

For Immediate Release

RHF Marks International Day of Persons With Disabilities With National Conversation on the Power of Accessible Communities

**The Power of Accessible Communities is a Free National webinar highlighting
lived experience, progress and practical ways to create accessible
communities**

November 27, 2025 - Traditional territory of the xʷməθkwəy 'əm (Musqueam) First Nation / Richmond, BC — In honour of the 2025 International Day of Persons With Disabilities and the 40th Anniversary of Rick Hansen's Man In Motion World Tour, the Rick Hansen Foundation (RHF) is proud to present The Power of Accessible Communities — a free national webinar bringing together leaders and lived-experience advocates to share how accessibility strengthens the places where Canadians live, work, learn, and play.

Through real experiences, community examples, and practical insights, panelists will highlight the far-reaching benefits of accessible design and offer tangible steps organizations and municipalities can take to build more inclusive environments for everyone. This virtual event invites attendees to reflect on what it truly means for a community to be accessible today.

Moderated by **Christopher Sutton, Accessibility Commissioner, Canadian Human Rights Commission**, the panel includes:

- **Dr. Darda Sales**, PHD, PLY and RHF Ambassador
- **Dr. Paul Clark**, Chair, Accessibility Advisory Committee, City of Kelowna
- **Teale Bondaroff**, Councillor, City of Saanich
- **Mary Ann Bent**, Manager, Accessible Navigation & Wayfinding Solutions, CNIB Access Labs
- **Mia de Freitas**, Director, Accessibility Enablement, RBC

With one in four Canadian adults living with a disability — and millions more experiencing accessibility barriers every day — the conversation will explore how thoughtful design, inclusive planning, and community leadership can create a future where everyone can go everywhere.

The webinar will begin with a short video message from **Rick Hansen**, reflecting on the 40-year legacy of the Man In Motion World Tour, its global impact, and the ongoing work required to build communities where everyone can participate fully.

The event includes **ASL interpretation** and **real-time captioning**.

What: *The Power of Accessible Communities* — a free national webinar

Time: Wednesday, December 3, 2025

Time: 9 a.m. PT / 10 a.m. MT / 12 p.m. ET (1–1.25 hours including Q&A)

Time: Live on Zoom

Register: [Book your free registration here](#)

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About the Rick Hansen Foundation

The Rick Hansen Foundation (RHF) was established in 1988, following the completion of Rick Hansen’s Man In Motion World Tour. For over 37 years, RHF has worked to raise awareness, change attitudes, and remove barriers for people with disabilities. Visit www.RickHansen.com to learn more.

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