What we've learnt over the years

finding champions

Redefine success in terms of the student

Bringing in more people into the work

Thinking about building a path for the student to create opportunities to build meaningful connections

We have to engage in continual reflection together

If it's going smoothly, you aren't doing it right – There should be resistance

Find a communication method that works for the student

The importance of a variety of relationships for inclusion as a whole

Engage with people in other initiatives

There's a lot more that can be done to engage families of University/college students - starting in earlier years (Grade school)

Each student is an individual with their own life path – everything starts with them

2020/ 2021 highlights

Seeing the interest and willingness of students in the program across campus

Great student groups, classes able to create a sense of community online

New pathways with experiential learning opportunities in the program

Lots of little wins within new programs

What next step do you want to take?

If you had unlimited resources what would your dream be for the future of inclusive education?

Set up funding for students and families who need it

Remove financial barriers

Students able to apply for scholarships, bursaries, loans

Support necessary for students who need it (during the program and after graduating)

Experiential learning across the university that is accessible - add and enrich programs

Students able to come to campus with their own support staff

Thoughts on working with cooperative education programs?

Using the University's language around equity and diversity

Important for students to experience a work environment (what they like/don't like, resume building, routines)

How do you build community connections for employment?

Partner with other organizations to create new programs (local businesses)

Focus on paid employment (Not using funding models that might not be accessible to everyone)

Where do you see potential for growth in the initiatives?

- Universities investing in these different opportunities to create more space for initiatives

- Faculty leads – embedding the program within the university

- More colleges involved in inclusive education

What advice do you have for new provincial initiatives?

Community and social connections

Student employment

Seemed critical for students to have access to a co-op program

Identifying resources for co-op education

Using language that has already been developed by the university

Education/ learning

creating programs around the student