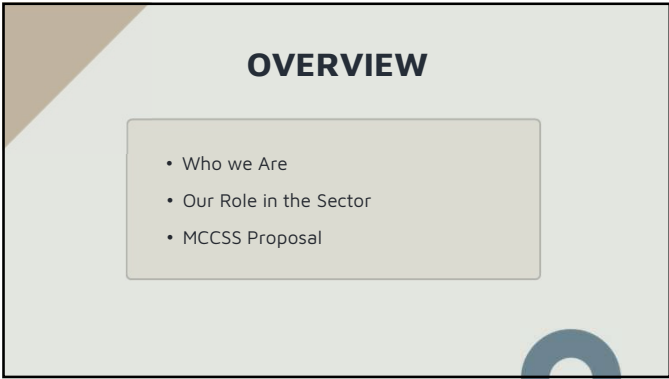




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What Our Members do

Specialized Clinical Services are essential, person-centered supports that enhance the quality of life for individuals with developmental disabilities-particularly those with complex needs such as mental health challenges, dual diagnosis and complex health needs

Delivered by interdisciplinary teams, these services provide assessment, treatment, and consultation across all settings whether the individual lives, learns, works and connects, including home, school, workplace and the broader community.

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What Our Members do

Impact of Specialized Clinical Services

By building skills, improving emotional and behavioural well-being, and supporting meaningful participation in daily life, these services empower individuals to live with greater self-determination and dignity. Continued investment not only improves individual outcomes, but also strengthens families, reduces reliance on crisis and emergency services, and fosters more inclusive, sustainable communities.

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STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Elevate Our Voice

Confirm a common understanding of SCDSN identity and the value added to members and the DS Sector

Support members to speak with a consistent voice

Build recognition and awareness of SCDSN

Elevate Our Value

Identify and initiate key relationships that will aid cross sector collaboration

Enhance advocacy for the critical role of clinical services

Elevate Our Impact

Share resources and best practice information

Lead cross sector collaboration

Be a consistent presence and voice at local, regional and provincial tables and groups

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SCDSN'S ROLE IN THE SECTOR

The role of the Specialized Clinical DS Network is to provide, promote and strongly advocate for a continuum of specialized services and clinical supports for people with developmental disabilities across the life span. These continuum of specialized supports are crucial for individuals to experience full social inclusion in Inclusive communities. Our members are a core group of agencies providing specialized and clinical supports for children and adults within the developmental service sector.

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How does/can SCDSN contribute in the Sector?

- **Cross Sector Collaboration** & Within Sector Partnership Building
- **Capacity Building** and Resource Sharing Across the Sector
- **Coordinated Research** and Data Sharing
- **Advocacy** for the Importance and Needs of Clinical Services
- **Leading Innovation** in Clinical Service Delivery

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What we are working on right now!

Collaborative Training Project with the DS Workforce Initiative and MCCSS

To build capacity in the Developmental Services (DS) sector workforce in supporting persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) who are Alternate Level of Care (ALC) moving into the community.

- The DS Workforce Strategy Framework is a collaboration between the DS sector and MCCSS.
- It focuses on growing a stable workforce, enhancing skills and training and advancing professionalism in the sector.
- The DS Workforce Initiative Steering Committee (DSWISC) identified a need to develop workforce skills to better support individuals with Dual Diagnosis (DD).
- SCDSN submitted a Proposal as part of the Workforce Strategy work to address this gap.

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Proposal Benefits

Using a Multi-disciplinary approach in:

- **Upskilling the Workforce** through training and ongoing support
- **Increasing the number of DD ALC people transitioning** to the Community
- **Reducing Emergency Dept. visits** and hospital admissions/re-admissions
- **Improving Quality of Life** for persons with IDD
- **Lowering the costs** to support persons with complex needs

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Proposal Outline

Three-Stream Approach to Build Capacity

Stream One

A series of 4 educational videos, developed by Subject Matter Experts to upskill existing DSPs on issues specific to DD ALC.

These pre-recorded videos would be downloadable by participants.

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Proposal Outline

Three-Stream Approach to Build Capacity

Stream Two

Development of Communities of Practice (CoPs).

The CoPs will include people who have participated in the Stream One Training and the Subject Matter Experts (SME) that created the training as on-going support for the learning.

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Proposal Outline

Three-Stream Approach to Build Capacity

Stream Three

Ongoing clinical support to the targeted DD/ALC initiative community DS agencies through an Alternate Level of Care multi-disciplinary clinic.

The proposal recommends 6 clinics (8 hours each) for review and recommendations for DD ALC care on a case consultation basis.

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Implementation Plan

Phase One

Four Courses – offered virtually across the province on:

- Understanding Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities and Dual Diagnosis
- Crisis Prevention and De-Escalation in Developmental Service
- Clinical Transition Planning
- Fostering Resiliency and Trust in Developmental Services: Staffing and Inclusivity

Community of Practice

- To reinforce and extend the learning from the virtual training modules

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Implementation Plan

Phase Two

Consultation-Based Model

The Collaborative Clinic will operate as a virtual, consultation-based service, bringing together a team of clinical experts to review and provide recommendations for individuals referred by participating DS Agencies. The clinic will not provide direct care, but rather strategic guidance and targeted training to enhance community-based support

Interdisciplinary Team Composition

Each Clinic session will be staffed by a core group of professionals with expertise in developmental disabilities and complex care.

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FINAL REMARKS

Today, SCDSN serves as a vital network and unified voice for developmental services providers across Ontario.

Guided by a mission to improve access to high-quality clinical supports, the network continues to evolve - strengthening partnerships, influencing public policy and enhancing care for people with developmental disabilities.

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Our Website: www.scdsn.org

Questions?

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