



# SPEAKERS BUREAU



Teri Thorson was a software support technician, model and professional dancer before a 1996 motor vehicle crash in Australia left her a quadriplegic. After two months of bed rest, she was transferred to Vancouver where she stayed at GF Strong Rehabilitation Centre for 9 months. With her determination and support from friends, family and coworkers, Teri was able to go back to work and became Manager of the Technical Division, got her own apartment in Vancouver and became completely independent. After a few health setbacks she left her job to join a non-profit organization to raise funds and awareness for people with disabilities.

In 2002, Teri was introduced to wheelchair racing and one year later she went back to Australia to focus on year-round training. In 2004, she made it to the Canadian National Team and competed in the 400m at the Athens Paralympics making the finals after only 2 years of racing. Currently Teri lives in North Vancouver with her partner and 7 year old son, Lucian. She works part-time as a program coordinator for Spinal Cord Injury BC, has a clothing line for woman that are seated called "Normal" Fashion, and is an image consultant for people with disabilities. Teri is also a board member of BC Wheelchair Sports and WC Race Series, and a Rick Hansen Foundation ambassador. She continues in sport as a recreational athlete playing wheelchair rugby.