Selected online resources

Updated March 18, 2019

Organization/Web site	URL	Description/Notes
Access Forward	http://www.accessforward.ca/	This site provides free training modules to meet the training requirements under Ontario's accessibility laws (Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act). Developed in partnership with the Government of Ontario.
Accessibility Ontario	https://accessontario.com/	Accessibility Ontario is a training and development organization that helps nonprofits and businesses in Ontario to understand and comply with the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (2005).
African Design Centre	https://www.africandesigncentre.org/	The mission of the African Design Centre (ADC) is to empower leaders who will design a more equitable, just, and sustainable world. It is essential that the designers of Africa's future are proximate to the lived experience and identities of the communities they design for, to understand the deep connection between the built environment and human rights.
AIGA Design for Democracy initiative	https://www.aiga.org/design-for-democracy	The mission is to apply design tools and thinking to increase civic participation. By making interactions between the U.S. government and its citizens more understandable, efficient, and trustworthy, designers become more vocal citizens and make democracy more sound.
AIGA Diversity & Inclusion initiative	https://www.aiga.org/diversity-and-inclusion-initiative	The Diversity & Inclusion Initiative augments ongoing AIGA programs with new ideas and resources that take a comprehensive approach, considering race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, ability and disability, age, and other factors that shape creative perspective and professional experience.
AIGA Diversity & Inclusion task webcast series	http://www.aiga.org/diversity-and-inclusion-webcast-series	The Diversity & Inclusion webcast series continues to offer opportunities for dialog, leadership development, and training. It will feature select guest speakers—AIGA members, task force representatives and beyond—who are active practitioners in the fields of social justice design.
American Society of Interior Designers (Impact of Design Series)	https://www.asid.org/impact-of-design	This section the web site highlights projects that use evidence-based design to improve the quality of the human experience. The American Society of Interior Designers (ASID) believes that design impacts lives, and collaborates with others to promote the value of interior design.
American with Disabilities Act (ADA)	https://www.ada.gov/	Web site provides information and technical assistance for the ADA.
Beyond Change: Questioning the role of design in times of global transformations	http://beyondchange.ch/front	Program for the Swiss Design Network Research Summit, FHNW Academy of Art and Design Basel, Switzerland, March 8-10, 2018
Canadian National Institute for the Blind (CNIB) Foundation	http://www.cnib.ca/	Deliver innovative programs and powerful advocacy across Canada that empower people impacted by blindness to live their dreams and tear down barriers to inclusion.
Canadian Centre for Disability Studies (CCDS)	http://www.disabilitystudies.ca/	CCDS has the vision of working towards an inclusive, equitable and accessible

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		society that is sustainable for all. As a hub of knowledge on cross-disability issues, locally, nationally and globally, we seek behavioural and system level change through the use of community-based research, education and development.
Center for Inclusive Design and Environmental Access	http://idea.ap.buffalo.edu/	The Center for Inclusive Design and Environmental Access is dedicated to making environments and products more usable, safer and healthier in response to the needs of an increasingly diverse population. The Center is involved in research, produced publications, and offers online education.
Centre for Accessible Environments	http://cae.org.uk/	Founded in 1969, the Centre for Accessible Environments (CAE) is the UK's leading authority on inclusive design and management. They aim to help secure environments that can be accessed, used and enjoyed by everyone – including disabled and older people – through our understanding of a wide range of user needs, such as intellectual, social, cultural, physical and sensory. (Based in London, UK)
Centre for Building a Culture of Empathy	http://cultureofempathy.com/	The mission is to build a movement for creating a global worldwide culture of empathy and care. Activities include: community organizing and collecting, curating, and organizing all the material we find on the internet on the topic. A current focus is on; bridging social and political divides, designing a free online empathy training course, building an academic empathy training literature wiki, and holding public activist Empathy Tent Pop-ups.
Centre for Disability Studies, University of Leeds	http://disability-studies.leeds.ac.uk	The Centre for Disability Studies (CDS) is an interdisciplinary network of researchers from across the Social Sciences, Humanities and STEM subjects, united by their commitment to carrying out research and teaching that helps achieve equality and social justice for disabled people, globally. The Centre runs The Disability Press and produce various publications on disability-related topics.
Centre for the Study of Political Graphics	http://www.politicalgraphics.org/	For nearly three decades the Center for the Study of Political Graphics has been creating a special community of international artists, activists, donors, curators, students, and teachers who share a passion for the power of political art to educate and inspire people to action. (Based in Culver City, CA)
Community-Centred Design, Brunel University	http://hcdi.brunel.ac.uk/seminardetails.aspx?sid=32	The Human Centred Design Institute (HCDI) brings together a group of experts from four Brunel University Schools who develop the knowledge and skills required to design products, services and systems which are physically, perceptually, cognitively and emotionally intuitive.
Decolonising Design	http://www.decolonisingdesign.com	A blog maintained by academics, researchers, and practitioners working in and with the fields of Design Studies and Design Research.This is a collective endeavour, born out from a general frustration with how design ontologies and epistemologies are constituted and validated within and outside academia. We think that one way to address this frustration was to foster other outlets and platforms, in which different forms of knowledge production could find their place.
Design Against Crime (DAC)	http://www.designagainstcrime.com	DAC as an approach to social innovation emerged at Central Saint Martins (CSM), University of the Arts London between 1999-2009. The philosophy behind DAC at CSM is linked to a practice-led socially responsive design

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		research agenda that posits crime as a theme that can be addressed by methodologies generated by 'social design'.
Design Council – Inclusive Environments	http://www.designcouncil.org.uk/what-we-do/inclusive-environments	Inclusive Environments is a Design Council Cabe initiative to raise awareness about the importance of designing places that meet the needs of the diversity of people who want to use them. We believe designing and managing the built environment in an inclusive way is essential if we are to create a fair society and a sustainable future.
Design for All - Europe	http://dfaeurope.eu/	Design for All is design for human diversity, social inclusion and equality. EIDD-Design for All Europe is a European network, founded in Dublin, Ireland, in 1993 with the name of European Institute for Design and Disability. EIDD-Design for All Europe is now a federation of 34 Member Organizations in 17 European countries. With a strong inter-disciplinary approach, the majority of members are professionals in design-related fields.
Design Other 90 Network	https://www.designother90.org/	Related to Cooper Hewitt exhibition series, Design for the Other 90% (started in 2007) and subsequent exhibition "Cities" (2011).
DesignABLE	http://designable.ca/	DesignABLE Environments Inc. is a unique organization of consultants who assist clients in the creation of accessible environments through the application of regulations and universal design principles. (Based in Toronto, ON)
Design Research Society, Inclusive Design Research Special Interest Group	http://www.designresearchsociety.org/cpages/inclusive-sig	The Inclusive Design Research Special Interest Group (InclusiveSIG) aims to provide an international platform for researchers, design practitioners, design educators and students, and the general public to exchange knowledge about inclusive design and to empower wider participation in design.
Designing for People, University of British Columbia	https://dfp.ubc.ca/	UBC's Designing for People Research Cluster aims to address complex human-facing design problems by accelerating creativity at the nexus of social and technical problem-solving. We promote intensely interdisciplinary teamwork and methods, strive to understand the diverse abilities, needs, and values of users, create high-value resources for DFP researchers, and find new paths to societal impact by working closely with partners - users, domain experts, communities and companies.
DESIS Network (Design for Social Innovation and Sustainability)	http://www.desisnetwork.org/	DESIS Network aims at using design thinking and design knowledge to co-create, with local, regional and global partners, socially relevant scenarios, solutions and communication programs. Free publications: http://www.desisnetwork.org/publications/ Labs and Case studies: http://www.desisnetwork.org/labs/
Forms of Sustainability	https://www.tii.se/projects/formsofsustainability	Forms of Sustainability investigates intersections between critical practice and sustainable design, material culture and design history. Project resulted in publication: "Share This Book" https://www.tii.se/projects/formsofsustainability#node-9021
Global Disability Innovation Hub, University College London, UK	https://www.disabilityinnovation.com/	The Global Disability Innovation Hub emerged from the legacy of the London 2012 Paralympic Games and was launched in September 2016. The hub consists of an Academic Research Centre and a Community Interest Company (a non-profit, mission-led organization).

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Helen Hamlyn Centre for Design, Royal College of Art	https://www.rca.ac.uk/research-innovation/helen-hamlyn-centre/	The Helen Hamlyn Centre for Design has its origins in the DesignAge action research program, which was founded in 1991. It became a fully-fledged research centre in 1999, widening its focus from design for ageing population to design to improve people's lives across a range of social needs. It is the largest and longest-running centre for design research at the Royal College of Art.
Helen Hamlyn Centre for Design, Include conferences	https://www.rca.ac.uk/research-innovation/helen-hamlyn-centre/knowledge_exchange/include-conferences/	Include is a biennial international conference that focuses on issues central to inclusive and people-centred design.
IDEO: Facilitator's Guide to Human-Centred Design	https://www.plusacumen.org/courses/facilitator%E2%80%99s-guide-human-centered-design	Free online course focused on building skills in collaborative facilitation; self-directed learning
IDEO Human-Centred Design Field Guide	http://www.designkit.org//resources/1	The Field Guide to Human-Centered Design reveals the IDEO process with the key mindsets that underpin how and why we think about design for the social sector, 57 clear-to-use design methods for new and experienced practitioners, and from-the-field case studies of human-centered design in action. The Field Guide has everything you need to understand the people you're designing for, to have more effective brainstorms, to prototype your ideas, and to ultimately arrive at more creative solutions. (Need to sign up to download free PDF)
Inclusive Design Institute, OCAD University	https://inclusivedesign.ca/research/design/	The Inclusive Design Institute (IDI) is a generative hub of applied research that addresses the challenge of designing our information and communication systems (ICT) so that they work for all potential users, including users with disabilities, varying language needs and diverse cultural preferences. The IDI is Canada's first research hub focused on digital inclusion
Institute for Human-Centered Design	https://humancentereddesign.org/	We are committed to advancing the role of design in expanding opportunity and enhancing experience for people of all ages, abilities and cultures through excellence in design. (Based in Boston, MA)
Interaction Design Association, Accessibility: Usability for all	https://www.interaction-design.org/literature/article/accessibility-usability-for-all	Article detailing accessibility considerations for interaction design.
Mapping Access project	https://www.mapping-access.com/	Mapping Access is a participatory data-collection and accessibility mapping project of the Critical Design Lab. Informed by Disability Justice, intersectionality, environmental humanities, and critical GIS frameworks, the project uses mapping as a critical tool for iterative world-building. Our broader body of work includes a podcast, experimental protocols, and workshops.
Registered Graphic Designers of Ontario (RGD) Accessible Design	http://rgd-accessibledesign.com	Handbooks on accessible graphic and web design. (Can download for free)
Rick Hansen Foundation	https://www.rickhansen.com/	Canadian charitable organization dedicated to inclusion for people with disabilities; Key programs: Accessibility Certification, Access4All Project, Accessible Cities Award
Smithsonian Guidelines for Accessible Exhibition Design	https://www.si.edu/accessibility/sgaed https://www.si.edu/Accessibility	Accessibility guidelines for exhibition design developed by the Smithsonian Museums

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Spatial Agency	http://www.spatialagency.net/	Project that presents a new way of looking at how buildings and space can be produced. Moving away from architecture's traditional focus on the look and making of buildings, *Spatial Agency* proposes a much more expansive field of opportunities in which architects and non-architects can operate. It suggests other ways of doing architecture. (Web site and book)
Studio at the End of the World	http://www.thestudioattheedgeoftheworld.com/	The Studio has an interdisciplinary and international focus. It centres on three areas of activity: the development of transformative projects; the creation of events linked to the projects; making available significant writing on design. Its activities are informed by its Mission and the idea of The Sustainment. The studio is based in Tasmania, the Island State of Australia.
Studio at the Edge of the World: A political lexicon of design	http://www.thestudioattheedgeoftheworld.com/writing.html	Definitions of terms related to the political agenda of design.
The Center for Universal Design	https://projects.ncsu.edu/ncsu/design/cud/	Not active as of 2017 due to funding issues Based at North Carolina University, developed seven Universal Design principles
The Centre for Excellence in Universal Design	http://universaldesign.ie/	The Centre is dedicated to the principle of universal access, enabling people in Ireland to participate in a society that takes account of human difference and to interact with their environment to the best of their ability. (Based in Dublin, Ireland)
The National Memorial for Peace and Justice and Legacy Museum	https://museumandmemorial.eji.org/museum	Dedicated to the history of enslavement, lynching, segregation and mass incarceration of African Americans
The Public Studio	https://thepublicstudio.ca/	The Public is a community-centered, social justice design studio that works alongside non-profits, grassroots organizations, and people trying to change the world for the better. (Based in Toronto, ON)
Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.0	https://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG20/	Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.0 covers a wide range of recommendations for making Web content more accessible. Following these guidelines will make content accessible to a wider range of people with disabilities, including blindness and low vision, deafness and hearing loss, learning disabilities, cognitive limitations, limited movement, speech disabilities, photosensitivity and combinations of these. Following these guidelines will also often make your Web content more usable to users in general.