

Rotary Employment Partnership E-Blast

D5360 & D5370

 Inclusion Alberta

January 2021

Vocational Services Month

“Vocational Service is the very essence of Rotary. It is what sets Rotary apart from other service organizations. The concept of vocational service is rooted in the second point of the Object of Rotary which calls on Rotarians to encourage and foster high ethical standards in business and professions, the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations and the dignifying of each Rotarian’s occupation as an opportunity to serve society. Rotarians every day put these ideals into action by using their professional skills to serve their community, practicing their profession with integrity and guiding others in their professional development.” (Niel Berg, PDG D5360. Retrieved January 4, 2021 from Rotary5360 website).

During Vocational Services month, we are encouraging every Rotarian to get involved with the Rotary Employment Partnership. As a Rotarian, you can make a big impact by introducing the partnership to others! If they are interested in knowing more, please call your local Rotary Employment Partnership Coordinator, and we’ll do the rest!

Here’s a little elevator pitch to help guide your conversation.

“Have you heard of the Rotary Employment Partnership? It’s a partnership between Rotary and Inclusion Alberta to change the 80% unemployment rate for people with developmental disabilities. We do this by finding real work for real pay, and Inclusion Alberta provides the supports necessary to ensure long term success.”

Because of Rotarians like you, Stephen and Scott have incredible careers!



This photo was taken in 2015

In 2015, Stephen (left) started working at Alta-Gas as an office ambassador. Stephen brings so much joy to his workplace. Today, he continues to be the best ambassador from home (for now).

This opportunity was created by the Rotary Club of Calgary Centennial.



Scott (above) began working for Driving Force as a detailer 15 years ago and he is considered a model employee who is never late for his shifts and gives 100% effort in completing his duties!

Thanks to the Rotary Club of Edmonton Mayfield for opening the door to this incredible career.

This photo was taken in 2011

If you are interested in knowing how your workplace or Rotary Club can become involved, please contact:

Wendy McDonald, District 5370 Rotary Employment Partnership Committee Chair, Inclusion Alberta Chief Operating Officer:

wmcDonald@inclusionAlberta.org | 780-974-1310

Trina Steed, Inclusion Alberta Provincial Director, Employment Partnerships: tsteed@inclusionAlberta.org | 780-451-3055 ext. 426

Rotary Employment Partnership Expansion

We're growing! Just in time for the new year, Inclusion Alberta received funding to expand the Partnership, to work with Rotary in tackling the extremely high unemployment rate for people with developmental disabilities. Across the province, 4 new coordinators have joined the team! Highlighted this month are the 2 new Calgary Coordinators Karen and Courtney.

Karen Murray



Hi, my name is Karen, and I'm excited to join the Rotary Employment Partnership team! I grew up in Sherwood Park, then upon graduating with an Adapted Physical Education degree from U of A, I ventured south. Early on, I worked for the City of Calgary as an inclusion trainer and a fitness instructor for people with disabilities. My recent roles have included advocacy, community relations, and event management for non-profit organizations, while my volunteer roles have mainly centered around our kids' sports. I became connected to Inclusion Alberta in 2018 when I supported an employee at the Calgary Public Library; this experience inspired me to pursue the REP coordinator role.

I love outdoor activities such as hiking, skiing, biking, snowshoeing, and camping. Travel, gardening, and creative activities are among my favourites as well. I look forward to connecting with families, Rotarians, and employers in this new adventure!

Courtney Wilson



Hello, my name is Courtney Wilson! I started working for Inclusion Alberta part-time in July of 2019, and I am so delighted to now be a part of the Rotary Employment Partnership. I am a born and raised Calgarian, and love exploring the city and its parks, paths, and restaurants. I enjoy staying active by playing softball, hiking, and skiing, and like to paint and play guitar in my downtime. For the past year I have worked as an Employment Mentor for Inclusion Alberta, experiencing first-hand how employment can empower and benefit people with disabilities. I have always had a passion to create change, and I am excited to work with others to help shape our communities into more inclusive places for all.

Stay Tuned for the February E-Blast, where we will introduce the new coordinators in Edmonton and Lloydminster

Call to Action!

Although we find ourselves in very difficult circumstances with this pandemic and increased restrictions, Rotary has been able to create **34 new jobs** across the province since the pandemic began. We need Rotary to continue to spread the news about inclusive employment within your networks, now more than ever.



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