

MATTHEW CORKUM, PhD

Seeing the ABILITY in disAbility



What Business Owners Don't Know That's Hurting Your Bottom Line and Your Success.

Diversity and Inclusion are hot topics these days as workplaces try to navigate their way to practical, profitable, success. But how do we see past stigma, discrimination, and often unconscious prejudices to what unites us? How do we tap into the hidden potential in a disabled workforce? Everyone benefits from knowing how to create, and be part of, a truly inclusive workplace. And how can businesses easily accommodate loyal, disabled customers?

Many people exclude those with disabilities due to:

- A fear of doing or saying the wrong thing.
- Concerns about their ability to do the work—and potential liability issues.
- Assumptions they make about the capabilities of those who are different.
- "Ableism" prejudices that they may not even be aware of.

Walk a Mile in My Shaky Shoes Tap Into the Ability in disABILITY in the Workplace (45 - 60 minutes)

In this lively presentation you will hear a unique, first-hand perspective on disabilities in the workplace. Become aware of the challenges, and potential, of hiring disabled employees and how your organization can capitalize on this untapped and valuable resource and client pool.

Business owners, managers and supervisors will:

- Learn how the myths about disabled employees are adversely affecting your retention, culture and bottom line.
- Learn how to capitalize on the Ability in all of your workers!
- Know when to make accommodation and understand most accommodation cost little to nothing financially.
- Grasp how accommodating people with disabilities creates a loyal client base—little things make a big difference!
- Set your staff up for success—know how to serve customers with disabilities.

Those who benefit from Matthew's messages include:

Business owners, managers, board directors, human resource workers, those who provide customer service, and those with disabilities.



"We had the honor of having Matt present to our employees about disability inclusion in the workplace, and it was nothing short of transformative.

Matt's approach was engaging, informative, and inspiring. He not only shared his lived experience of disability, he also provided us with valuable insights for fostering an inclusive environment where everyone can thrive. His expertise and passion was evident throughout, and we left the session feeling more empowered to take actionable steps towards disability inclusion. Matt truly made a lasting impact on our team, and we are grateful for the knowledge and perspective he shared with us."

- Tina Johnson-Adams, Sr Advisor, HR Programs & Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Accessibility at Trans Mountain.

Having experienced bullying and discrimination his whole life has made Matthew Corkum passionate about ensuring that people with disabilities feel as worthwhile and wanted as everyone else! He is a stand for helping everyone focus on the ABILITY in disABILITY.

Matthew has not let his Cerebral Palsy limit his love of living an active life of contribution. Whether getting his PhD, advocating in his role as President of the board of directors for Rocky Mountain Adaptive, speaking professionally, or simply enjoying his favorite pastime biking and alpine skiing, he is all-in!

As an atmospheric scientist Matthew worked as a head meteorologist in Calgary, Alberta for 13 years at a top energy hedge fund. His humor, helpful insights, and contagious enthusiasm give audiences practical ways to eliminate the stigma, judgement, and misunderstandings that happen when dealing with people that are different. In his off time if he is not developing diversity and inclusion programs, or working out with his trainer, you can find him mountain biking in the summer and alpine skiing in winter.

Other presentations in the "Seeing the Ability in disABILITY" series:

- What the Medical System Doesn't Know That's Impacting Quality of Care
- What the Education System Doesn't Know That's Keeping Kids Back, Bullied, and Behind.
- Walk a Mile in My Shaky Shoes (for general audiences)

Just a few places Matt has presented at :



TRANS MOUNTAIN



UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
CUMMING SCHOOL OF MEDICINE



COLLEGE OF
PHYSIOTHERAPISTS
OF ALBERTA



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