CDSA-ACEI Poster Session

Seniors-Adding Life to Years: A Canadian Project Focusing on Late Life Long Term Care
Katie Aubrecht, Janice Keefe, Carole Estabrooks, Heather Cook, Leah MacDonald, Heather Fifield

Numerous reports over the last six decades offer evidence of the failure of health and social systems to add life to years within late life long term care (LTC) for older disabled people in Canada. Even though LTC is *home* for many people in the last stages of their life journeys, LTC environments remain highly institutionalized and hospital-like settings. Ableist and ageist ideas and images of LTC organize public and professional approaches to care. LTC environments, such as nursing homes, are assumed to equal hospitals, therapeutic institutions, total institutions, waystations for the dying, or even warehouses. This poster presentation describes *Seniors – Adding Life to Years (SALTY)* – an interdisciplinary team-based research project that aims to understand promising and potentially inappropriate approaches in late life/end of life LTC, within and across Nova Scotia, Ontario, Alberta, British Columbia. Perspectives of older people with dementia and other underrepresented groups are centered through the direct participation of people with lived experience in the research design and management. *SALTY*'s focus on approaches to care that add life to years in late life LTC positions it to make a significant contribution to current and future directions in disability studies scholarship, which has historically paid limited attention to older disabled people living in LTC.

Weight and Body Size: A Case for Equality Protection
Tiffany Barone

Discrimination against overweight people is prevalent in society. Discrimination has been acknowledged and prohibited in Canadian cases in which the individual's fatness could be regarded as a real or perceived disability. This paper argues that although fatness not caused by a medical condition can be viewed under the social model of disability, it should not be categorized as a disability. However, weight and body size should be its own enumerated ground under section 15 of the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.* This paper outlines the existing legal framework in Canada, explaining that fatness is a disability under the social model of disability. Many cases have been unsuccessful in claiming discrimination based on weight because of their use of the disability category of discrimination under human rights codes. These unsuccessful attempts lay the foundation to explain that weight and body size should be its own enumerated ground in the Charter. The discrimination and historical disadvantage faced by fat people necessitate equality protections.

Bringing Disability Activists Online: Building Collaborative Web-docs and Accessible Pedagogy in Downtown Toronto

Carolyn Lee-Jones

In 2016, as a response to a student-identified need to connect with local community leaders working on disability justice at Ryerson University's School of Disability Studies, a student committee developed five web-docs profiling Toronto-based Mad/Deaf/disabled activists. Our web-docs clarify "real world" intersections of disability activism and the innovative ways in which this activism challenges the status quo through multi-disciplinary ways of thinking. By bringing social justice leaders into online classrooms, our web-docs invite students to expand their understanding of accessible communities, queer movements, mad activism, accessible city building, crip arts, and institutional survival.

Key to this collaboration is an intentional turn toward the importance of accessibility.   Guided by a social model framework our commitment to accessibility moves beyond basic principles of the AODA's Integrated Accessibility Standard Regulation. We recognize the need for flexibility in any disability-based project stems from features of its diversity (Kafer, 2013) and as a project of "life learning" (Tomei, 2010). Creating and disseminating our web docs put into practice the notion of accessibility as mindful practice in online teaching and learning environments where non-linear temporalities require accommodation in collective teaching and learning. This presentation will showcase one of the 5-minute web-docs and provide examples of moments of pedagogical interruption in the wake of accessibility and universal design for learning (UDL) concerns. In making space for Deaf/disabled/Mad/Crip activism in online classrooms we view our web docs project as a form of community activism/building which challenges current pedagogy to re-imagine online classrooms as spaces for disabled/Deaf/mad/crip bodies both in content and practice as we celebrate grassroots disability activism.

Reimagining Disability and Employment: A Collaboration Based Approach to Closing the Labour Gap
Lauren McNamara

This poster presentation will critically assess the current literature surrounding disability and employment in Ontario and explore the benefits and challenges of implementing new technology solutions and tools for collaboration to this landscape. The paper will draw on literature from both disability studies and business discourse to propose a reimagining of the disability and employment landscape in Canada. Further concepts such as the affirmation model of disability (Swain and French, 2000) and disability disclosure in management roles (Roulstone & Williams, 2014) will be explored in the context of addressing labour market challenges for our community. Ultimately, this will present they need for a restructuring of the disability and employment support system in Ontario to more effectively narrowed the gap facing the disabled labour market, particularly among those who are highly skilled and well-educated.

Huronia Survivors Speakers Bureau
Jen Rinaldi

The Huronia Survivors Speakers Bureau features persosn who were once residents at the Huronia Regional Centre. They have been sharing their experiences and expertise with a wide range of audiences across Canada since 2016. Groups that benefit from the Bureau include university researchers and students, caregivers and service providers, other survivors, and of course the speakers themselves. Speakers have expressed how sharing their experiences helps them move beyond difficult memories, and that they feel satisfaction knowing that they are key players in ending inappropriate forms of institutionalization. This poster will present the Bureau's milestones, accomplishments, and purposes.