



Advancing the rights and inclusion of people with disabilities worldwide

RI Global: Office of the Commission on Recreation

COMMISSION CHAIR: Mr. Clermont Simard, FAM/MAF DEP-PEPS

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FACT SHEET: COMMISSION ON LEISURE, RECREATION & PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES

Purpose/Mission

Rehabilitation International's Commission on Leisure, Recreation & Physical Activities promotes the right for interactive lifestyle for all people with disabilities in educational, physical, social and cultural activities. The LRPA Commission holds annual meeting in connection with the RI Regional Conferences and also carries out email discussions to facilitate participation in various projects throughout the year, especially around the bidding for three world events: Abilympics, Senior Games and the International Lions Club's Special Olympics. Generally, the Commission promote implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Persons with Disabilities with a special emphasis on Article 30 by:

- Developing and disseminating best practice in the LRPA for persons living with disabilities and elderly people.
- Enhancing cooperative relationships with international agencies such as UN, Human Rights, International Disability Alliance (IDA), the International Paralympic Committee (IPc), UNESCO, WHO, and the International Lions Clubs to keep abreast of the latest happenings in the LRPA realm.

Chair: Clermont Simard

Clermont Simard is a Professor Emeritus on the Faculty of Educational Sciences at Laval University where he taught physical education for 27 years. Mr. Simard's teaching focused particularly on the issues of physical education from elderly and disabled, as well as on exercise physiology. A prolific author, Mr. Simard has published nearly 150 articles in international and Canadian journals and co-authored several books, most recently, *Advancing the frontiers of cardiopulmonary rehabilitation*. He has been a fellow of the American College of Sports Medicine since 1983, and served as the President of the 21st World Congress of Rehabilitation International in Quebec in 2012. From 1962 to 1972, he earned a bachelor's degree in physical education from University of Ottawa, a bachelor of education from Laval University and a doctorate in physical education at the Catholic University of Leuven.