

Bespoke Plus

If Your Work Speaks For Itself, Don't Interrupt!



**WHEELCHAIR
ACCESSORIES**



Batec Compatibility



Batec (meaning **Heartbeat** in Catalanian) have gone to great lengths to test the compatibility of all chairs they list on the compatibility sheet posted on the web site or available through 49 Bespoke Inc. There are 38 wheelchair manufacturers or brands on the compatibility list, and a total of 233 individual models tested and approved. There are currently eight in testing and eight non-compatible (this includes those manufacturers that have decided not to approve the use of power add-ons for their particular product or model) for operation with a Batec.

We believe all manufacturers are working hard to ensure their products are built with a safety-first mentality, that they have enough power, enough braking strength, and most importantly that they are powered with CE marked or ISO certification. Lithium batteries used in our Medical Class products have gone through rigorous testing and certifications. We understand those key standards include UN 38.3 for transportation, IEC 62133 for portable applications, and various UL standards (1642, 2054, 2271, 2580) covering different aspects of lithium-ion battery safety. We do not have overcharging issues, short-circuiting, thermal runaway concerns, or other hazards and have a high degree of confidence in ensuring the batteries used are safe for consumers.

Batec has an installation guide and an installation verification sheet that needs to be completed by the certified installer. That sheet of paper produced by the technician not only double checks the validity of the installation but also provides a reference for clarification of future changes, etc. At the end of the day though, it is every end user's responsibility to check their equipment each and every ride. Like an airline pilot, walk around the unit and check for any nut, bolt, or spoke that may be out of place or damaged. Naturally, you want to do that with your chair as

well and make sure the parts and pieces you use have an appropriate speed rating (ie: Schwalbe Marathon Plus and Loopwheels 25 kilometres per hour). Safety is everyone's responsibility! Check out www.Batec-Mobility.com for their latest blog, new team, and all the current product information.

Ecole Chantal Benoit



The Conseil scolaire Viamonde received a \$13.327 million funding grant from the Ministry of Education of Ontario to acquire land for the construction of a new permanent building for École élémentaire publique Chantal-Benoit in the York Region. The new facility to be built at the intersection of Murrell Boulevard and Applegate Drive in East Gwillimbury, will replace the current rented school space. The new facility without an expected opening day at this moment, will

provide a modern, permanent home for the French-language public school and its community bearing our Chantal Benoit's name. The 4.8-acre site acquisition is the first of many milestones to come resulting in the welcoming of French immersion students to early childhood learning.



This funding is a crucial step towards realizing the priority project of building a permanent facility for École élémentaire publique Chantal-Benoit, allowing the school community to benefit from new, state-of-the-art facilities. Since 2019, the school has been operating in a rented facility from the York Catholic District School Board on Morton Street in the Sharon, ON area.

Cheelcare TSX CHER

Cheelcare is now a publicly traded company on the TSX. They innovate, develop product in the assistive technology field and have the distinction of manufacturing the first front power add on product to be listed on the Assistive Devices Program (ADP) as a government funded pro Ontario.

The founders of the company, Eugene Cherny and Dima Paltsev, have a personal commitment to improve the lives of people with physical disabilities. They have recognized a gap in the market for mobility devices that combine functionality with modern technology and are dedicated to creating products that empower users and enhance their quality of life.

We look forward to continuing our relationship with Cheelcare and contribute to the provision of products that empower and enhance the quality of life for the folks we both work with in this field.

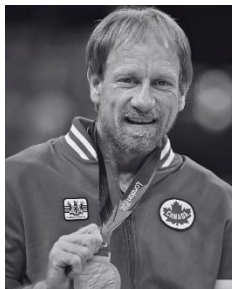
Toilet Tuesday Live



Julie Sawchuk is taking Toilet Tuesdays live! This will be a monthly edition starting September 2, 2025, at noon EST.

It is CEU Certifiable and will take a deep dive into details on how to make washrooms more accessible for everyone. Each monthly session will be open to 50 attendees for \$199.00 CDN. [Register here!](#)

Garett Hickling 1970-2025



One of Canada's most outstanding and decorated Paralympic athletes has passed away. Kelowna native Garett Hickling died recently at the age of 54. Hickling suffered a broken neck in 1987 at the age of 16. Following his accident, he took to the sport of wheelchair rugby.

The Canadian Paralympic Committee described Hickling as a trailblazer in the sport, "an influential leader on and off the court, and one of the best to ever play the game." He represented Canada at five Paralympic Games, winning silver in 1996, 2004 and 2012 and bronze in 2008. He was also Canada's flagbearer in the 2012 London Paralympics. Along with his Paralympic success, Hickling also was named MVP at the first three world championships in 1995, 98 and 2002 leading Canada to silver, bronze and gold medals respectively. "Garett is a wheelchair rugby legend, a true

warrior out there," said former Canadian head coach Patrick Côté to Wheelchair Rugby Canada on the occasion of Hickling's induction to the Canadian Wheelchair Rugby Hall of Fame in 2017. "Being so dominant in a sport for so many years demonstrates how tough he was. Simply put, he was one of the greatest players of all time." His number five has been retired.

Kevin Mills 1981-2025



It was with great sadness that we shared the unexpected passing of Kevin Mills previously. Beloved husband of Heather Cairns-Mills, together for 21 wonderful years, and devoted father to their son, Evan. Cherished son of Kenneth and Barbara,

and loving brother of Laura (Joe Stubbs). Progress is being made with preserving Pedalling Possibilities and Walk it Off continues to evolve. A celebration of life was held June 7, 2025, and the City of Newmarket presented their highest award to him posthumously July 2m 2025, the Honorary Citizen Award.

Motion Joins Nu Motion

Although these discussions may have been going on for a few years with a couple failed attempts, it has finally came full circle and Motion in Canada is joining forces with Nu Motion in the United States. It is presented as business as usual and a partnership at this time but skeptics would think that whenever a bigger entity takes an interest in a smaller one, change is inevitable. Good luck to all involved!

Bits and Bytes

- 49 Abilities August 1-3, 2025, Houston, TX;
- 49 Abilities September 5-7, 2025, Phoenix, AZ;
- 49 CSMC September 9-10, 2025, Toronto, ON;
- 49 Access Expo September 11, 2025, London, ON;
- 49 C&R Expo China September 12-14, 2025, Beijing, CN;
- 49 Rehacare Dusseldorf, DE September 17-20, 2025.
- 49 SCI Peer Conference September 18, 2025, Calgary, AB;
- 49 CMEF September 26-29, 2025, Guangzhou, CN;
- 49 CDHF October 09, 2025, Royal York Toronto, ON;
- 49 Abilities October 17-19, 2025, Ft. Lauderdale, FL;
- 49 OSOT Conference October 23-24, 2025, Toronto, ON;
- 49 REE 2026 March 3, 2026, Richmond, BC.

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.**