

KEEP CALM AND EVAC ON!

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Emergency evacuation of disabled individuals is a difficult undertaking without the proper planning and forethought. Many disciplines are involved including emergency preparedness, occupational health and safety, occupational therapy and perhaps safety and security.

Schools and Children's Hospitals/Treatment Centre's present even a greater challenge when it comes to the duties and responsibilities of getting children with physical disabilities safely out of the classroom

This presentation will review the planning process and training involved with the safe transfer out of a building during a crisis including stairway descended. Case studies will highlight transfer techniques and positioning of children and young adults with physical disabilities onto equipment for evacuation.

Speaker Bio

With a background in Occupational Therapy Kathy has worked as an Assistive Technology Supplier and clinical educator and is now Clinical Business Development Manager at Invacare Canada. Kathy has been involved in the provision of high technology rehabilitation equipment with clients in a variety of diagnostic categories including paediatrics. Kathy has presented internationally at a variety of conferences including the Canadian Seating and Mobility Conference, Healthcare Innovations, RESNA, Medtrade, International Seating Symposium and European Seating Symposium.

Jim Closs is the Managing Partner of EVAC+CHAIR Canada where he oversees the deployment of equipment and practices. He brings a wealth of knowledge with over 25 years of experience in the durable medical equipment field specializing in patient handling and lifting as well as accessibility issues and solutions. He holds a bachelor of Science in Kinesiology from the University of Waterloo, ON and is a Certified Age in Place Specialist. His experience in both practical applications as well as teaching others has proven to be invaluable to his clients, providing them with the necessary training and resources in their evacuation planning strategies.