



OBJECTIVES:

The 2017 Accessibility Leadership Forum, hosted by the Rick Hansen Foundation, aims to build on Rick Hansen's original reason behind his journey – to remove barriers for people with disabilities. To be successful and truly create transformational change, the Canadian disability community must work together.

Fifty leaders from the Canadian disability community attended the 2016 Accessibility Leadership Forum and identified the following major priorities for 2017: (1) Develop public education and awareness campaigns to address myths and stigmas about the abilities of people with disabilities; (2) Build and publish a business case for the value of accessibility – including economic and social benefit to the private and public sector; (3) Establish and implement a common standard for accessibility and inclusive design via an accessibility certification program; and (4) Engage and educate industry professionals in accessibility and universal design.

Based on the priorities identified in 2016, the 2017 Accessibility Leadership Forum will serve as a platform for continued collaboration and partnership within the disability community and beyond in alignment with the Rick Hansen Foundation strategy. The aim of the Forum will be to build relationships, share and propose solutions and continue dialogue around these priorities. The Rick Hansen Foundation looks forward to continuing this work with the disability community to create a global movement to raise awareness, change attitudes and break down barriers for people with disabilities!

PARTICIPANTS:

Participants in the 2017 Accessibility Leadership Forum will include national leaders from the disability community that are currently engaged in removing physical barriers for people with disabilities in Canada and interested in working together to proactively find solutions.

LOCATION: Intercontinental Toronto Centre Hotel in the Oakville/Caledon Rooms.

FACILITATOR: Dane Jensen, Performance Coaching

PROGRAM:

The 2017 Accessibility Leadership Forum, hosted by the Rick Hansen Foundation, will be held on Monday November 27, 2017 in honour of the United Nations International Day of Persons with Disabilities (IDPD) held annually on December 3. The IDPD has been commemorated since 1992 to promote awareness and mobilize support for critical issues relating to the inclusion of persons with disabilities in society and development.



Monday November 27, 2017		
8.30am – 9.00am	Breakfast and Registration	
9.00am – 9.15am	Welcome and Introduction to the Accessibility Leadership Forum	Dane Jensen, Performance Coaching
9.15am – 9.30am	Welcome and Introduction to the Rick Hansen Foundation Strategy	Rick Hansen, Founder & CEO, Rick Hansen Foundation
9.30am – 9.45am	Welcome and Introduction to the Federal Accessibility Legislation	The Honourable Kent Hehr, Minister of Sport and Persons with Disabilities <i>- to be confirmed</i>
9.45am – 10.15am	Break	
10.15am – 11.15am	<i>Keynote and Table Discussion: Research – A Business Case for Accessibility</i> <i>20 minutes presentation, 20 minutes table discussion, 20 minutes group reporting</i> <i>Discussion Questions: TBD</i>	Ruth Wright, Conference Board of Canada
11.15am – 11.30am	<i>Awareness: Rick Hansen Foundation Strategy and Programs</i> <i>15 minutes presentation</i>	Carol Nelson, Vice President, Marketing and Awareness, Rick Hansen Foundation
11.30am – 12.00pm	Break and Buffet Lunch	
12.00pm – 1.00pm	<i>Lunch Keynote and Table Discussion: Using Standards to Certify Accessibility</i> <i>20 minutes presentation, 20 minutes table discussion, 20 minutes group reporting</i> <i>Discussion Questions: TBD</i>	Nancy Bestic, Director, CSA Group



1.00pm – 1.30pm	Break	
1.30pm – 2.30pm	<p><i>Keynote and Table Discussion: Accessibility Certification – Working with Stakeholders to Achieve Success</i></p> <p><i>20 minutes presentation, 20 minutes table discussion, 20 minutes group reporting</i></p> <p><i>Discussion Questions: TBD</i></p>	<p>Stanis Smith, Executive Vice President, Stantec</p> <p><i>Rick Hansen Foundation Accessibility Certification Advisory Committee</i></p>
2.30pm – 2.45pm	<p><i>Accessibility Certification: Rick Hansen Foundation Strategy and Programs</i></p> <p><i>15 minutes presentation</i></p>	<p>Brad McCannell, Vice President, Access and Inclusion, Rick Hansen Foundation</p>
2.45pm – 3.15pm	Break	
3.15pm – 4.15pm	<p><i>Keynote and Table Discussion: Engaging the International Community in Rick Hansen Foundation Accessibility Certification™</i></p> <p><i>20 minutes presentation, 20 minutes table discussion, 20 minutes group reporting</i></p> <p><i>Discussion Questions: TBD</i></p>	<p>Brooke Ellison, Young Global Leader, World Economic Forum, Stony Brook University</p>
4.15pm – 4.30pm	Wrap Up, Discussion and Next Steps	Dane Jensen, Performance Coaching
4.30pm – 4.40pm	Closing Remarks	Rick Hansen, Founder & CEO, Rick Hansen Foundation
4.40pm – 6.00pm	Wine and Cheese Reception	