

JUNE 2020



Jason Loewer, Executive Director

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The past six months have been filled with opportunities and challenges at EmployAbilities. We are excited to be offering two new programs to individuals with disabilities in 2020; one in **Grande Prairie** and one in Edmonton. Also, dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic, and the challenges it has brought to the team, has led to a "new normal" way of interacting with Albertans. Although our doors have been closed to the public since March 17, we continue to support Albertans with disabilities and barriers to employment to find jobs through social media, text, telephone calls, zoom etc. EmployAbilities staff are still finding Albertans jobs during this pandemic. I am proud of the staff for adapting, changing and finding new ways to connect with employers and clients over the past three months. We are all pulling together to continue to support our clients and staff during this pandemic.

The "New Norma







Prevent the Spread Tips: Hand Washing



Be sure to wash your hands after touching any surfaces that you may think are unclean, after sneezing or coughing and generally whenever you go out. Scrub for 15-20 seconds: palm to palm, between and around fingers, back of each hand, fingertips and under nails. Singing "the "Happy Birthday" song twice is how long it should take.

Keeping Connected around Alberta

Although EmployAbilities has been closed to the public, the services to our participants continued. Many staff started working from home (although the staff in northern Alberta already did that) and had to learn how to communicate with clients as well as potential employers.

Communication is key and using programs like Zoom, Skype and GoToMeeting became the daily routine.

Facebook has also been invaluable in reaching broader audiences regarding EmployAbilities services. Also, in Bonnyville, Cold Lake and Edmonton, Facebook Job Club groups were created and offered job leads, tips for job search, mental health advice and other resources.



What's New?

Amidst all the COVID-19 chaos, EmployAbilities managed to successfully start a new program in **Grande Prairie**. Since **April 1**st, EmployAbilities Grande Prairie has been going strong by providing online workshops and skills training to individuals at a distance.







EmployAbilities is offering a new program in Edmonton called EmployAbilities For Newcomers. This program offers permanent residents and refugee newcomers, with barriers/disabilities, one to one and/or group session support with resume skill development, cover letter writing, interview skills and job search development to prepare for employment within the Edmonton labour market.

Prevent the Spread Tips: Vampire Cough or Sneeze



To prevent the spread of germs, cough or sneeze into your elbow. Not your hand (because hands spread germs). If you cough, sneeze or blow your nose in a tissue, dispose of the tissue, then wash your hands with soap and water or use hand sanitizer.

Important Dates in June

June 1 - **Restart Your Career** Program Starts

Restart Career

June 22 – **Learn 2 Earn** Program Starts

June 29 - **Strive 4 Work** Program Starts



Information For Employers

EmployAbilities is here to support you as you rebuild your workforce.

Soon you will be back in business, but your work world will have altered dramatically, as well as your employees.

EmployAbilities has a solid reputation for successfully supporting employers in attracting and retaining skilled employees.

We will work directly with YOU to identify your hiring needs as you adjust to your new reality!

EmployAbilities specializes in finding the right fit, for both the individual and YOU - the right employer.

Connect with us today!

Contact Jon Garland at:

Phone, 780-945-4639 Email. jon@employabilities.ab.ca



Together we will reshape your workforce for your new normal!

Prevent the Spread Tips: Stay Home When Sick



Stay home or keep your distance when you are ill or not feeling well. Stay at least 2 metres away to prevent infecting people around you.

Going Forward

EmployAbilities will continue to adapt to the new challenges that are set before us due to the COVID-19 pandemic. EmployAbilities is dedicated to providing specialized services to individuals with disabilities or barriers to employment by creating opportunities for skill development, education and employment and we will do so in a SAFE environment for participants and staff.

Keeping People Safe



Enroll Today

Strive 4 Work

Virtual 8 Week Training Session

Due to COVID-19, **Strive 4 Work** is delivering the next 8 week training session virtually!

Employment skills development and training facilitated through an online video conferencing platform.

A great opportunity to increase your skills, and get paid, while staying safe at home!

Accepted participants provided with ALL materials needed to complete the online training.

APPLY TODAY: Program starts <u>June 29, 2020</u>

For more information call Katelyn:

780-777-5834



10 weeks In Class Instruction 12 weeks of Work Experience

The **Learn 2 Earn** program for youth from **15-30**years with barriers to employment.
Courses in inventory control, ProServe,
forklift training and more!
Receive a **\$750** bonus upon completion!

APPLY TODAY: Program starts June 22, 2020

For more information contact Chandra:

P. 780-945-4636

Email. chandra@employabilities.ab.ca

402, 10909 Jasper Avenue NW Edmonton, AB T5J 3L9



P. 780-423-4106
Email:
employ@employabilities.ab.ca