

CAIP Innovative Attitude Change Project Proposal - Advancing Access and Inclusion

Project Title: Community Inclusion – Breaking Down Attitudinal Barriers

Submitted by: Spinal Cord Injury Saskatchewan

Sector Targeted for Attitude Change:

Employers,

□Youth (preschool – Grade 12), The Early Learning Sector ages 3 to 5 years □Community (geographic community or community of interest)

Specific Audience To Be Reached: The Early Learning Sector in Canada ages 3 to 5 years

Specific Attitude To Be Established:

Unlike physical and systematic barriers, attitudinal barriers that often lead to bullying, discrimination, and social isolation cannot be overcome simply through laws. The best remedy is familiarity and understanding. This project seeks to break down attitudinal barriers by providing age appropriate resources and presentations into the early learning sector specifically targeted to ages 3 to 5 years. As early leaning educators utilize the resources and interactive projects within the inclusion tool kits the number of children with enhanced knowledge and familiarity of people living with disabilities will increase. The intent is to encourage our youngest citizens to see inclusion as being natural and desirable.

Geographic Reach: Coast to Coast

Project Description Summary:

Age appropriate resources will be developed into an interactive tool kit for the early learning sector in Canada. Resources can include but are not limited to: illustrated storybook, coloring and activity book, interactive songs, puppet theatre and puppets, lived experience storytelling presentations, an interactive community inclusion group game/activity, interactive adaptive dance and arts activities, inclusive communities felt board and pieces. To encourage participation by early learning centers across Canada, a participation grant of \$1,000.00 would be available for participating centers to utilize in their own celebrating inclusion activities or to further enhance their inventory of interactive inclusion resources.

A focus on partnering with the early learning sector and various child care associations across Canada will ensure continued future opportunities to deliver inclusion programming to this sector and to encourage the development of new inclusion projects while encouraging youth to embrace inclusivity.

Project Outcomes:

Expected outcomes include:

- Increased familiarity and understanding of individuals living with disabilities and the importance of inclusion as being natural and desirable.
- Formal partnerships established within the not for profit early learning sector and organizations representing people living with disabilities.
- Inclusion resource toolkits will be available for use in the early learning sector on an ongoing basis.







 The early learning sector and child care centers across Canada will have access to readily available age appropriate toolkits, including interactive resources and presentations increasing familiarity and understanding of the lives of people living with disabilities.

Project Lead and Partners:

Spinal Cord Injury Saskatchewan and CAIP Project Council Members



