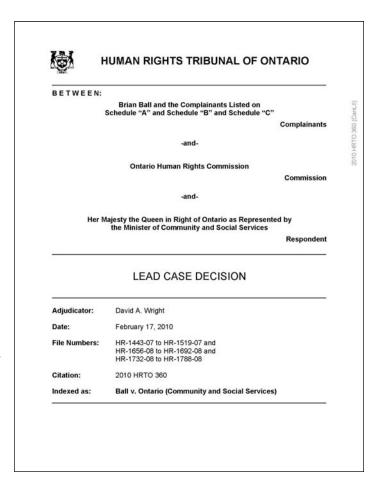
# 2010

### Special Diet Allowance: Human Rights Tribunal Decision

The HRTO releases its Lead Case Decision in March, agreeing with the complainants that the Special Diet Allowance program discriminates against certain disabilities by underfunding or excluding them.

ISAC continues as a lead on developing innovative procedures for resolution of the remaining 200 complaints, coordinates settlement discussions for many conditions in issue, and assists clinic caseworkers in assessing the viability of clients' claims in light of the test developed by the HRTO.





## Telling Our Stories: Disability Should Not Equal Poverty

"In the shadows of the blue collar A disabled man bows his head His pocket contains four dollars Which must stretch thirty days"

July 2010

### Telling Our Stories

In the struggle to ensure the Social Assistance Review proceeds, the ODSP Action Coalition creates *Telling Our Stories: Disability Should Not Equal Poverty*, aiming to give voice to the stories of people on ODSP across Ontario.

ISAC coordinates this massive effort over eleven months, collecting the stories of 236 people from across Ontario, and organizing and compiling them in a major report released at Toronto's Metro Hall in July.

The report gets significant media attention, and provides one of the foundations for the Coalition's submission after the Review begins.

#### Saving Special Diet

When the March Budget announces that the Special Diet Allowance will be replaced by a new "nutritional supplement" program, ISAC works with 25 in 5, the ODSP Action Coalition and the Schizophrenia Society of Ontario to fight back.

Advocating five key principles, the group works to ensure the continuity of financial benefit as well as broad eligibility for people with extra dietary costs resulting from their disability.

The campaign receives media coverage as both recipients and advocates demand consultation. Finally, government announces in December that

Special Diet will continue, pending the results of the Social Assistance Review.

