## **Discover Ability Network**

The benefits of being an inclusive employer

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For over 100 years, the Ontario Chamber of Commerce (OCC) has been indispensable partner of business in Ontario, with 135 member chambers of commerce and boards of trade representing 60,000 members.

Discover Ability is a business opportunity to help unlock the full potential of our member organizations.

- 75% SMEs in Ontario told the OCC their # 1 barrier issue is finding talent
- Skills shortages are limiting business growth, development and innovation
- People with disabilities represent an untapped talent pool that can help fuel innovative growth and a measured return on investment



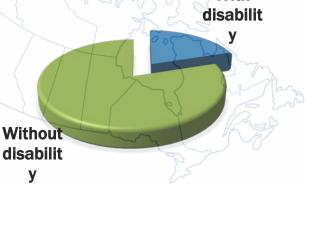


## Canadians with a disability: numbers

- 20% of Canadians<sup>1</sup>
  - Pain, flexibility and mobility 29.3%<sup>1</sup>
  - Mental health 20%<sup>2</sup>
  - 29% visible / 71% non-visible<sup>3</sup>
- 6.2M Canadians<sup>1</sup>
- Fast-growing and largest diversity group



<sup>1</sup>StatsCan, 2017
<sup>2</sup>Canadian Mental Health Association: *Fast Facts about Mental Illness* 3Benjamin St. Louis, Ontario Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility, 2019



**CANADIAN** 

POPULATION



With

## The facts

# 77% of small businesses who have hired people with disabilities said they met or exceeded expectations<sup>1</sup>

#### **Positive overall effect**

Having inclusive business practices makes companies more productive and profitable<sup>1</sup>

#### **Costs**

60% accommodations cost nothing. 93% of accommodations are a 1x cost of less than \$500<sup>2</sup>

#### **Capacity**

The Discover Ability Network can assist you with training, finding talent and support



<sup>1</sup>BMO Survey (2014) / Turning diversity into \$ (2014) <sup>2</sup>Accommodation and Compliance: Low Cost, High Impact



#### What is the **Discover Ability Network?** Job matching platform **Free training** connects **business** to on disability, inclusive job seekers with recruiting, disclosure, disabilities to meet accommodations in business and workforce workplace and building

needs

an inclusive workplace



#### **Networking**

events that connect employers to job seekers, to build disability confidence.





### www.discoverability.network

The Discover Ability Network connects business to qualified talent with a disability and free resources at no charge





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Visit <u>https://discoverability.network/</u> for more information. For training, contact Lisa Kelly at <u>lisakelly@occ.ca</u> | 416-886-1779



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