



## **A Square Peg Society Zoom Meeting Friday, October 23, 2020, 1pm**

If you would like to attend, [please click here](#), for the passcode of the meeting email us at [info@squarpegsociety.ca](mailto:info@squarpegsociety.ca).

If you cannot attend, we will, after the meeting, provide a link to the video of this meeting on our website: [www.squarepegsociety.ca](http://www.squarepegsociety.ca)

### **Inclusive Employment: Employers and ASD Employees Talk About Work**

#### **Speaker:**

**Karen D. Bopp, PhD (she, her, hers)**

**Director of Provincial Outreach | Adjunct Professor**

**Centre for Interdisciplinary Research and Collaboration in Autism (CIRCA) UBC**

**Department of Educational Counselling, Psychology and Special Education (ECPS)**

Many employers would like to be inclusive in their hiring practices, but feel that they do not know what behaviours to expect from an autistic employee, and what accommodations and/or changes they might need to make to their workplaces. Many ASD individuals want to work, but lack work experience, or have had unsuccessful employment experiences, and therefore, are unclear about employer expectations and workplace conditions, and lack confidence in applying for work.

Dr. Karen Bopp is the Provincial Director of Outreach who is leading a BC Training Initiative at the Centre for Interdisciplinary Research and Collaboration in Autism (CIRCA) at UBC: <https://circa.educ.ubc.ca/the-circa-training-initiative/>. The intent of this initiative is to create interactive on-line training modules on autism and other neurodiversities to help improve inclusion and acceptance in the workplace. This training initiative is unique in that the goal is focused on providing training for employers/managers/ HR professionals to learn how to adjust *their* practices to better support accept and include autistic individuals in the workplace.

An essential component of these modules will be video interviews highlighting the first-hand employment experiences of autistic employees. To that end, CIRCA is looking to interview, on camera, autistic individuals and employers to illustrate and provide real life examples for many of the issues raised in the modules. Participants will be compensated for their time.

At our Zoom meeting Dr. Bopp will describe more about what this project is intended to achieve, and the potential value to both prospective employers and employees. She will also speak about how this training initiative will be undertaken, and how you could participate, if interested.

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