



**CanAssist**

# Territory Acknowledgement



We acknowledge and respect the Ləkʷəŋən (Songhees and Esquimalt) Peoples on whose territory the university stands, and the Ləkʷəŋən and WSÁNEĆ Peoples whose historical relationships with the land continue to this day.

# What is CanAssist?

**Dedicated to Inclusion:** Helping people with disabilities improve independence and quality of life

**Unique & Impactful:** A unique organization of its kind in North America, filling gaps in existing services with customized technologies and programs



# What is CanAssist?

**Expert Team:** A dedicated team of experts backed by UVic's faculty, students, and research facilities

**Community Engagement:** Raising awareness of disability issues on campus, locally, and beyond

**Sustained by Partnerships:** Funded through donations, service contracts, grants, and collaborations to continue making a difference





# What is assistive technology?

CanAssist's custom assistive technology includes customized tools, devices, and software designed to help people with disabilities overcome barriers and enhance their independence in daily life and employment.



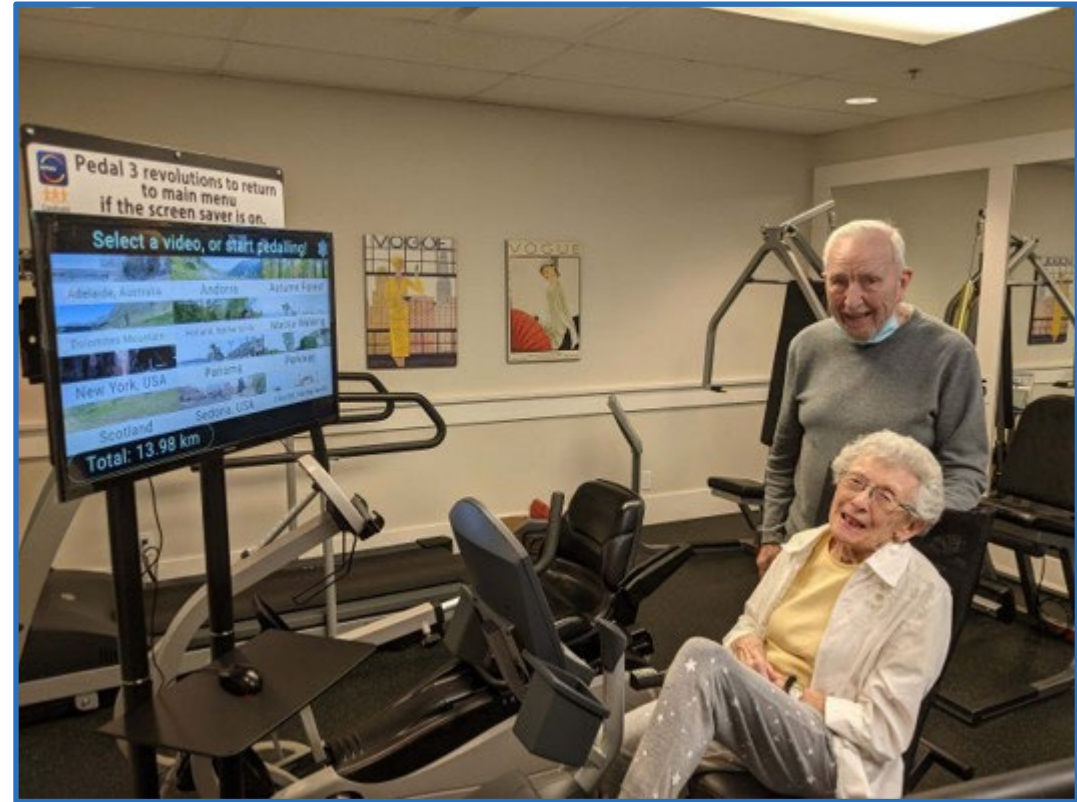
# Tech Example: Motivation Cycle

**Engaging Exercise Solution:** A stationary bike system that encourages physical activity for individuals with disabilities

**Virtual Motivation:** Links pedaling to movement through interactive virtual environments on a screen

**Health & Well-Being:** Promotes regular exercise in a fun and immersive way

**Proven Impact:** Successfully implemented in various settings to support active lifestyles



# Closing the Employment Gap for Persons with Disabilities

- Provide individuals with customized assistive technologies to address barriers to successful employment
- Demonstrate the value of customized technology development as an ongoing component of supported employment programs and services in BC



# Tech Example: Modified GelMaster



- Because of a disability affecting a worker's reaction time, the worker was inadvertently overfilling freezer bags, causing production line downtime and added work
- CanAssist modified the GelMaster freezer bag device by adding an interlock that turned the machine off to prevent overfilling the freezer packs
- A visual indicator was added to clearly show when another bag can be filled



# Tech Example: GelMaster

“[CanAssist’s] work on the Gel Master machine has truly changed Paul's life by ensuring his job security. It allows him to take pride in his work, earn a paycheck, and be a valuable part of his community. The impact of what you've done is incredible and long-lasting.”

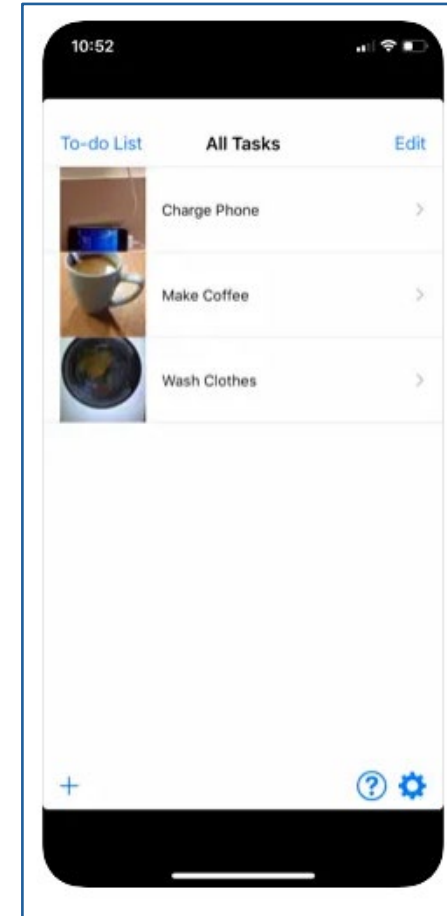
- **Gwynne**, Employment Services,  
Nanaimo Association for Community  
Living



# Tech Example: CanPlan App

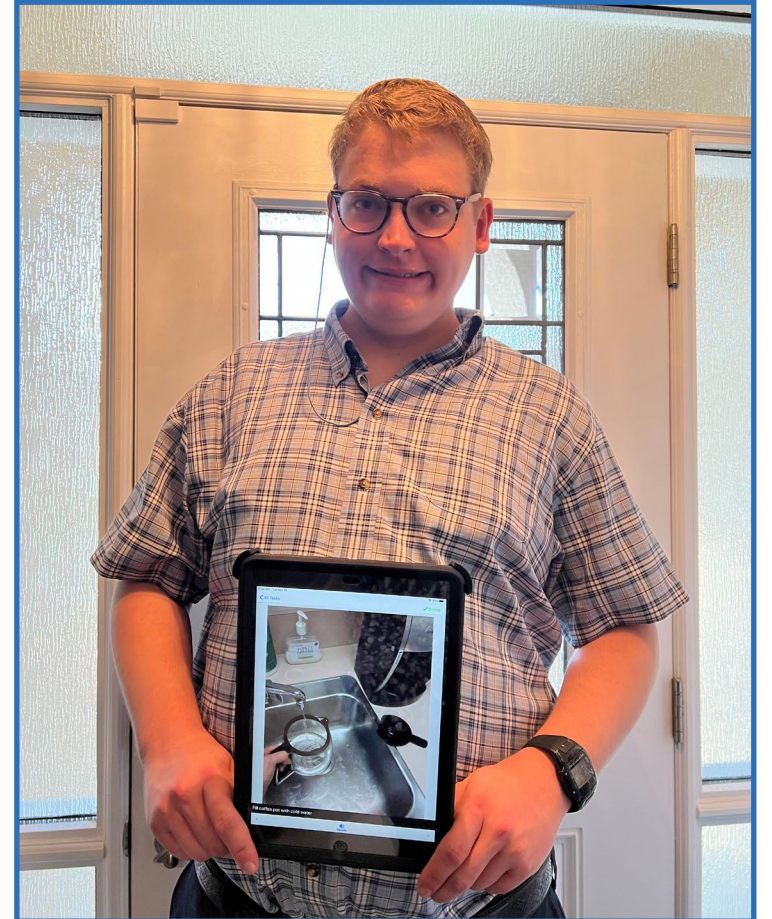
A software application that promotes independence and builds confidence by helping users successfully complete tasks through:

- task sequencing
- scheduling
- prompting
- active task reminder
- task categorization



# Project Participant: Brian

"CanPlan enables me to be more independent at work, so I don't need to ask for help as often. I can easily follow the steps on my checklist, and I really like how I can click DONE when I am finished with each task. I am very happy that I was selected to try out this new technology since it is making me so much more successful at work." - Brian



# Tech Example: Drink Order Reader



- Colin works as a Barista
- Unable to read ticket orders independently
- Device enables him to scan tickets and play order through a wireless headset
- Completing tasks accurately and efficiently



# Project Participant: Colin

"I've been able to read specialty drink orders without help. I'm glad this device was made for me and has been a huge help. The device has allowed me to be able to read the ticket orders all by myself. That feels pretty good!" - Colin



# Program Participant Eligibility

## To be eligible, participants must:

- Be a resident of and legally eligible to work in British Columbia, and be 16 years of age or older
- Have a work-related barrier due to a (self-disclosed) disability or a functional limitation
- Need customized assistive equipment or devices to start work or to avoid losing or becoming independent in:
  - Your current work or
  - Self-employment or,
  - Volunteer work that is part of a longer-term goal of employment

***No financial contribution or income/means test is required for participants.***

**If you know someone who could benefit from our services assistive or facing a barrier, please reach out.**

**Visit our website for information**

<https://www.canassist.ca/EN/index.html>

**See our tech in action!**

[https://youtu.be/nqdpIKIoG-M?si=EwoW\\_cK4SuIMO\\_e7](https://youtu.be/nqdpIKIoG-M?si=EwoW_cK4SuIMO_e7)

**Have any questions? We would love to help!**

250-721-7300 or [canassist@uvic.ca](mailto:canassist@uvic.ca)