



CSPDM Hosts First Conference

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Photo:

Top row: Evie DoCouto, Brian Jarvis, Prof. Dr. Joachim Breuer, Wolfgang Zimmermann, Dr. Craig Gosse

Second row: Nicola MacNaughton, Panel L to R: Sari Sairanen, Dr. Parminder Ghura, Dr. Colleen Ray, Andrew Zvanitajs, Rose Conforti



The CSPDM hosted its first conference in Toronto on October 23 to a sold out audience. The theme of the conference was: Innovative Workplace Disability Management for Better Outcomes.

CSPDM Board Chair, Evie DoCouto, WSIB Vice-President for Return-to-Work Program, was the MC for the day. Opening welcome remarks were provided by Brian Jarvis, COO of the WSIB, who also introduced Prof. Dr. Joachim Breuer, who was the keynote speaker whose presentation was entitled: Towards Integrated Workplace Health: Linking Prevention with Disability Management.

Other speakers during the day included Wolfgang Zimmermann who outlined Canada's new Accessibility Act and brought international perspectives taking place in the field of Disability Management. Dr. Craig Gosse's presentation was: Mental Health Accommodations and Solutions.

A lively discussion took place with the Panel on the Role of the Health Care Professional Community in Support of RTW with many questions from the audience. The day ended with Nicola MacNaughton and the topic: Supporting Workers with Chronic, Episodic Conditions, again with audience input and participation.

A highlight of the day was the presentation of CDMP and CRTWC certificates and 10-Year Pins to those who were able to attend the conference.

The overall response to the conference was very positive and the Board will be reviewing the many suggestions received for topic areas for the next Conference.

Board Chair, Evie DoCouto said of the event, "We need to keep evolving to meet new challenges, as our workforce becomes more diverse, and the injuries and illnesses we're seeing become more complex. The conference was an outstanding opportunity for us to come together as a profession, connect with each other, and learn from leading experts about best practices and the latest research and innovations in disability management."

All presentations from the conference are available on the website at: <https://www.cspdm.ca/cspdm-conference/conference-agenda/>