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9th International Biennial Congress  
on Disability Management and  
Return to Work  
**Vancouver, Canada**  
**October 15-17, 2018**

Web: [www.pcu-whs.ca](http://www.pcu-whs.ca)

## International Forum on Disability Management – IFDM 2018 Second Update

### Keynote Address:

### **Bill C–81** **An Act to ensure a barrier-free Canada**

We are pleased to announce that **Ms. Yazmine Laroche**, Deputy Minister, Public Service Accessibility, Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat, will be the opening keynote speaker taking place on:

**Monday, October 15**  
**9:00 am – 10:00 am**

Last week, Bill C–81, *An Act to ensure a barrier-free Canada*, was introduced for second reading in the House of Commons in Ottawa by the Honourable Carla Qualtrough, Federal Minister for Public Services and Procurement and Accessibility, who stated:

"Bill C–81 is meant to promote broad organizational and cultural change across the nation. It will benefit all Canadians, especially Canadians with disabilities, by taking the steps to realize a truly accessible and inclusive Canada. It will proactively identify, remove and prevent barriers in a number of areas. Accessibility standards will be established by regulation in the areas of employment, the built environment, information and communication technologies, procurement, program and service delivery and transportation.

Bill C–81 applies to Parliament, the Government of Canada, Crown corporations and other federally regulated sectors and entities, including organizations in the transportation, telecommunications, broadcasting and banking sectors."

With a long-term career in roles of increasing responsibility within the Canadian Federal Civil Service, Yazmine Laroche was appointed Deputy Minister, Public Service Accessibility, Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat by Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau on August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018 with a mandate to lead the Government's public service accessibility agenda, and we are extremely pleased that she has agreed to provide **IFDM 2018** delegates with an overview of Bill C–81, Canada's first ever national accessibility legislation, as well as Canada's approach to accessibility issues more broadly.

The session will include a Q & A component and registered delegates can submit questions for Ms. Laroche in advance of the start of the conference by emailing us at the email address provided below.

### **IFDM 2018**

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