



Date: June 1-3, 2017 **Main Event:** University of British Columbia, Vancouver BC
Satellite Site: Saint Mary's University, Halifax, NS

We are now offering Live Broadcast – Online Streaming for those unable to attend the **Safe, Healthy and Productive Workplaces: Learning from Research and Practice**, being held June 1-3, 2017, University of British Columbia, Vancouver BC, Canada

The virtual conference will be offered live June 1-3 2017 in Pacific Time (PDT). **Time zone conflict?** No Problem! By registering for the live broadcast you will be able to access all recorded sessions you have purchased at your own convenience post conference.

If you are able to join us in person, register soon as we only have 50 seats left at the conference venue.

Who: Employers, labour/union representatives, human resource professionals, public and private insurers, case managers, occupational health and safety professionals, disability or wellness coordinators, medical and allied health professionals (family physicians, occupational health specialists, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, work psychologists, vocational rehabilitation professionals, etc.), government policy makers, service providers (EAP, disability management services), workers, media, researchers and the general public interested in creating safe, healthy, productive and inclusive workplaces.

What: Learn from scientists and researchers (international, Canada and the USA) about what we know from research about creating more effective, and productive workplaces that improve employee health and business health! Learn from employers and labour organizations what they have done to improve organizational culture, workplace health and work productivity - applying current research to policy and practice.

You are now able to join this conference in three different ways:

- Via Live Broadcast from your computer or other digital devices (via Wi-Fi/internet) <http://bit.ly/SHP2017Live>
- Watch the Live Broadcast at St. Mary's University, Halifax and enjoy local networking and discussion <http://ow.ly/okWN30bFOth>

- Join us at the University of British Columbia, Vancouver and network (meeting researchers, colleagues, and participating in discussion groups not available via Live Broadcast) <http://bit.ly/SHP2017ConfReg>

All registrants will have access to all recorded sessions for 6 months post-conference

Live Broadcast Online Streaming

To register for [Live Broadcast Online Streaming use this link](#).

You can join the conference for the 2.5 days, or select 1 day, or morning or afternoon sessions, or half morning or afternoon sessions.

Please note: Online streaming requires a good internet / Wi-Fi connection. Should you experience any internet disruptions or other issues you will have access to all recorded sessions. It is best to use Wi-Fi or internet with streaming capacity to avoid data charges. You are responsible for any connection charges. Please contact your provider if you do not have sufficient free streaming capacity.

(Note: There are no refunds due to internet or streaming issues, you will have 6 months access to all recorded sessions associated with your purchase.)

Keynote and Plenary Presentations

The conference program is now available, featuring Keynote and Plenary Speakers from England, Scotland, Wales, USA, Australia, and Canada.



Collaboration between BC Transit, Their Unions and WorkSafeBC to Improve Return-To-Work (RTW) Outcomes

Brian Anderson - Vice President, Operations and Chief Operating Officer (COO), BC Transit

Ben Williams - President of Unifor Local 333BC

Dale Walker - Vice President, Employer, Industry and Worker Services, WorkSafeBC

This keynote presentation will discuss a journey in implementing a research to practice initiative to facilitate best practices of disability prevention, including the perspectives from both the employer and their union. What motivated them? How this collaboration led to positive changes to the employer's organizational and safety culture, and revitalized their joint labour management communication.



Emotional Intelligence: How Can We Improve Workplace Culture and Resilience?

Debbie Cohen, OBE MD FFOM FRCGP FRCP FAcadMED

Occupational Health Physician, Director, the Centre for Psychosocial Research, Occupational and Physician Health, Cardiff University

Workplaces now provide well-being opportunities alongside tighter processes to manage sickness absence. Offering doses of well-being and mindfulness, whilst helpful, don't seem to make a difference to the ever-increasing reports of stress, distress, and burnout. This plenary will discuss the importance of effective communication and Emotional Intelligence if we are to help build resilient, compassionate, and productive workplaces in the future.

How to Build Better Outcomes for the Return to Work Conversation for Healthcare Providers and Employers?

Debbie Cohen, OBE MD FFOM FRCGP FRCP FAcadMED

“It's not just what you say but how you say it”. Conversations about return to work are often delayed and lead to poor outcomes. It is not just healthcare professionals who struggle with conversations about health and work, line managers and human resource professionals also lack confidence in having effective and supportive conversations. What are effective models of change? How can we shift the attitudes and behaviours of patients / employees in terms of work and health? What does the research show? How can we improve both importance of these conversations and confidence to have them?



Avoiding Workloss from Musculoskeletal Problems – A Toolkit for Employers

Anthony D Woolf, BSc, MBBS; FRCP

Honorary Professor of Rheumatology, University of Exeter Medical School

Musculoskeletal (MSK) problems such as back, shoulder and knee pain are the leading cause of working days lost in the UK, Canada and internationally. This presentation will discuss an evidence-informed employer-focused toolkit on musculoskeletal (MSK) health promotion and work loss prevention developed in collaboration with Public Health England and Business in the Community, academic researchers and other contributors. The content is based on research evidence and on experiences of what employers and employees, including those with MSK problems, have found to reduce the impact of such problems on work.

Early Intervention for Musculoskeletal Problems – A Toolkit for Healthcare Professionals

Anthony D Woolf, BSc, MBBS; FRCP

The best outcome for reducing the impact of musculoskeletal (MSK) conditions is by early intervention, once it is clear that spontaneous resolution is not going to happen. The challenge is how to implement this. This presentation will discuss a toolkit to enable the establishment of an Early Intervention System for musculoskeletal problems. The Toolkit is aimed at clinicians who wish to develop an EI system and policy makers and funders who will need to resource it.



Scotland's Healthy Working Lives - Improving the Health of the Working Age Population

Ewan B Macdonald, OBE

Professor, University of Glasgow; Head, Healthy Working Lives Group; Institute of Health & Wellbeing, University of Glasgow

In the U.K. less than 30% of all working people have access to occupational health and safety services. In Scotland there is also an increased prevalence of poor lifestyles and the ill health associated with obesity, alcohol, and smoking. Health care is provided by the National Health Services which is a free treatment service. However the NHS did not until recently have the same focus on rehabilitation and return to work after injury. Learn about the development of the Scottish Healthy Working Lives Strategy, what interventions have been implemented and how they have utilized the bio-psychosocial model to support their goal that all services should be focussed on "enabling individuals to be able to do as much as possible, for as long as possible, or as long as they want in their working and personal lives".

The Challenges in Helping an Ageing Workforce Extend Their Working Lives

Ewan B Macdonald, OBE

Globally the workforce is ageing and retirement age is being extended. These workers and their employers face the challenges of increasing multi-morbidity, which pose new challenges for their occupational health and safety advisors who are responsible for keeping them well and at work. This presentation will provide a deeper understanding on the impact of the rise of chronic diseases in the working age population and how to reduce the functional limitation of ageing in the workforce.



Economic Benefits of Early Intervention

Robert J. Gatchel, PhD, ABPP

Distinguished Professor of the Department of Psychology, College of Science, The University of Texas at Arlington

This presentation will present data from recent studies that have specifically investigated timing of interventions and its impact on cost savings and return to work as well as new research providing evidence that workers who have been on long-term disability should not be considered "throw away" workers. Dr. Gatchel will describe what predictor variables were

found for successful outcomes for early intervention and workers with prolonged work absence.

Addressing Workplace Stressors Contributing to Poor Health, Decreased Productivity, and Prolonged Work Absence

Robert J. Gatchel, PhD, ABPP

Current research has found many workplace stressors can contribute to negative health, productivity problems, and absenteeism. Fortunately, there are now many intervention and prevention approaches to help decrease the likelihood of increased stress in the workplace. This presentation will provide an update on what is known about the effects of workplace stress and effective prevention and intervention approaches to decrease work stress.



Accommodating Employees with Nonvisible Disabilities in the Workplace: From Research to Practice

Izabela Schultz, PhD

Professor, Rehabilitation Counseling Psychology, Department of Educational and Counseling Psychology and Special Education, University of British Columbia

There is a significant gap between escalating nonvisible occupational disability statistics, especially in mental health, and the skills and knowledge resources available to employers, case managers, vocational rehabilitation professionals and healthcare providers. This presentation will provide evidence-based guidance and best practices for accommodating employees who have nonvisible disabilities before chronic disability sets, to assist with a healthy and sustainable return to work and maximize productivity in the workplace.

Special Discussion Break-Out Sessions

Employers, Human Resource Professionals, Labour - Information Needs and Research Priorities

Normand Côté, Vice President and Practice Leader Organizational Psychology, and Kelly Williams-Whitt, PhD Associate Professor, Faculty of Management, University of Lethbridge

Health Professionals and Direct Service Providers – Information Needs and Research Priorities

Facilitators: Duncan Etches, MD MCISc, FCFP, Clinical Professor, UBC Dept of Family Practice; Shannon Wagner PhD, Professor, and Chair, School of Health Sciences, University of Northern British Columbia

Workers' Compensation Boards, Public and Private Insurers – Trends and Future Research Priorities

Facilitators: Todd McDonald, Vice President, Claims Services, and Lori Guiton, Director of Policy Regulation and Research, WorkSafeBC

Continuing Professional Education Accreditation

The **Canadian Society of Professionals in Disability Management** recognizes the Safe, Healthy, and Productive Workplaces Conference will provide an opportunity for CDMP and CRTWC professionals to receive Continuing Education Credit hours. It is expected that professionals who attend the full conference and optimize all learning activities may be credited with up to 15.75 CEC hours. The **Vocational Rehabilitation Association of Canada** has approved the conference for RRP, RVP, and RCSS professionals. The **Chartered Professionals in Human Resources of British Columbia and Yukon** is an organization sponsor for this conference. For up-to-date accreditation information please visit the conference website (www.cirpd.org/conference)

Sponsors and Participating Organizations

We're pleased to have **WorkSafeBC** as a **Gold Sponsor** and **Workers' Compensation Board of Manitoba** as a conference contributor. Their support contributes to the success of this event. [See full listing of Organization Partners and Academic Sponsors](#). Note: Members of Organization Partners and Academic Sponsors qualify for Member Rates.

Registration

Seating is limited, so register early to avoid disappointment.

[Register to attend this exciting event!](#)

https://ecommerce.cirpd.org/registration.aspx?id=CMP-01151-T1P6P5#_blank

Group rates available for three or more registrants. Additional discounts for 10 or more. Contact Angie Hunt at admin@cirpd.org for more details.

Sponsorship and Exhibitor Information

Would your organization like to be a Sponsor or Exhibitor of the conference? [Get more information and join us!](#)

Accommodation

[We have excellent campus accommodation rates](#). Be sure to book early to secure onsite accommodation! The main conference site is the Vancouver location.

We look forward to seeing you at the conference.

Sincerely,

Angie Hunt, Conference Secretariat

Creating Safe, Healthy and Productive Workplaces: Learning from Research and Practice

<http://cirpd.org/conference>

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