



BACKGROUND

CLBC-BC Centre for Employment Excellence Partnership

Community Living BC (CLBC), the BC Centre for Employment Excellence (CFEE) and the University of British Columbia are partnering on innovative projects to inform better employment policy and help BC adults with developmental disabilities find and keep jobs.

As part of the three-year Community Action Employment Plan, the *Targeted BC Employer Feasibility Study* and the *Mapping Inclusive Employment Project* are each receiving \$25,000 from CLBC to develop models that will help engage specific employment sectors in inclusive hiring practices, and share personal and organizational successes in finding employment for the adults CLBC serves.

The Priority Sectors Feasibility Study will examine a model for use in a pilot project that will test collaborating with employment sectors that have current and sustained high employment demand to find employers who are willing to hire and work with adults with developmental disabilities. This demand-based approach would provide a pool of job-ready candidates with access to support and training for industry-specific essential skills. Some high demand employment areas could include tourism/hospitality, retail and sales, and healthcare.

The study is being conducted by CFEE, with the support of the Employment Action Committee that includes membership from Neil Squire Society, Burnaby Association for Community Inclusion, BC Centre for Ability, Open Door Group and CLBC. Next steps include connecting with potential sectors to explore their interest in participating in a pilot.

The *Mapping Inclusive Employment Project* will develop a searchable online database tool for all stakeholders to use to find where best practices for supported employment are throughout the province. The tool, expected to be completed by March 2015, will allow people to search specific geographic locations to find, connect with, and learn from services that users say have the greatest potential for helping them find and keep work.

The tool will be designed as a crowd-sourcing mechanism to promote innovation and best practices. For example a family/individual in Kelowna might identify a practice that looks really good in Victoria. While they are not likely to go to Victoria to access it, they might work locally to replicate it.

CFEE is funded by both the province and federal governments, and supports B.C.'s employment and employer sectors by developing training and building capacity related to employment programs and practices. For more information on CFEE, visit www.cfeebc.org

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