

technology

Elevation wheelchair reaching new heights

With the huge advances made in technology over the past few years, it is no surprise that technology has enabled drastic improvements to mobility as well. Today, people with mobility challenges are more independent and more mobile than people in wheelchairs 50 years ago thanks, in part, to new research and technology.

For BCPA member Jaimie Borisoff, independence comes with elevation. Elevation™ is a new wheelchair that aims to improve lives by enabling greater function, independence and comfort throughout the entire day-to-day use of the wheelchair. The chair has a 10" height range and with the pull of a lever, can increase height for more interaction or reaching ability, or decrease height for a better wheeling position.

"I came up with the idea for a chair which allows the user to adjust their position," said Borisoff. "There were no options for people to adjust their chair throughout the day as they needed it; everything was very rigid and fixed."

With the aim to help people have both functionality and comfort in a chair, Jaimie spent four years designing and researching Elevation™. His inspiration came from his academic and sporting pursuits.

During grad school, Jaimie was often in the lab and tried a standing chair to

reach the lab benches, but he found it too awkward. He also plays wheelchair basketball, which requires a lower position for more maneuverability.

"I wanted to capture both things: increased wheeling ability as well as increased height when you needed it," he said. "Here you get the functionality and are able to adjust your seating position whenever and wherever you need it."

The chair itself is lightweight at 24 lbs and is made out of aluminum so it's easy to take in and out of an automobile. With its dynamic seating, one can adjust their sitting position easily.

"It's ironic that we hear from health professionals that we should adjust our posture and seating throughout the day, but that the people who sit the most aren't able to do that with rigid chairs," said Jaimie.

"I like that I can change my position to get comfortable on the fly. I enjoy the functionality of being able to make my chair lower if I'm wheeling and then make it higher if I need to get something from a shelf."

The chair is available at most lower mainland dealers. For more information on the Elevation™ wheelchair visit www.useyourinstinct.com.

FEATURES:

- ultra-lightweight wheelchair performance
- 7005 heat-treated aluminum construction
- frame manufactured in Canada by mountain bike specialists
- 10 inches of real-time adjustable seat height and dump
- over 30 degrees of real-time adjustable backrest angle/tilt
- firm rear suspension
- 0 to 10 degrees of infinite adjustment to rear wheel camber
- Weighs 24 lbs. (16" x 16" chair with wheels and basic components)
- adjustable footrest height
- adjustable backrest height
- scissor-lock or push-to-lock wheel brakes
- Spinergy® Wire wheels (standard)
- Froglegs® Softroll casters (standard)