

MentorAbility Video - Winnipeg 2026

[The following words are shown in captions throughout the video. Images and video clips of the National MentorAbility Meeting in Winnipeg Manitoba also appear during the video. The aforementioned meeting name and location briefly appears in written text as an offscreen speaker says the first words shown below]

Sometimes the most meaningful change begins with a single conversation. In that moment, something shifts. Confidence grows, perceptions change, and a path that did not feel possible before begins to take shape.

[The CASE and MentorAbility Canada logos quickly show up. MentorAbility Canada National Hub Coordinator, Richard Cockrem, says the following – mostly onscreen. His name and occupation also briefly appear. This occurs for everyone in the video who give one-on-one testimonials. Images of persons experiencing disability working at various jobs are also shown]

MentorAbility is a easy way to bridge the gap between employers and job seekers who experience disability. Even that short hour has had a profound impact on their life. Overall, confidence building.

[British Columbia Hub Coordinator, Jillian Bradley, speaks next. More Meeting video clips appear]

MentorAbility changes people's mindsets. They really get an understanding that, yeah, this person could be a really good fit.

[Images of the following job explorer and mentorship described below show up]

We had a really great ask from one of our agency partners. They had a job explorer who was interested in cheerleading, so we were able to connect them with the B C Lions dance team. They were able to go out to a practice, and then they got invited to a game, so that was a really, really, great mentorship that happened.

[Saskatchewan Hub Coordinator, Carmen Donald, says the following. Images and videos of the Meeting, as well as the job seeker and mentorship elaborated on below are quickly shown]

I think about one individual that I was working with. She had said, "Well, like, I'm artistic, and I love to bake." And I'm like, "Let's take you to a bakery." I have a mentor who is amazing. We get into that environment, and she had a slab cake. And so, we decorated the cake. She was in that environment. She heard it, she smelt it, and she tasted it.

If they come out of a mentorship, it's okay that they don't want to go into that field. We still have that opportunity to say, "What did you like about that?" And as a service provider, that's something that you want to know. This will actually make your job easier.

[Jillian resumes speaking and more Meeting video clips appear]

For service providers, there's so many learning opportunities. There's training, there's activity funds. Especially in a time where agencies are struggling for funding, here's a great opportunity that you can access an amount of funds to be able to do some of those events or activities that are really important to your organization, that keep that momentum going in your community.

[Richard speaks again and there are also more of the aforementioned video clips]

Folks who are attempting to make those connections with employers, it's just an easier way to do it. Asking for a job or asking for a one-to-one one-day meeting, it's a lot easier to ask that, uh, than it is to say, "Can you hire this person and give them a chance?"

[Northwest Territories Hub Coordinator, Anh Thu Bui, says the following and the previously mentioned video clips continue]

MentorAbility offer a reliable way and practical way for the client from a service provider to connect to the short-term mentorship.

MentorAbility can offer a direct way to connect with employers, but without adding more work for other programs brings a new tool kit for our organization.

[Pictures of mentorships with jobseekers experiencing disability and mentors are then shown. Jillian says the following offscreen]

It's not a lot of paperwork. We want to make it as easy for people as possible.

[Richard says the following, mostly offscreen]

A lot of service providers who participate once, then coming to the realization how easy it actually is to tap into that labour pool and hire inclusively and hire people with disabilities, hearing the benefits such as lower turnover, a higher production, more loyalty.

[More Meeting video clips then appear and Jillian resumes speaking, mainly offscreen]

There's just so many different ways it can be used. It's not specific, and it's so flexible, and you can adjust it to wherever somebody is on their path and whatever they need.

[A video clip of MentorAbility Manitoba Hub facilitator, Katrina Casulla, saying the following at the Meeting shows up]

I have a mentor last week who told me, "You are symbols of hope." Hope for inclusive workplaces and meaningful employment for all.

[More aforementioned mentorship images then appear and Jillian says the following offscreen]

Every mentorship experience creates a moment where someone feels seen, where someone feels capable, and where a door that once felt closed begins to open.

[One of the Meeting's registrants says the following, mostly onscreen. The next 2 speakers also talk mostly onscreen. More Meeting video clips are shown]

It's something that gives people a chance. It changes people's perceptions about what people with disabilities can do, not what they can't do.

[CASE Executive Director, Joanna Goode, then speaks]

That is national level impact on the backs of an individual connection point between 2 people.

[Carmen resumes speaking and video clips of a mentorship also appear]

When we see individuals come out of mentorship opportunity, the confidence not only in the mentee, but also in the mentor, like you see that and it's just, that feeling is like nothing else.

[Jillian says the following offscreen as more Meeting video clips are shown]

When you look around this room, you are seeing a network of people who are not just supporting a program, you are helping shape what inclusion looks like in workplaces and communities across this country.

[Next, Elder Allan Sutherland, speaks - mainly onscreen. The aforementioned Meeting video clips continue]

We all have a role to play for each other. We have responsibilities. Break down the word to ability. Respond to your ability. If it's in a negative or a positive, but if in a positive, then you say yes, then you go for it, and that's what we all do - for each other.

[Then, Jillian resumes speaking]

I invite any service provider who is not participating in MentorAbility to join today. This is a wonderful project to be a part of. It is a network, it is a family, and we are there to support one another.

[A map of MentorAbility Canada which shows details including the name and location details of the MentorAbility Hubs appears and then fades out. The MentorAbility Canada logo shows up again. A Government of Canada logo and funding acknowledgement is also shown. The logos then fade out and the video concludes]

- transcript of 5 minute and 18 second M A video titled "MentorAbility BLUE"