

## WEBINAR:

# The Impact of Ableism on Persons with Disabilities

Coming up on its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the United Nations proclaimed December 3 as International Day of Persons with Disabilities (IDPD) to affirm the rights of persons with disabilities, and increase awareness of the challenges persons with disabilities encounter from the everyday to the larger political, social and cultural.

To kick off IDPD at Holland Bloorview, Meenu Sikand, executive lead of equity, diversity and Dolly Menna-Dack, inclusion and transitions strategy team lead are hosting a virtual lunch and learn about ableism in the workplace and career development alongside a panel of disability rights advocates.

This moderated discussion brings together the voices and experiences of disability rights advocates within Holland Bloorview and in the corporate sector. The panelists will explore the following:

1. A disability-positive approach to life, learning and career
2. Sports and ableism
3. The little-known but impactful way to help individuals with disabilities succeed in school, work, and life

## Panelists:

**Tim Rose**, Senior Consultant, Accessibility, CIBC Client Experience Team

**Ahsan Musavi**, Development Officer, Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital Foundation

**Jeffrey Man**, Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Accessibility (IDEA) Coordinator, Holland Bloorview

## Moderators:

**Meenu Sikand**, Executive Lead, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, and Co-Chair, IDEA Taskforce, Holland Bloorview

**Dolly Menna-Dack**, Clinical Bioethicist, Vice-Chair, Research Ethics Board, and Lead, Youth Engagement Strategy, Holland Bloorview

**Date:** Friday, December 3 at 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. EST

No need to register in advance, please join the discussion via this link:

<https://hollandbloorview.zoom.us/j/67062537294?pwd=UzFjdVVKekJDZnVpM1d1VHJzWjFDZz09>



## Panelists

**Tim Rose** – *Senior Consultant, Accessibility, CIBC Client Experience Team*

Tim Rose was born with spastic quadriplegia and grew up going to Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital. Over 20 years later, he's now the Senior Consultant of the Client Experience Team at CIBC, with a focus on accessibility. He is able to give back through the hospital's Capes for Kids campaign, a fundraiser that rallies thousands together to wear their capes across the city and raise funds for kids and youth with disabilities.



**Ahsan Musavi** – *Development Officer, Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital Foundation*

As a soccer player for the past 15 years, Ahsan followed his love for sports to graduate from Brock University's Sports Management program. He has experience delivering inclusive programs to athletes of all abilities, including with Special Olympics Ontario and Jays Care Foundation. More recently, in his role at the Holland Bloorview Foundation, he shares his knowledge as an athlete with a disability, reflecting on ableism at his school, soccer pitch and in his workplace.



**Jeffrey Man** – *Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Accessibility (IDEA) Coordinator, Holland Bloorview*

Jeffrey is a former Holland Bloorview client and currently works on the IDEA team. He has supported projects related to policy development, professional education and external advocacy. In addition to his work at the hospital, Jeffrey serves on the Special Education Advisory Committee at the York Catholic District School Board and on the Board of Directors at Easter Seals Ontario. In his spare time, Jeffrey likes to read, watch documentaries and hop on the latest Toronto sports bandwagon.



## Moderators

**Meenu Sikand** – *Executive Lead, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, and Co-Chair, IDEA Taskforce, Holland Bloorview*



Meenu Sikand is an award-winning disability rights advocate, an educator and a sought-after speaker as well as the founder of Accessibility for All, a non-profit organization that works to identify, address and meet the needs of marginalized communities. She brings with her a true passion to create accessible, inclusive and welcoming communities that embrace everyone. As Holland Bloorview's first ever executive lead for equity, diversity and inclusion, she leads and advances efforts in EDI across multiple dimensions.

In 2020, Meenu was the first South-Asian Woman to be inducted in the Canadian Disability Hall of Fame. She also received an award from the Canadian Centre for Diversity and Inclusion (CCDI) as Senior Executive of the Year.

**Dolly Menna-Dack** – *Clinical Bioethicist, Vice-Chair of the Research Ethics Board, and the Youth Engagement Strategy Lead, Holland Bloorview*



Dolly has over ten years' experience on pediatric research ethics boards, both at acute and rehabilitation hospitals. She is particularly interested in pediatric rehabilitation issues that arise in both clinical care and research with children and youth with chronic illness and disabilities.

Dolly is a nationally and internationally sought after leader in Lived Experience roles and has been the Youth Engagement Strategy Lead at Holland Bloorview since its inception in 2012. She has extensive experience training and supporting youth and young adults in advocacy and partnering in the areas of service & care delivery, teaching & education of healthcare providers, clients & families, as well as research and policy.