

CREATING A CHAIR

The University of British Columbia's School of Kinesiology is seeking to create a Chair in Adapted Physical Activity to support research, teaching, undergraduate and graduate student learning and engage the community in the field of adaptive activity to support people with physical and/or intellectual disabilities.

Adapted Physical Activity encompasses the needs of specialized and diverse populations across the lifespan, and supports inclusion for all. The majority of people will require Adapted Physical Activity at some point in their lives, for example, as part of exercise therapy for rehabilitation or to manage changing abilities and prevent chronic conditions. Seniors are an example of a population who can benefit from adapted activity and are the fastest-growing age group in North America. Regardless of the population served, Adapted Physical Activity's goal is to modify environments and activities to enable full involvement of all groups.

The School of Kinesiology presently offers courses in Adapted Physical Activity that focus on evidence-based practices and individualized instruction. A committed Chair would help to advance the field through knowledge creation and mobilization regarding the biophysical, psychosocial and socio-cultural dimensions of adapted physical activity.



A Chair would also serve as a 'connector', and help influence policy, management, and pedagogical approaches to enhancing the health, well-being and quality of life of all populations across diverse settings. The position would provide leadership in preparing professionals to serve present and future societal needs relating to active health, leisure, sport and physical education at the local, provincial, national and international levels.

UBC's School of Kinesiology is in search of \$2,500,000 for a 10 year term position. This Chair would work with people from a variety of backgrounds, e.g., sport and exercise psychology, biomechanics, motor learning, sociology, physical activity leadership, pedagogy and policy. The establishment of a Chair will benefit individuals of all ages, physical and intellectual abilities.

"The best investment to ensure continued academic focus on the adapted area is a Chair that puts a leader on the ground to build expertise at UBC and in the community."

Dr. Robert Sparks, School of Kinesiology



"This position will create a vital link between scientists and clinicians at UBC, in Canada and around the world, and help develop physical activity policies and practices that can enhance inclusion, accessibility and wellbeing for all people living with disabilities."

Rick Hansen, Co-Chair, Rick Hansen Foundation

"Special Olympics Canada is excited about the potential legacies of UBC hosting the 2014 Special Olympics Canada Summer Games. A Chair in Adapted Physical Activity will promote inclusion and engage communities, and focused research in the field will enhance athlete development and improve health."

Lindsay Glassco, President & CEO, Special Olympics Canada

"Physical inactivity and its associated loss of fitness and independence impacts quality of life and community participation for everyone. A Chair in Adapted Physical Activity will directly support national goals of enabling all Canadians to be physically active."

Kelly Murumets, President & CEO, ParticipACTION

For more information on supporting the School of Kinesiology, please contact:

Dee Dee Sung, Assistant Dean, Development and Alumni Engagement

T: 604.827.5213 | E: deede.sung@ubc.ca

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