



About Us

The Ontario Disability Employment Network is a professional body of employment service providers united to increase employment opportunities for people who have a disability.

We have over 140 member agencies, all helping people with a disability get into the workforce. Members are from every corner of the province and support people of all disability types. Beyond Ontario, we have connections with organizations in most provinces and territories of Canada.

Our Vision

That all people who have a disability in Ontario have access to the labour force and the ability to achieve meaningful employment.



We focus our work in five key areas:

1

We **engage and support business** by encouraging them to hire people with a disability. We then provide them with hands on support through the recruitment and on-boarding processes providing the following:

- General education and awareness sessions
- Matching business with local employment agencies to provide job candidates and any supports needed
- Consulting services — needs assessments, strategy development, review and analysis of current recruitment and on-boarding processes
- Sensitivity and Awareness Training
- Accessibility audits
- AODA Training
- On-going Support

2

We provide **direct support to employment agencies** through:

- Training to help improve the skills of employment specialists, job developers, job coaches, etc.
- Consulting and Planning
- Program Improvement — review and evaluation, marketing planning, etc.
- Quality Assurance program
- General marketing initiatives (e.g. Employer Awareness, referrals, Disability Employment Awareness Month (DEAM) campaign, videos, resources and tools)
- Networking events and opportunities to connect with peers across the province
- Business Champions League — working with leading businesses that successfully include people with disabilities to help market and promote inclusive hiring practices within the business sector
- Government relations — creating a strong provincial voice (see below)

3

We **promote innovation and best practice** in both the business and service communities through studies of high performers and the replication of these successful models across the province. We promote these innovations through our Annual Innovation Awards Competition, training and other channels on an on-going basis.

4

We **consult with provincial and federal governments** on policy and funding issues that impact service providers' ability to help people who have a disability get jobs. We also identify and advocate on issues where gaps in service exist.

5

We **engage other stakeholders** that have an impact on employment for people who have a disability — families, schools, post-secondary institutions, etc. — by providing education, training and partnering with these like-minded groups on a variety of issues.