



Day at a Glance

Join us in learning how we can include accessible and inclusive change in our organizations.

8:30am - 9:30am

Networking & Hubbub

9:30am - 9:45am

Welcome & Housekeeping

9:45am - 9:50am

Mayor Welcome

9:50am - 10:50am

KEYNOTE

10:50am - 11:00am

Door Prizes

11:00am - 11:30am

Networking & Hubbub

11:30am - 12:30pm

Workshop A & Workshop B

12:30pm - 1:30pm

Lunch

1:30pm - 2:30pm

World Cafe

SPONSORS



FREE

**ONE-DAY
SYMPOSIUM**

**Accessible
& Inclusive
Rethinking the
Possibilities**



inspire. inform. invigorate.

**THURSDAY, NOV 27
8:30AM - 2:30PM**

MCA AUDITORIUM
32315 South Fraser Way,
Abbotsford



What is Involve Abbotsford?

Abbotsford symposium is a one-day event that brings together not-for-profits, sports, arts, small business, and community service groups, to learn and share information about the best in organizational practice, business administration, and to network, support, and gain professional knowledge that is crucial to sustainable operations.

FOR MORE INFO

involve@abbotsford.ca 604.557.1464
REGISTER abbotsford.ca/involve



PRESENTERS

LEARN.

ENGAGE.



KEYNOTE

ACCESSIBILITY, DISABILITY AND UNIVERSAL DESIGN

Karin and Marco Pasqua will conduct an hour-long presentation that will cover an overview of disability and demystify accessibility in today's world. The presentation will touch on accessibility and universal design best practices in a tangible and meaningful way for attendees to feel empowered and informed to integrate the principles of universal design into their projects and plans.



Marco is an award winning Entrepreneur, Accessibility Consultant and Inspirational Speaker.

He brings a wealth of knowledge in the area of diversity and inclusion and a lifetime of lived experience as a person with a disability and wheelchair user.

Karin is an RHFA Professional and Accessibility & Universal Design Consultant with a passion for beautiful, functional design. She has a deep understanding that spaces and events in our communities should be enjoyed by everyone, of all abilities.



WORKSHOP A

Tamara Vandendool Cable

DIGITAL ACCESSIBILITY: THE KEY TO BUSINESS SUCCESS

As technology becomes more integral the business ecosystem, ensuring accessibility in every internal and external interaction has become important than ever! From legal requirements, to practical tips and tricks, this presentation emphasizes the role digital accessibility plays in business success.

Tamara, founder of Easy Surf, has 15+ years' experience in accessibility and consulting. She advises Fortune 500s, schools, and executives on inclusive strategies. A disabled entrepreneur with a multidisciplinary background, Tamara bridges communication gaps and empowers audiences with actionable insights to lead in today's rapidly evolving business landscape.



WORKSHOP B

Sean McEwen

LEADING INCLUSION: DISABILITY & WORKPLACE CAPACITY BUILDING

Workforce sustainability is a pressing issue for Canadian employers, and one of the most overlooked groups—people with disabilities, who make up 27% of working-aged adults—continue to face significant barriers to employment and inclusion. With 25% of the workforce set to retire by 2035 and increasing demands for equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI), disability inclusion is not just a moral or legal responsibility but a strategic advantage, as inclusive workplaces are proven to be more engaged, innovative, and resilient. This 60-minute workshop, led by Sean McEwen, a workforce consultant with over 20 years of expertise in disability inclusion and employment equity, reframes disability as a critical driver of workplace culture, capacity, and sustainability, offering valuable insights for both businesses and disability employment advocates.

Sean McEwen is a nationally recognized Workplace Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Culture Consultant with over 25 years of experience helping organizations build inclusive, high-performing workplaces. As a Director at RealEyes Capacity Consultants, he has supported private, nonprofit, and government sectors to strengthen retention, engagement, and innovation while reflecting community diversity. He has led employment inclusion initiatives nationwide, provided coaching to Career Practitioners, developed and delivered EDI training, and contributed to regional, provincial, and national networks. A recipient of the Alberta Premier's Council Award of Excellence in Employment (2018), Sean also launched Western Canada's first Employer Resource Centre for EDI. With a background in Youth Services and Mental Health, he is a Certified Employment Specialist and has served as board chair for both the Alberta and Canadian Associations of Supported Employment. Based in Victoria, Sean works with organizations across Canada, maintains strong relationships with Indigenous communities in Treaty 7, and is honoured to hold the Blackfoot name Oh'sskoi piiksi (Blue Bird).

