





Diversity includes.

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CACL Launches Ready, Willing & Able Website

<u>The Canadian Association for Community Living (CACL)</u> is pleased to announce the launch of the Ready, Willing & Able website at www.readywillingandable.ca. This site has been created in partnership with our Provincial/Territorial Associations for Community Living.

Our new website is one of the tools we are using to advance labour force inclusion for the approximately 500,000 working age adults with intellectual disabilities who with targeted support, community investment and employer leadership could join the labour force at rates similar to other Canadians. The Ready, Willing & Able (RW&A) initiative is designed to increase labour force participation of people with intellectual disabilities, and thereby advance economic productivity and social inclusion in Canada.

RW&A is the vehicle by which innovative practices that are demonstrating positive impact are being scaled up throughout the country. It works by linking what would otherwise be discrete, local initiatives to a broader labour market strategy to achieve impact for this population. To achieve the goal of an inclusive labour force, local and regional projects and programs are connected to an integrated and multi-sectoral strategy that, as a whole, addresses the key ingredients known to be essential in securing and sustaining labour force participation of people with intellectual disabilities.



Please take a moment to visit our new site where you can:

- Browse through dozens of individual success stories from throughout the country;
- Learn about how communities are taking action through exciting initiatives that are changing the employment landscape for Canadians with intellectual disabilities;
- Learn more about the six key elements of our comprehensive community-based strategy for advancing labour force inclusion of people with intellectual disabilities;
- Access employment-related <u>resources and tools</u>;
- Link to our **Provincial/Territorial ACLs** and RW&A labour market partnerships and initiatives in their jurisdictions
- Learn about how you can make a difference!

The Ready, Willing & Able initiative represents enormous potential for making a lasting impact on employment rates of people with intellectual disabilities—now, and into the future. We see tremendous potential to leverage this extensive network into a comprehensive strategy that could scale up success and turn the tides to secure the place of people with intellectual disabilities as a valuable part of the Canadian workforce. We are encouraging all of our partners to share this website with their colleagues and networks and share the message that people with intellectual disabilities are "Ready, Willing & Able" to be part of the solution to Canada's workforce challenges.

Please take a moment to visit www.readywillingandable.ca.

If you would like more information about the initiative, please contact Tyler Hnatuk at tyler@cacl.ca

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