

Quality of Life is Important

All people deserve opportunities to freely pursue economic, social, and personal goals.

Basic freedoms to pursue life's opportunities are often invisible until they are lost. For instance, many take it for granted that they will always have sustainable employment, independence, and engagement with their communities. This mindset is at odds with realities faced by those who encounter barriers to previously taken for granted activities of daily living when they or a loved one acquire a disability or health condition.

We live in a society where having a career is a major factor in defining who we are, how much influence we have, and how we are perceived by others. Career barriers can profoundly impact our access to life opportunities, choices and our overall quality of life.

Persistent barriers have resulted in the under employment and unemployment of many highly qualified professionals with disabilities. These exclusions are often manifested in poverty, social and professional isolation, exacerbated health concerns, and diminishing prospects.

One of the goals of the B.C. Association of Professionals with Disabilities is to address life and quality of life issues that impact and/or are impacted by the career realities that professionals with disabilities face. We are fully committed to increasing opportunities for professionals with disabilities to exercise basic freedoms and to pursue their goals through innovation and collaboration with stakeholders and fellow professionals with disabilities.

British Columbia Association of Professionals with Disabilities

We believe that transforming the circumstances of professionals with disabilities is best achieved through:

- engaging stakeholders within their communities
- facilitating the emergence of collaborative relationships between interested persons and organizations at grassroots, regional, national, and international levels
- a heartfelt commitment to foster the evolution of attitudes, values and goodwill leading to the inclusion of professionals with disabilities in their communities and profession
- providing effective results that professionals with disabilities have reason to value

How would you like the Association to support professionals with disabilities?

Contact us to share your thoughts.

The British Columbia Association is an independent affiliate of the Canadian Association of Professionals with Disabilities

Mailing Address:

British Columbia Association of Professionals with Disabilities
714 Warder Place
Victoria, BC V9A 7H6

Website: www.bcprofessionals.org

E-mail: info@bcprofessionals.org

Telephone: (250) 361-9697

British Columbia Association of Professionals with Disabilities

Dedicated to maximizing the inclusion, job retention, and advancement of current and future B.C. professionals with disabilities

Who We Are

The British Columbia Association of Professionals with Disabilities is a young, provincially incorporated non-profit dedicated to the inclusion, job retention, and advancement of current and future professionals with disabilities.

We are solely and permanently committed to meeting the complex and emerging concerns of professionals with disabilities.

Our cross-disabilities based non-profit is controlled by professionals with disabilities who are cognizant of and committed to recognizing and supporting the diverse needs and interests of disabled professionals. We are also dedicated to building supportive and collaborative networks of individuals (with and without disabilities) and organizations that share our mandate, interests, and objectives.

Our non-profit supports professionals with disabilities no matter what their current employment status is. They may be just ready to begin their careers, volunteering, on leave, unemployed, employed, underemployed, part time, self employed, unable to work, on pension, on welfare, or retired.

Why Were We Created

We were created to respond to the fact that the voice and concerns of professionals with disabilities were largely going unrecognized and not represented leading them to face being under supported, underemployed, and excluded from the workforce.

Our Goals

- To provide a venue for professionals with disabilities to define, develop, and implement resources and services that enable them to successfully participate in work and community.
- To improve greater awareness, knowledge, understanding, and acceptance of professionals with disabilities and their capabilities.
- To encourage professionals with disabilities to develop to their full potential and find, retain, and advance in employment commensurate with their skills, knowledge, and abilities.
- To address life and quality of life issues that impact and/or are impacted by career realities that professionals with disabilities face.
- To provide professionals with disabilities with opportunities for camaraderie, mentorship, and support.
- To improve disability supports, rehabilitation, education, training, and employment and career development/ advancement opportunities for current and future professionals with disabilities.

**For more information, visit
www.bcprofessionals.org**

Get Involved

Help us make a difference for professionals with disabilities. If you are interested in providing in-kind or financial support or participating as a volunteer, mentor, sponsor, or partner, please contact us.

Your support will help towards maximizing workforce and community participation and inclusion of professionals with disabilities and will assist them to attain results that they have reason to value.

Connect with Us

Community consultations and other engagements: facilitate our growth; foster our involvement in formal and informal networks; strengthen our relationships with stakeholders and enhance our abilities to support, collaborate, and innovate with fellow professionals with disabilities.

We are committed to building healthy, vibrant, supportive, and collaborative relationships with interested persons and organizations at grassroots, regional, national, and international levels.