**UPR 39, November 10, 2021**

**Recommendations by Canada for Ireland’s UPR**

Thank you, Madam President.

Canada welcomes Ireland’s progress on sexual and reproductive health and rights and the rights of persons with disabilities.

Canada wishes Ireland success in continuing to implement the “Community Sponsorship Ireland” program, which gives private citizens and community organizations an opportunity to directly sponsor newly-arrived refugee families.

Canada recommends that Ireland:

1. Take concrete steps to ratify and implement the Optional Protocol to the UN Convention of the Rights of People with Disabilities.
2. Work to eliminate barriers to accessing reproductive health services.
3. Develop a plan to ensure the commitment to end “direct provision” by 2024 and the timely introduction of an alternative system for supporting those seeking international protection in Ireland.

Canada welcomes the commitment of the Irish government to end the direct provision system of accommodation asylum/protection seekers by 2024, noting the disproportionate impact living in these conditions has had during the recent pandemic. The recent announcement of the appointment of a new independent group to which will track progress is a step in the right direction.