

# CONNECT EMPLOYMENT SERVICES BUILDING CONNECTIONS IN THE COMMUNITY

Connect Employment Services was founded in Winnipeg in 1990 by a group of visionary parents who believed that all people, including those with intellectual disabilities, deserved the opportunity to work and participate in the community.

The agency they founded is a non-profit, community-based employment service that specializes in connecting jobseekers with intellectual disabilities to Winnipeg businesses. CONNECT does this by developing opportunities with local businesses, matching them with qualified candidates, and providing supports to both the jobseeker and the employer to ensure a successful match.

Says Program Manager, Lori Watson Sewell, “Our approach is simple – we connect people who can and want to work with businesses that have staffing needs. To facilitate this process, we offer a range of free services to employers and jobseekers, including employment preparation, on-site job training and long term follow-up support.”



**| Jessica Smith (Housekeeping Attendant),  
and Jonathan Burton (Work Station  
Support Analyst)**

From a Housekeeping Attendant with Canad Inns, to a Work Station Support Analyst at the Workers Compensation Board of Manitoba, the people CONNECT supports share a common desire and ability to work and contribute to the community.

## CONNECT'S GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

- To provide services based on a person's needs and interests.
- To support people to be connected to the community through work.
- To provide supports to people regardless of their level of ability.
- To support people for the duration of their work life.