



INTRODUCING LEANNE, DELOITTE'S NEWEST CATERING ASSISTANT!

# District 5360 Rotary Employment Partnership



**AA**  
**CL**  
Alberta Association for  
**Community Living**  
serving children and adults with  
developmental disabilities for over 50 years

## JOBSEEKER SNAPSHOTS

## What Does Your Job Mean to You?

Giving extraordinary job seekers opportunities for success

**“What do you want to be when you grow up?”**

This is a question that we have all asked and answered, often beginning when we are very young. Imagining an independent and productive work life provides young people the opportunity to dream big and begin to formulate career goals. This is no different for job seekers with developmental disabilities, a group that represents a skilled and motivated yet largely untapped labour market.

Did you know that 80% of adults with developmental disabilities are currently unemployed or underemployed in Alberta? This bleak statistic is starting to change thanks to the work of dedicated Rotarians like yourself. Together we are building momentum and changing lives by creating opportunities for meaningful employment for persons with developmental disabilities.

### Setting Dreams in Motion

The [Rotary Employment Partnership](#) is a collaboration between District 5360 & 5370 Rotary Clubs, the Alberta Association for Community Living (AACL) and Persons with Developmental Disabilities (PDD) that sets the dreams of job seekers with developmental disabilities into motion. By opening the doors of businesses to job seekers with developmental disabilities, the imaginative spirit of Rotarians has created more than 300 jobs in the province since the Rotary Employment Partnership began.

### So Much More than a Pay Cheque!

Meaningful, inclusive work is so much more than a pay cheque! Work is a place where we build new skills and develop lifelong friendships. Work is where we showcase our talents and learn to cooperate with a diverse range of colleagues. Work is where many of us find meaning, contribute to our communities and continue our journeys of lifelong learning.

### Get Involved!

If you are interested in learning how you or your Club can becoming involved in the Partnership, or to learn about how inclusive hiring is great for business, contact us!

### MELISSA S.

Melissa is a graduate of Bow Valley College's Inclusive Post-Secondary initiative where she studied marketing. She is fun, fiesty and passionate about the local indie music scene. An event or music management company with administrative needs would be ideal for Melissa, but she would love to find full-time work anywhere that she can exercise her marketing muscle.

### KEVIN M.

Kevin is passionate about fitness, whether it's hiking in Canmore, practicing yoga or working out at the gym. He is looking for a part-time job that will keep his mind and body busy. Kevin is great with his hands and would love to work fixing bikes or in any environment that allows him to stay as active as possible.

### JAMIE P.

Jamie is relatively new to Calgary and is hoping to leverage his experience in a retail environment into a long-term career in the city's deep south. His friendly attitude, along with his experience operating a cash register, taking inventory and stocking shelves would make him an asset to any large retail environment.



**OUR EMPLOYEES AT WORK**

Brian (left) is responsible for keeping the breezeway clean, filing and taking care of visual marketing at Driving Force. Brian has worked there for nearly 3 years! Chelsey (right) finds a file for her boss, Rotarian and Steering Committee member Joyce Halpenny at MCAP. She recently became a part-time permanent employee with full benefits. Congrats, Chelsey!



**FAST FACTS**

80%

Percentage of adults with developmental disabilities who are currently unemployed or underemployed in Alberta.

324

The number of jobs created for jobseekers with developmental disabilities through the Rotary Employment Partnership.

30

The number of jobseekers in Calgary currently looking for work through the Rotary Employment Partnership.

# What Do I have to Offer?

## Opening the Door to Possibility

Like everyone else, people with developmental disabilities have strengths and interests, talents and abilities that may surprise you! The Rotary Employment Partnership supports employees across a wide range of industries, including administrative, clerical, food services, retail, heavy industry and shipping/receiving. Employers, through their relationship with Rotary, supply the vision and willingness to create inclusive workplaces and AAACL provides all the necessary assistance and follow-up to ensure success.

Not sure if employment opportunities for a job seeker with a developmental disability exist at your work place? Ask yourself...

- Is there work that is left undone at the end of the day?
- Are repetitive or clerical tasks taking specialized staff away from their responsibilities?
- Are entry-level roles experiencing high rates of expensive turnover?

If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, you may benefit from inclusive hiring! Still not sure? **Call us!** We will work collaboratively with your staff to create a job description that meets your business needs and creates an opportunity for a jobseeker with a developmental disability to achieve their dreams.

## 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 of the Downtown Club. Meetings take place approximately once every month, which gives Steering Committee members the opportunity to connect with each other and with the local AAACL staff to discuss strategies, opportunities and celebrate the Partnership's successes.

At the moment, six Clubs are not yet represented on our Steering Committee, Heritage Park, Crowchild, Centennial, Chinook, Calgary East and Fish Creek. If you are interested in joining the Steering Committee or leaning more, please contact us today!

**Questions?**  
We'd love to hear from you!

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