D. "CACL's International Links; Les Relations Internationales de L'Association Canadienne." Entourage, Vol. 5, No. 2 & 3, (pp. 16).
- Porter, G. & Diane Richler. "Changing Special Education Practice: Law, Advocacy, and Innovation." Canadian Journal of Community Mental Health, Volume 9, Number 2, Fall 1990, (pp. 65 - 78).
- Richler, D. & J. Pelletier. "Service Delivery Patterns in North America: Trends and Challenges" Mental Handicap: A Multi-Disciplinary Approach, Edited by Michael Craft, Joan Bicknell & Sheila Hollins: Baillière Tindall, England, 1985, (pp.40 - 48).
- Richler, D. & Jacques Pelletier. "Major Issues in Community Living For Mentally Handicapped Persons: reflections on the Canadian experience." National Institute on Mental Retardation, Toronto, 1982.

REVIEWER (SELECTED):

- The Scientific and technological research team of the University of Buenos Aires, Argentina, 2002.

- Human Resources Development Canada, 2002
- Laidlaw Foundation, 2002
- Donner Foundation, 2001
- Mental Retardation, a Journal of Policy, Practice, and Perspectives of the American Association on Mental Retardation, 2000.

INVITED SPEAKER (SELECTED):

March, 2002	4 th International Congress “Unidos con La Discapacidad” Mexico City, Mexico
March, 2002	“Inclusive Education; An International Perspective” Mali
November, 2001	TASH, “Funding, Freedom, Citizenship” Miami, Florida
November 2001	“Towards a Politics of Social Inclusion.” A New Way of Thinking? Towards a Vision of Social Inclusion, Ottawa
September, 2001	Restoring the Faith in Social Development National Voluntary Organizations, Ottawa
August, 2001	“Leading in a Culture of Change” Inclusive Education, Nicaragua
June, 2001	“Democracy, Diversity and disability: Education for All” CCDS Winnipeg
May, 2001	“Exclusion...What does it look like?” CIDA Conference, Melbourne, Australia
March, 2001	“The Challenge of Exclusion.” 10 th Anniversary Congress of Inclusion Africa and the Indian Ocean, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso
November, 2000	7 th Session of the International Bioethics Committee of UNESCO Quito, Ecuador
August, 2000	“Towards National Consensus Politics” 2 nd Seminar on Disability and Human Rights, Panama City, Panama
May, 2000	Governor Generals Canadian Study Tour, Promoting Human Rights Around the World

February, 2000	“Sexual Abuse: Prevention and Response.” Third International Congress: Disabilities in the Year 2000, Mexico City, Mexico
February, 2000	“Promoting Human Rights in the World.” Third International Congress: Disabilities in the Year 2000, Mexico City, Mexico
February, 2000	“Sexual Abuse: Prevention and Response” Disabilities in the Year 2000, Mexico City, Mexico
October, 1999	“Bringing a Human Rights Framework to International Cooperation & Disability: A Canadian Perspective” Symposium on Activities & Issues of International Cooperation in the Disability Field, Tokyo, Japan
October, 1999	Perspectives on Community Inclusion of Persons with a Disability in Canada Symposium on Activities & Issues of International Cooperation in the Disability Field, Tokyo, Japan
March, 1999	“Disability, Voting & Citizen Participation” First National Forum of Political Parties on Disability and Persons with a Disability, Panama City, Panama
September, 1998	“Challenges Facing Persons with Multiple Disabilities and their Families” Confe International Congress, Mexico City, Mexico
October, 1997	A Framework for Incorporating Disability as an Equity Criterion Inter-American Development Bank, Washington, DC
July, 1996	“The Declaration of Managua as a Framework for International Cooperation for Human Rights and Disability.” International Association for the Scientific Study of Intellectual Disability, 10 th World Congress, Helsinki, Finland.
August, 1995	“Why have Social Policies Promoting Integration? Organizing for Social Change.” Equality, Disability: A Matter of Human Rights, Everybody’s Responsibility, FENAPAPEDI-REPA, Panama
August, 1995	“Strengthen Civil Society: A Challenge for Organizations.” Equality, Disability: A Matter of Human Rights, Everybody’s Responsibility, National Federation of Parents and Friends with Disabilities, Panama
June, 1995	“Human Rights and Disability: A Framework for Action” Disabilities in the Year 2000, Mexico City, Mexico
October, 1994	“Inclusive Education: The Cornerstone of Community Living” FENDIM Conference, Santa Fe, Argentina
1983	Invited lecturer, Donald Beasley Institute, New Zealand

AFFILIATIONS AND OTHER POSITIONS:

Invited Expert for the Meeting of Experts on the future United Nations Convention to “Promote and Protect the Rights & Dignity of Persons with Disabilities.” Mexico, June 2002

Advisor, Inclusion Inter-Americana, 1997-present

Program Chair, 1998 Congress of Inclusion International, International League of Societies for Persons with Mental Handicap (ILSMH), The Hague, Netherlands.

Founding Board Member, Willow, Ontario Breast Cancer Resource Center. 1994 to 1996.

Co-Chair, International Task Force on Mental Health and Behavioral, Cognitive and Developmental Aspects of ICIDH Revision. 1994 to 1995.

Member, Reference Group to Mainstream 92, The Federal/Provincial/Territorial Review of Services Affecting Canadians with Disabilities. 1992 –1993

Executive Producer, *Keys of Our Own*, Canadian Association for Community Living, Toronto, ONT: Starlight Productions, 1993

Chair, Advisory Committee, on Accessible Transportation to the Minister of Transport. 1991 - 1992

Co-Chair, Program Committee, Independence 92 (International Conference to Mark the International Decade for Persons with Disabilities.) 1990 - 1992

Member, Advisory Board of the Second International Conference on Family Support, Stockholm, Sweden. 1990 - 1991

Invited Lecturer on issues affecting persons who have an intellectual disability in Canada, USA, United Kingdom, France, Mexico, Sweden, Peoples Republic of China, Central and South America.

EDUCATION:

Bachelor of Arts, Psychology Major - McGill University, 1971

AWARDS:

Outstanding International Contribution, CONFEX Mexico, 1996