

BESPOKEPLUS















"If your work speaks for itself don't interrupt"

Happy Holidays

We were looking forward to some down time over the holidays along with catching up with many folks in our orbit but not much of that happened. We put off the annual



Christmas party this vear as we do not have the new facilities in shape to entertain at 137 Buttermill Avenue. Concord, ON L4K 3X5, (and a little thing called Covid) but we will have an open house in the new year.

We take this opportunity to wish everyone all the best in the holiday season.

Move to 137 Buttermill

The move to our new shop is at best a work in progress. We have had the pleasure of collaborating with a number of contractors and have enjoyed the perspective of viewing things in other industries; educational, but not exactly free.

There is a general plan to refresh what was at the building initially, but there are a number of other issues that need to be addressed in the building including man doors, drive in doors, dock doors, front entrance accessibility, cleanliness all around, signage, working lights, just to name a few. Needless to say, we will be happy campers if we have a working bathroom, a telephone, fax, and internet. Covid could be the excuse not to invite folks over to the new premises for a month or so.

But we are pleased with the additional space in this stand alone building and look forward to growing with you!

Julie Sawchuk

As per an ongoing effort to identify, prevent, and remove barriers for people with disabilities, the Ontario



Government has reached out to advocacy activist Julie Sawchuk. She has accepted a position to become the new chair of the Standards Development Committee for the Province of Ontario that will lead the province's review of the Design of Public Spaces accessibility standards

for outdoor and indoor public spaces. The committee will include people with disabilities from all across the province, as well as businesses, municipalities, and other impacted stakeholders. It will review existing accessibility standards and consider whether new standards might be needed to improve accessibility in Ontario's public spaces.

The news release says, "I am honoured that Julie Sawchuk has accepted the role of chair of this Standards Development Committee," said Raymond Cho, Minister for Seniors and Accessibility. "Her expertise and insights will be incredibly valuable in guiding the review of standards for accessibility in outdoor and indoor public spaces."

Ms. Sawchuk is a best-selling author, professional speaker, and accessibility strategist. She holds Bachelor of Science and Education degree and is a designated professional for Rick Hansen Foundation Accessibility Certification. Ms. Sawchuk's lived experience as a person who has a spinal cord injury offers an important perspective for the committee's work.

"Creating accessible public spaces in Ontario is not the job of one person, it is the responsibility of all," said Ms. Sawchuk. "I'm both grateful and incredibly proud to be asked to lead this discussion and look forward to adding a rural perspective as often as I can. This is an opportunity to bring people together to share what is working and what

needs to be done differently in design and construction and to listen to all the voices who are looking for change."

Permobil

TiLite has a great section on their web site focusing on ERGO Seating and they have gone the extra mile and received approval in Ontario to have it on the Assistive Devices Program (ADP) program with the code SES1P0005 with a reimbursement of \$351.00. Having promoted ergo seating for the last 30 years we were ecstatic to see this, but I was wondering why it was only with Permobil products. Alas, I was informed by Matt that it was a seating code and not for the frame of the wheelchair (which TiLite has provided for some time now). Have a look at it under the label of Ergo Advantage and note it is available on the Aero T, Aero Z, TR, TRA, ZR, and ZRA.

We provide TiLite here in our area and continue to offer the guaranteed fit with that product as well. We do not sell this product into other provinces; however, we readily encourage all end users to encourage their dealer to provide a guarantee on the fit or it does not go into service.

ERGO seating (built into the frame of the chair) needs to have a funded code on reimbursement programs across the country.

Wheel Blades

Prairie Velo in Winnipeg is currently expanding its dealer network across Canada and are reintroducing Wheelblades to the marketplace.



This Swiss Product is perfectly designed for Canadian winters. Wheelblades easy-to-adjust bindings attach to any conventional wheelchair. Their patented quick-release mechanism makes it easy to switch wheels to skis in just seconds.

The broad contact surface of the Wheelblades evenly distributes

weight to keep casters or front wheels from sinking into the snow. These skis can be attached to any stroller, walker, rehab buggy or bike trailer.

Sophisticated technology: Patented binding with universal adjustment capability for wheel diameters of 8–20 cm and wheel widths of 2.0–6.5 cm.

Robustness: Glass fibre-reinforced plastic components ensure maximum strength even at low temperatures.

Durability: Stainless steel provides protection against corrosion caused by moisture and salt. See more: https://www.prairievelo.ca/wheelblades-1 or contact Brian for more information at goride@prairievelo.ca.

Stuart Dunne



It was with heavy hearts that folks at Cyclone Mobility, Batec Mobility, GTM, 49 Bespoke, and many others mourned the loss of Stuart Dunne on December 09th.

Stuart had been ill for some time, and had taken a reduced role in Cyclone, the corporation he founded some three plus decades ago; there will be a service January 07, 2022, and more information is available at cyclonemobility.com.

Almost immediately after his spinal cord injury 36 years ago, Stuart began a journey that would transform the lives of thousands within the community of people with a disability. Long into the future, the lives of many people were enhanced by the passion, commitment, and hard work with which Stuart showed in making or sourcing products to better meet the needs of all. The Cyclone Team relays, "the value he has passed on make us all more committed to serving our many customers, old and new, and this is a legacy to a most wonderful man; our founder!"

Bits and Bytes

- 37th ISS Jan 31-Feb 2, 2022, Pittsburg, PA;
- Abilities March 4-6, 2022, Los Angeles, CA;
- REE March 08, 2022, Richmond, BC;
- Abilities April 29-May 01, 2022, New York, NY;
- GSMC May 03-04, 2022, Toronto, ON;
- Abilities May 13-14, 2022, Toronto, ON;
- Abilities June 24-26, 2022, Chicago, IL;
- Abilities August 05-07, 2022, Houston, TX;
- Abilities September 09-11, 2022, Phoenix, AZ;
- Rehacare Dusseldorf, DE September 14-17, 2022;
- Abilities November 04-06, 2022 Miami, FL.

BESPOKE PLUS is the newsletter of 49 Bespoke Inc., which markets products from around the world designed to better meet the needs of people with a disability.

We have grown up in sport, have a social service background, and have adopted an advocacy role in our business practice. Comments are welcome.