



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

Our team has a firm belief that design can be inclusive, welcoming and beautiful. We are proud to work within the vision of the design team, supporting the creation of functional, beautiful spaces where accessibility augments the space rather than being a box on a checklist or being perceived as 'medical.'

We consult with your team, from proposal to occupancy, providing a recommendations and 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 designers and municipalities includes consultation on the design and development of major parks projects and facilities including arenas, fitness, recreation and aquatics centre, public squares, museums and libraries.

WHAT WE OFFER (CONT.)

Rick Hansen Foundation Accessibility Certification

Our team will gladly complete the [Rick Hansen Foundation Accessibility Certification™ \(RHFAC\)](#) audit and submission process, while advocating on behalf of our clients to ensure that the facility or site obtains the highest rating possible upon occupancy. We also work with your team throughout the entire design and development phase to ensure that the site will meet RHFAC Gold criteria upon occupancy. We have been successful in supporting the first arena in North America to obtain this designation and the first aquatics centre in Canada.

Community Engagement & Events

We 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™



With our support, the BC Transit Handi Dart Facility will achieve Rick Hansen Foundation Accessibility Certified Gold; which is based on CSA's B-651-18 internationally recognized access standard.

What Can Be Rated?



Built Environment

- Commercial, institutional, and public buildings
- Multi-unit residential buildings excluding single-family homes
- Trails and pathways - recreational or urban pathways considered accessible with clearly defined start and end points



Final Design Plans and Pre-Construction Ratings

Rating Categories



Vehicular Access



Exterior Approach and Entrance



Interior Circulation



Interior Services and Environment



Sanitary Facilities



Wayfinding and Signage



Emergency Systems



Additional Use of Space



Residential Units



Trails and Pathways

THANK YOU

for considering Meaningful Access Consulting

We are looking forward to working with you and your team on your this project! As previously mentioned, our reports outline the accessibility successes and recommendations from mobility, hearing, cognitive and sight perspectives.

Our recommendation reports for each phase outline:

- Accessibility successes
- Accessibility recommendations to consider during the construction phase
- Modifications needed to achieve RHFAC Gold

We look forward to working with your team, and supporting your commitment to universal design and [Rick Hansen Foundation Accessibility Certification™ \(RHFAC\)](#).

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

Thank you again,



Marco & Karin Pasqua
Universal Design Accessibility Consultants
www.meaningfulaccess.com

