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Enhancing Profits and Productivity through Hiring People with Disabilities

Counter-intuitively, the fast track to better business is recruiting from the thousands of college and university graduates who are trained to work, are able to work, and who want to work, yet who are on government assistance because they aren't being hired.

Citing the many recent studies that demonstrate higher productivity, lower absenteeism, and virtually zero workers' comp claims experienced by employers who hire people with disabilities, David Onley takes audiences through the benefits of a diverse workplace.

From individual fast food restaurants to large corporations such as Walgreens, the pattern is the same: productivity and profits go up and absenteeism goes down when people with disabilities are hired. Onley addresses why companies are missing out on this opportunity while at the same time worrying about a labour shortage that for the most part simply does not exist—because the potential employees are out there, ready to be put to work.

Agenda

Time	Activity	Presenters
10:45 a.m.	Registration	
11:00 a.m.	Opening of the Event	Robert Watson, CEO and President, ITAC
11:05 a.m.	<i>Access Talent</i>	Government of Ontario
11:15 a.m.	<i>Discover Ability Network</i>	Mark Patterson, Executive Director, Magnet
11:30 a.m.	Keynote <i>Enhancing Profits and Productivity through Hiring People with Disabilities</i>	Hon. David Onley
12:30 p.m.	Lunch	
1:30 p.m.	Session Closes	

Date: September 27, 2017

Time: 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. (lunch included)

Location: Deloitte, Bay Adelaide Centre, East Tower, 22 Adelaide Street West, 2nd floor, Reception

[Register](#)



The Honourable David C. Onley

Mr. Onley was appointed Ontario's 28th Lieutenant Governor following a distinguished career as a broadcaster.

Mr. Onley championed disability issues for many years, having served as chair of the Accessibility Standards Advisory Council of the Government of Ontario and as an accessibility council member for the Rogers Centre and the Air Canada Centre.

As Ontario's first Lieutenant Governor with a physical disability, Mr. Onley adopted accessibility as the overarching theme of his mandate. He defined accessibility as "that which enables people to achieve their full potential", believing that true accessibility occurs when disabled people can fully participate in the social, cultural, and economic life of Ontario.

Because accessibility includes equal access to opportunities such as education, Mr. Onley expanded the Aboriginal Youth Literacy Initiative to include computer literacy programs.

Mr. Onley was born in Midland, Ontario, grew up in Scarborough, and has been inducted into the Canadian Disability Hall of Fame and the Scarborough Walk of Fame. He served as Colonel of the Regiment of The Queen's York Rangers (1st American Regiment) in his capacity of Lieutenant Governor, and personally as Honorary Colonel of 25 Field Ambulance. He is the recipient of the Rick Hansen Award of Excellence, the Courage to Come Back Award, and holds 11 honorary degrees.