

## EMPLOYMENT OPTIONS THAT WORK

Options Employment Outreach Inc is a leader in employment counselling for those with disabilities in Greater Saint John

Options offers a full range of employment counselling services including assistance with resumes, cover letters, and mock interviews. Options also has a range of unique services including:

- Access to funding for accommodations, assistive technology, and wage subsidies.
- Individualized planning for each client that could include work with community partners to ensure full support.
- Information and registration to FREE training opportunities offered in the community
- Access to labour market research, employment trends, and employer information.
- Assistance in every step of the way for those moving into post-secondary, including help completing student loans (and Canada Study Grants), meetings with learning strategists, and job search for both summer jobs and jobs after graduation.

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## **BLIND & LOW VISION**

Besides Blind & Low Vision, Options specializes in services for Mental Health, Deaf & Hard of Hearing, Mobility, Learning Disabilities, and Autism.

Info: There are approximately 700 individuals living in Greater Saint John with a visual disability. In today's diverse workforce, those with low vision or who are blind work in many different types of jobs. They base their future on their interests and are not limiting their options because of their vision. Those with low vision or who are blind, just like everyone else, base their career paths on their skills, abilities, and values. Accommodations in the workplace and/or post-secondary education are straightforward and not difficult to implement.

Fact & Myth: It is a myth that blind employees have more accidents than sighted ones. According to the Canadian Chamber of Commerce and the US Bureau of Labor Statistics, blind and low vision workers have relatively fewer on-the-job mishaps than their sighted co-workers.

Example of Options' Work: CNIB and Options have a long-standing strong partnership. This year, as well as over many years, CNIB and Options have helped a number of clients meet their career goals - both finding work, going into school and getting appropriate accommodations and assistive technology to be successful.

"Advances in technology and mobility training have provided the tools and techniques for people who are blind or partially sighted, such as myself, to do the job a bit differently than our sighted peers, but every bit as effectively."

- Diane Bergeron, Executive Director, CNIB Strategic Relations and Engagement in an interview for Toronto's Cession News