



Rotary Employment Partnership

June 2017

District 5360 Conference Highlights



**District Governor Neil Berg with
Cherie Cardinal, Rotary
Employment Coordinator**

The Rotary Employment Partnership had a strong presence at the 2017 District Conference in Red Deer. Wendy McDonald, Rotarian and Chief Operating Officer at Inclusion Alberta gave an informative and inspiring presentation on the importance of real work for real pay for people with developmental disabilities.

Wendy highlighted the success of the partnership and affirmed the life changing role that Rotarians have played in creating over 440 jobs for people with developmental disabilities in Alberta since 2001!

She also challenged Rotarians to get involved in the continued effort to reduce the 80% unemployment rate for people with intellectual disabilities by opening up job opportunities in their own businesses or organizations and by encouraging their personal and business contacts to do the same.

Brogan Thorsteinson also gave a powerful personal testimony on what her job with Stantec has meant to her...

"I work for Stantec in Red Deer as an Administrative Assistant. This position was made possible because of the Rotary Employment Partnership. In my role at Stantec I am responsible for a variety of tasks. These include filing, organizing boardrooms, inventory, and assisting with the set-up of special events. I am a proud member of the Stantec team, a team that celebrates the strengths and accomplishments of each other.

Having meaningful employment with Stantec has changed my life in many ways. It has given me a purpose in life and has increased my confidence. I feel appreciated, my ideas and skills are valued. I am a part of an amazing supportive team. Being employed has increased my confidence and has motivated me to set higher goals for myself. I truly feel that I belong. This job has changed my life."



**Wendy McDonald (left) and
Brogan Thorsteinson presenting
on the Rotary Employment
Partnership**



Mitch (right) and his co-worker Dan at PwC. Mitch is doing a great job in his new position as an Office Services Assistant with the well-known accounting firm. Congratulations on your new job Mitch... Keep up the good work!

The Rotary Employment Partnership Steering Committee

The Rotary Employment Partnership Steering Committee is the engine that continues to build momentum for the Partnership. In Calgary, the Steering Committee has dedicated members from seven local Clubs and is chaired by Mike Colborne and Al McMillan of the Downtown Club. Meetings take place approximately every 2 months, which gives Steering Committee members the opportunity to connect with each other and with the local Inclusion Alberta staff to discuss strategies, opportunities and celebrate the Partnership's successes.

At the moment, four clubs are not yet represented on our Steering Committee, *Calgary North, Calgary East, Fish Creek and Sarcee*. We would love to see all Calgary Clubs have a presence in the partnership. If you are interested in learning more about the Steering Committee or considering joining, please contact us today!

Meet Two of your Jobseekers...



Lesya Martin-Stopa (sitting) in her new position as the Concierge Assistant at the ATB Entrepreneur Centre.

Ryan H. Ryan is a talented photographer who is looking for part-time work to compliment his photography business. Ryan is funny and personable and with his advanced knowledge of camera equipment and photography, he would be an ideal candidate for a retail position at a camera, photo, photo software (PhotoShop, LightBox, etc) or art store. Ryan is also interested in any role that gives him ample interaction with internal and external stakeholders, for example assisting in a large office.

Simoun A. is a bilingual graduate of Bow Valley College where he studied computers and English, and the University of Calgary Varsity Education program where he studied psychology, archeology and computer science. Simoun is extremely professional and his strong communication and computer skills, especially with the Microsoft Suite, Windows and Outlook, would make him a valuable team player in any company. Simoun would love to find work as an administrative professional where he could build a long-term career. He is available for full-time opportunities and since he possesses a valid driver's license, he is open to opportunities throughout the city.

Questions? Want to learn more?

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