

What does **accessibility** look like for women with disabilities overcoming domestic violence?



Accessibility is achieved when we proactively design and construct environments, services, products and policies so that persons with disabilities can fully and equitably participate **without experiencing barriers or limitations.**



What is the current Nova Scotia **accessibility** landscape?

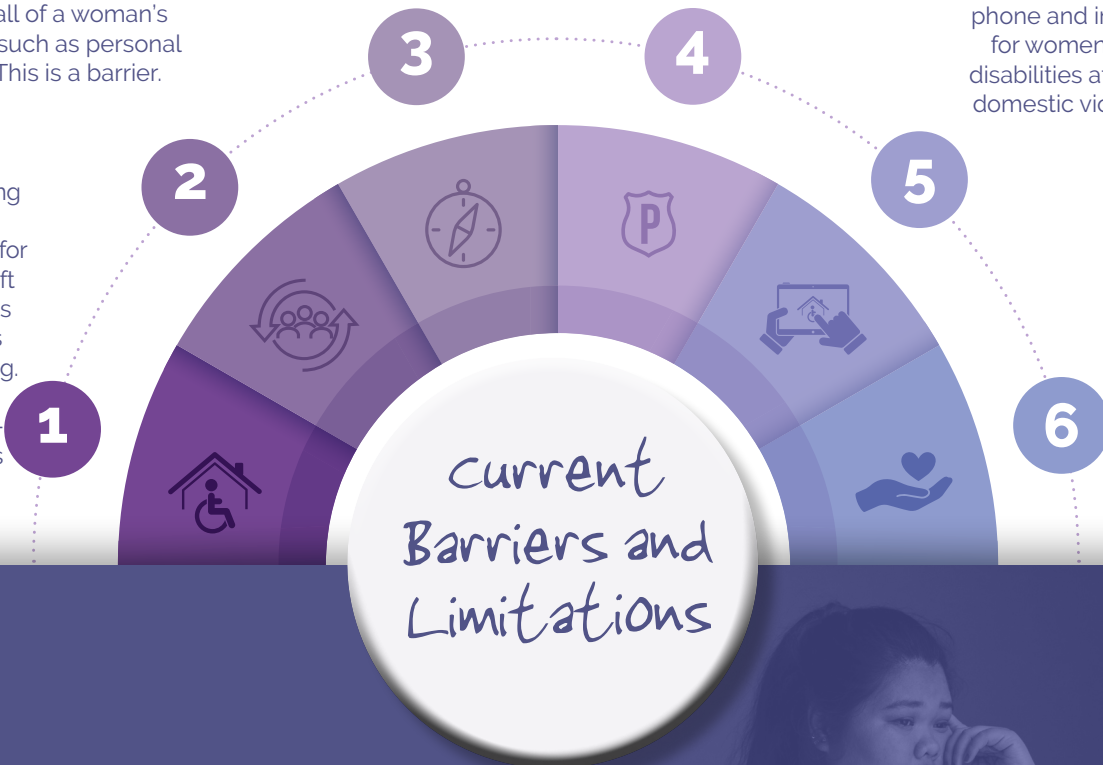
Going to a transition house often requires a woman being able to take care of herself. Transition house staff do their best to help, but they can't meet all of a woman's needs, such as personal care. This is a barrier.

Women with disabilities may have issues accessing legal and medical support, and social programs aimed at transitioning women to independent living.

Police in Nova Scotia need more training to work with victims and survivors of domestic violence with disabilities.

Individual and private access to a cell phone and internet for women with disabilities at risk of domestic violence.

Second-stage housing programs provide housing and support for women who have left abusive relationships as they make plans for independent living. There are few fully accessible second-stage housing units in Nova Scotia.



Stigma around domestic violence further isolates women with disabilities who are already socially and often geographically isolated.

In Nova Scotia, women with disabilities are **over two times more likely** to experience violent victimization than able bodied women.

Source: Statistics Canada

32.4%
of Nova Scotian women
live with at least one disability.

Source: Canadian Survey on Disability, 2017, Statistics Canada.

