



'Beyond Barriers': Panel Discussion PRESS RELEASE

The Professional Disability Network Hong Kong (PDNHK) conducted its first event on the 15th of June 2022 in partnership with the Financial Times. Entitled "Beyond Barriers", it was an intimate event available to a select audience of employers, inclusive allies and key community members in Hong Kong and globally.

The event was an hour's length, and was moderated by Yasir Mirza, Global Head of D&I at the Financial Times. The panelists were Isaac K. Harvey, video editor and award-winning disability advocate, and Troy Doucet, an attorney at Doucet Gerling Co., LPA.

The bulk of the panel discussion focused on the personal experiences of the speakers as individuals with disabilities and underlined commonalities and differences in their journeys and careers. Speaking from diverse perspectives within the disability space—Isaac with a visible disability (limb pelvic hypoaplasia) and Troy with invisible ones (autism and ADHD)—the two discussed topics ranging from what employers should do to support employees with disabilities; to the value of assuming the best intentions in those you work with; to debating the true meaning of "ability" and how to sincerely implement an appreciation of diverse perspectives in a work culture. Together, the discussion provided a refreshing richness of perspectives on DE&I, workplace well-being, and sustainability on the whole.

The breadth of the panel was thought-provoking for multiple audience members, and several questions were received during the Q&A portion, not all of which were answered due to time constraints. These unanswered questions were later followed up on by PDNHK.

In line with the PDNHK's objective to be an educational hub for those interested and invested in disability inclusion, over the next few days soundbites and testimonials from the panel discussion will be shared on relevant social media platforms. The full recording will also be available in upcoming months for PDNHK members.

A special thank you to our partner JLL as well for providing the venue for the event.

To remain connected, follow along on all social media platforms. For those who would like to become members of the PDNHK, please refer to the website (www.pdnhk.org/membership) or contact SENSational Foundation at contact@sensationalhk.org.

Any enquiries about the event should be sent to contact@sensationalhk.org.

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