



# Accessibility and Universal Design Consultants

Businesses | Developers  
Not-For-Profit | Municipalities



## MEET THE TEAM

### Marco Pasqua

Accessibility Consultant, Speaker & RHFAC Professional



Marco Pasqua is an award-winning Entrepreneur, Accessibility Consultant and Inspirational Speaker. He brings a wealth of knowledge in the area of diversity and inclusion and a lifetime of lived experience as a person with a disability and wheelchair-user. Marco has worked alongside some of the greatest change-makers in the areas of Accessibility and Inclusion, including the Rick Hansen Foundation, the CSA Group, AccessibleEmployers.ca and consulting with municipalities & business leaders on inclusive employment strategies.

### Karin Pasqua

Universal Design and Accessibility Consultant



Karin is an RHFAC Professional and Accessibility & Universal Design Consultant with a passion for beautiful, functional design. She has a deep understanding that spaces and events in our communities should be enjoyed by everyone, of all abilities. She has an expertise in working with municipalities and community spaces.

Karin likes to say that she is part engineer and part occupational therapist. She has a natural affinity for adapting an environment and turning what some see as complex access problems, into thoughtful barrier-free solutions.

## WHAT WE OFFER

Meaningful Access Consulting (MAC) offers a suite of accessibility and universal design consultation services providing a holistic perspective on ways to include all members of our community throughout the built environment, user experience and employment opportunities. We know that accessibility impacts all of us and we envision a world where the barriers that create disability, no longer exist.

MAC works with a team of accessibility professionals and has a wide network of organizations that we consult with to ensure that we are truly providing best practices to our clients.



### Built Environment

We consult with your team on the built environment, providing a comprehensive report when reviewing a site, blueprints or design documents. We work with your team to provide recommendations and best practices to ensure that your space is inclusive of all abilities and disabilities including those who have additional mobility, auditory, vision and learning needs. We pride ourselves on our ability to find creative solutions to existing barriers that fall within your budget and your brand.

Our team has extensive experience with inclusive recreation and can provide recommendations on parks, pathways and trails as well as indoor facilities and equipment. We understand that accessibility is beyond getting in the door and truly extends to one's ability to participate fully in community life. Our background working with municipalities includes the planning of major parks projects, facilities including arenas, fitness and aquatics centres as well as the types of equipment that can be used by the widest range of people.

## WHAT WE OFFER (CONT.)



### Community Engagement & Events

We'll work with your team on ensuring your community engagement, events and outreach meet universal design best practices. We work to ensure that all members of the community's voices are represented and can attend virtually or physically. MAC provides insights on creating welcoming environments, events and forums that meet the unique needs of a diverse audience. We provide best practices on events, large and small, as well as can create tools such as social stories, picture communication systems and sensory kits that will make your event or space stand out from the rest.



### Disability Awareness & Inclusive Hiring

With Marco's experience in inclusive hiring, inspirational speaking and his lived experience in overcoming challenges, we provide educational sessions to your staff on accessibility & inclusion, preferred language-use and demystifying disability.

We can work with your Human Resources department to develop a truly inclusive work environment from hiring through retention practices.



### Rick Hansen Foundation Accessibility Certification

In addition to our basic core services, we also offer a more comprehensive report that includes steps on how to receive [Rick Hansen Foundation Accessibility Certification™ \(RHFAC\)](#).

## PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS



### **Clayton Community Centre, North Surrey Sports and Ice Complex (NSSIC)**

Our team consulted with the City of Surrey, earning both facilities to earn a RHFAC Gold designation (pending for Clayton Community Centre). NSSIC is the first arena in North America to earn this designation and one of the only facilities to be para-ice hockey tournament ready. We supported with NSSIC's opening ceremonies event, Celebrity Para-Ice Hockey Game and All-Abilities Skate, as well as provided consultation on the activation of a sensory friendly space.



### **Happy City & The City of New West: Agnes Greenway, Uptown & Streets for People**

We assessed the walking tour routes and created a visual story and public accessibility overview documents. The visual story support individuals with autism, or who have other sensory or learning disabilities. Accessibility recommendations were provided for activations and public engagement activities as well as an accessibility and disability awareness training workshop.



### **Wesgroup Brewery District Transit Plaza**

We are supporting the design of the Wesgroup Brewery District Transit Plaza to create a universally accessible transit plaza. The project involves providing accessibility best practices for the transit plaza design as well as access to Royal Columbia Hospital via the SRW along Keary Street. The transit plaza will create a unique place for the public to gather with strong historical connections that welcomes all.

## PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS (CONT.)



### City of Surrey: Parks, Playgrounds and Pathways

We are working with the City's Parks Planning and Engineering Departments to create a standardized document for the development, construction, maintenance and renovations of Surrey's Parks and Pathways ensuring that universal design guidelines are being achieved throughout the City. The guidelines include, but are not limited to, playground surfacing, equipment, outdoor fitness equipment, pathway terrain and facilities such as spray parks, change rooms, boardwalks and washrooms.



### Easter Seals House & Camp Shawnigan

We provided an accessibility assessment and support with grant-writing to finance the proposed upgrades. The assessment supported the organization in receiving over \$81,000 from the Enabling Accessibility Grant to improve their accessibility and support the creation of their universally designed outdoor garden project. Ongoing support is provided to the organization on the renewal and redevelopment of Camp Shawnigan.

THANK YOU!

## FOR CONSIDERING MEANINGFUL ACCESS CONSULTING

We are pleased to work with you on this project and to present this review, which outlines accessibility recommendations from mobility, hearing, cognitive and sight perspectives.

If there are any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out! We are here to help.

Thank you again,

*Marco Pasqua*

**Marco Pasqua**

Accessibility Consultant

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