

JOIN[®]

the ONTARIO JOB OPPORTUNITY INFORMATION NETWORK

newsletter

Ontario JOIN - Job Opportunity Information Network | www.joininfo.ca | info@joininfo.ca | t. 416-241-5646

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Our Vision:

A society where persons with disabilities are part of an inclusive workforce.

Our Mission:

To be the employment network of choice in the Greater Toronto Area for persons with disabilities and for employers.

The Ontario Job Opportunity Information Network for persons with disabilities (JOIN) assists persons living with disabilities to find and maintain employment, and assists employers to recruit qualified candidates to meet their hiring needs.

*Connecting
Employers
with Employees
with Disabilities*



CAREER FAIR- THE FIRST OF IT'S KIND

Ontario JOIN held its first ever Career Fair for Job Seekers with Disabilities on March 30th, 2011 at On The Park Events and Conference Centre. This initiative was made possible through Service Canada funding. As a direct result of the extensive outreach and marketing, over 700 job seekers with disabilities registered for the event.

"The Fair was an excellent idea and very well organized in a setting pleasant and supportive. We were made to feel human again and in

many instances, made to feel as though we were quite ordinary and as capable of making a valuable contribution as anyone else. We weren't made to feel 'patronized' either, in a way that in the past has often felt like favours were being dealt to us, more as charity than someone's vision that we could be an asset as valuable to an organization as any 'normal' person. All of this is very rare indeed." - Quote from Alan, Job Seeker with a Disability



From previous page

There were 26 booths at the Career Fair and we are delighted that we sold out. Employers in attendance were:

BMO Financial Group, The Scotiabank Group, RBC Royal Bank, Investors Group, Deloitte, Grade Learning, CBM, ING Direct, Ameresco Canada Inc., Virgin Mobile, Symcor, CGI, Career Edge, Tim Horton's, Air

Canada JAZZ, CIBC, TD Bank Financial Group, Starwood Hotels and Resorts, ODSP, Province of Ontario, Government of Canada, Neurocore, University of Toronto, Humber, Peel Regional Police, and Toronto Police.

One of JOIN's newest Business Leadership Members, Ameresco Canada Inc., writes:

"I want to congratulate you on an excellent event. We thoroughly enjoyed the day and particularly how much we learned ourselves about communication with persons with disabilities. Thus far we have hired one person and we intend to hire more from the resumes we collected on the day."

JOIN would like to acknowledge the Career Fair Steering Committee members and all of the dedicated JOIN agency volunteers who helped to make this event such a tremendous success.



NEW MEMBERS

JOIN is pleased to welcome its newest members Ability Edge and Woodgreen (WIN Program)

Salah Uddin, Workplace Inclusion Specialist for Persons with Disabilities, Career Edge Organization writes:

"Career Edge Organization became a full member of JOIN in December 2010. Since then, Career Edge Organization staff has actively participated in all JOIN activities including the Job Fair held in March 2011. Ability Edge program (www.abilityedge.ca) is one of the three paid internships programs offered by Career Edge Organization meant for graduates with disability."

"Our partnership with JOIN is showing overall positive results. After becoming members of the JOIN, we have been able to collaboratively work with many agencies/organizations serving persons with disabilities in the Toronto Region. There are many benefits of this partnership. For example, more than five Ability Edge Program postings have been circulated through the JOIN job network so far. Also, since becoming members, we have not only seen increased job seeker interest in the Ability Edge program but the quality of candidates in terms of job readiness has also improved substantially."

ON THE MOVE ACROSS THE PROVINCE

Ontario JOIN is on the road assisting United Way Ottawa with a mandate to develop a city-wide strategy to address real and perceived barriers to employment for people with disabilities. JOIN has been hired to provide expertise and share learnings on primary strategies, particularly with respect to building a Business Leadership Network (BLN) chapter in the Ottawa Region and to assist EARN

(Employment Accessibility Resource Network) Ottawa with best practices from the operational side of JOIN. This will include: sharing of JOIN documentation and lessons learned, marketing materials, policies and procedures, governance documents, new JOIN member service provider policies and procedures, sustainability plan and job developer manuals.

BUSINESS LEADERSHIP NETWORK (BLN) – EVENTS WITH IMPACT!



Ontario JOIN's 9th Employer Event Series, *Debunking Disability Myths*, sponsored by TD Bank Financial Group, was held at the Fairmont Royal York Hotel on May 5th, 2011. TD produced and launched a video at the event entitled *"In Their Voice; Setting the Record Straight on Disability Myths."*

More than 130 registrants attended with representation from 40

different employers. The morning shed light on the misnomers and misconceptions about what it means to hire a person with a disability. In addition to inspiring and setting the record straight, it is our intention that as a result of BLN events, together we will shift the attitudinal barriers associated with recruiting, hiring and retaining individuals with disabilities in our workforces.

BLN MEMBERSHIP

Members include - *Ameresco Canada Inc., American Airlines, Bell Canada, BMO Financial Group, Canada Reliable Independent Living Services, CBC, Career Edge Organization, CBM Canada, Catholic Children's Aid Society of Canada, Children's Aid Society of Toronto, CIBC, COMPAS - Public Opinion Research, *The Co-operators Insurance, Deloitte, Desjardins General Insurance Group, D.I.C.E., Disability Awareness Consultants, HSBC Bank Canada, IBM Canada, IKON Office Solutions (RICOH), KPMG, MSLP, Marcam Printers Ltd., Mount Sinai Hospital, ORACLE, Plan Canada Ltd., RBC Financial Group, Royal Ontario Museum, Scotiabank, *Starwood Hotels and Resorts, State Farm®, TD Canada Trust, Tim Horton's, and WGW Services Ltd.

* Ontario JOIN would like to welcome its newest members.

MENTORING CONNECTION TAKES FLIGHT

The Ontario JOIN Mentoring Connection, developed in partnership with Deloitte and The Scotiabank Group, held its official launch on February 8th, 2011 with The Honourable, David C. Onley, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario in attendance as well as Business Leadership Network members and Ontario JOIN board representatives and staff.

Since that time, both Deloitte and The Scotiabank Group have held information and orientation sessions for potential mentors. The first Meet and Greet session took place at the Deloitte offices on May 11th, 2011. Eight mentors and eight mentees were matched and had the opportunity to network and get to know one another at the official start of this four-month commitment.



From L to R - Jane Allen from Deloitte, Joanne Gray from JOIN, His Honour David C. Onley, Arlene Russell from Scotiabank



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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday, June 14th, 2011
3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

On The Park Events
& Conference Centre
Oak Room
1095 Leslie Street, Toronto

Join us to celebrate our past year's achievements. Hear first-hand success stories and salute our volunteers and community partners

To confirm your attendance and to notify us if you have any accommodation needs or for more information, contact Richard@joininfo.ca or at 416-241-5646

Sandwiches, pastries and refreshments will be served courtesy of On the Park Events and Conference Centre.

SAVE THE DATES

November 21st and 22nd, 2011

For the 8th ONTARIO
JOIN Annual Conference
and Leadership Symposium
and Summit

Leading with ACTION!



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Employers
with Employees
with Disabilities

For the past seven years, JOIN has held its conference on one day. It is time for JOIN to lead with ACTION and this year the annual event will take place over two days at On the Park Events & Conference Centre.

Watch the JOIN website, your email and future newsletters for more details on this year's event.

LOCATION



On The Park Events
& Conference Centre
1095 Leslie Street
Toronto, Ontario M3C 2J7

Call for Nominations for Ontario JOIN's Board of Directors

Ontario JOIN is putting out a call for nominations for the Board of Directors. This is a two year commitment. If you are interested in serving on JOIN's Board, send your letter of intent and resume to Executive Director, Joanne Gray, at joanne@joininfo.ca

The deadline for applications is May 27th, 2011.

MEMBER EVENTS

The Canadian Paraplegic Association Ontario's AGM

Wednesday June 22nd, 2011	2:30 p.m. Registration
Toronto Rehab, Lyndhurst Centre, Main Dining Room 520 Sutherland Drive, Toronto	3:00 p.m. Annual General Meeting
	4:30 p.m. BBQ
	Please R.S.V.P. to 416-422-5644 ext. 249 or agmrsvp@cpaont.org

Ontario JOIN & ORHMA A PARTNERSHIP ABOVE PAR



On June 6th, 2011, the Ontario Restaurant Hotel & Motel Association (ORHMA) will be holding its 8th annual Ontario Golf Tournament at the Lionhead Golf & Country Club. Ontario JOIN will have a booth and will be hosting an Accessibility Hole at the par 5 16th hole of the Masters Course. The fairway boasts several bunkers and tree lines as well as a pond that surrounds the green. This should make it a very interesting hole for ORHMA golf enthusiasts. To promote inclusion, at JOIN's hole, golfers will have the opportunity to tee-off while sitting in a wheelchair. Prizes will be awarded for the longest drive (men's and ladies).