**Appendix B**

**Consent form**

**Project Title**: Unscripted and Exposed: When Hyper-visibility, Invisibility, Ableism and the (dis)Abled Body Collide

**Lead Researcher**: Cassie Liviero, Dalhousie University, Master’s of Social Work, student C.Liviero@dal.ca (905)818-5116

**Other Researchers**: Dr. Judy MacDonald, Dalhousie University, Director School of Social Work, Student Supervisor, Judy.MacDonald@dal.ca (902)494-1347.

**Introduction**

I want to thank you so much for agreeing to talk about your lived experience around being a wheelchair user. I would really appreciate gaining a deeper understanding of your experiences of invisibility (being unseen), hyper-visibility (being given too much unwanted attention) and/or ableism discrimination/prejudice). If you have questions regarding these terms at any point during the interview, please do not hesitate to stop and ask me as many questions as you need.

You are being invited to participate in a study conducted by Cassie Liviero, a Dalhousie University student. Participation in this study is entirely voluntary. I am not connected to any organization providing support to wheelchair users; therefore, your services will not be impacted by taking part in this study. The information below tells you about what is involved in the research, what you will be asked to do and about any benefit, risk, inconvenience, or discomfort that you might experience.You should discuss any questions you have about this study with Cassie Liviero. Please ask as many questions as you like. Then, if you have questions later, please contact Cassie Liviero.

**Purpose and Outline of the Research Study**

This study focuses on the learned behaviours, social expectations and knowledge formed through interactions between the able-bodied and wheelchair users. Specifically looking at the unwanted attention (hyper-visibility) and/or feeling unseen (invisibility). These interactions can impact the daily lives of wheelchair users. Therefore, this study will draw on the lived experiences of wheelchair users while validating their complex struggles and contributions in society.

There is a possibility that I will share this research in the form of future journal articles, government organizations for disability awareness and with any corporation, business, or non-profit organization that wishes to improve their awareness of (dis)Ability protocols and needs

**Who Can Take Part in the Research Study?**

Individuals selected to participate in this research will all be wheelchair users who are 18 years or older, can communicate their thoughts in English and have been a full-time wheelchair user for a minimum of 2 years. Also, participants will be required to reside in the Eastern Standard and Atlantic Time zones. This time zone is required due to the availability of my academic attendant.

**What You Will Be Asked to Do**

I am inviting you to take part in a 60 – 90-minute zoom teleconferencing interview. I will be asking you questions about your lived experience of wheelchair use and how you feel that your experiences are tied to invisibility and/or hyper-visibility as a wheelchair user. Additionally, I will ask you to draw on examples of these from your personal experiences. I will be recording the interviews to make sure I have not missed anything that you say and so that I can focus on listening attentively and engaging with the information being discussed. If you agree to participate in this research, you, and your assistant (if required), will be asked to sign a confidentiality and consent form.

**Possible Benefits, Risks and Discomforts**

Your participation in this study may contribute to better ways of understanding your lived experience. You may also gain therapeutic benefit from being able to talk about your experiences in an open, non- judgmental space with a (dis)Abled researcher and wheelchair user. I hope that this research will be shared in publications for others to learn. Although there may be some low risk involved in the research, including talking about potentially distressing experiences, you will be provided with a list of resources for debriefing support. You can at any time stop or not answer any questions. Also, you may connect with me or my supervisors if you have any concerns.

**How your information will be protected**

When participating in this research, all information will be kept confidential and private. You will not be identified in any way in this research. I will store transcriptions and written documents of the interviews on my laptop that will be password protected and will not be accessed by anyone other than myself and my academic assistant. All transcripts or interviews will be cleared of all identifying markers, and quotations will be marked as simply a participant experience unless you have instructed me to use an alias for you in this study.

**If You Decide to Stop Participating**

All participants will be able to withdraw their participation within 2 weeks from the start date. After this point, all data will be combined to fit research parameters, and it will be impossible to remove your interview material.

**How to Obtain Results**

Upon completing this study, a summary of results will be provided to each participant via their email. This can be provided at the time of the interview.

**Questions**

If any time you have questions about the interview process or the study, you may contact Cassie Liviero (lead researcher) C.Liviero@dal.ca (905)818-5116, Dr. Judy MacDonald (student supervisor) Judy.MacDonald@dal.ca (902)494-1347.

**Signature Page**

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**Lead Researcher**: Cassie Liviero Project Title: Unscripted and Exposed: When Hyper-visibility,

Invisibility, Ableism and the (dis)Abled Body Collide

“I have read the explanation about this research. I have been given the opportunity to discuss it and my questions have been answered to my satisfaction. I understand that I have been asked to take part in an interview through ZOOM. I agree to take part in this research. My participation is voluntary, and I understand that I am free to withdraw from the research up until the beginning of data analysis.

 Name

 Signature

Options (you can still participate in the research if you select no):

I agree that my interview will be audio-recorded ⬜ Yes ⬜ No

I agree that direct quotes from my interview may be used without identifying me ⬜ Yes ⬜