

# SYMPOSIUM AGENDA

 June 5 | 11:00 AM - 4:45 PM ET

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11:00 am **Opening remarks | David Emanuel, Vice President & Head of Workplace Solutions**

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11:05 am **Scott Dedels, Block Rewards and Dominick Bei, Proof of Work Force  
Bitcoin, not just a passing phase?**

Bitcoin has come a long way since its inception in 2009. Initially dismissed by many as a passing fad or a speculative bubble, Bitcoin has proven its staying power and is now considered by many as a legitimate asset class and store of value. Join David Emanuel as he leads a round table discussion with Scott and Dominick to discuss the emergence of Bitcoin in the benefits field.

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12:00 pm **Round table | Unlocking value: Setting yourself apart in the benefits marketplace**

Technology is giving us new tools that are enhancing the administration, delivery, communication, and management of benefits plans. What's more, it's creating opportunities for the convergence of fragmented products and services into benefits programs that no longer resemble the traditional offerings our industry has delivered for years. These new integrated programs offer more value than the sum of the individual parts.

For advisors, it can take significant energy to understand the value of innovative products and learn how to introduce them to your clients. But uncovering and communicating this value is our job. In this hard work is the amazing opportunity to differentiate yourself as an advisor in 2024.

### Participants:

- **Marc Avaria** | Executive Vice-President, Group Insurance Division | Equitable Life
  - **Jonathan Weisstub** | Co-founder and co-CEO of Common Wealth Retirement
  - **Christine Nenonen** CHRM, CDMP | Director of Operations, Employer Services/LTD... Acclaim Ability Management Inc.
  - **Joe Blomeley** | Executive Vice President, Head of Health Services & Enterprise Growth at Green Shield
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1:00 pm **Kartik Sakthivel, Limra Loma | A human industry in an AI world**

AI will rapidly and fundamentally transform our industry as we know it. AI is a seminal technology moment the likes of which we have never experienced with limitless possibilities to fundamentally reshape our industry across the entire value chain. But just like any digital transformation, AI will only be successful keeping HUMANS at the core. Whether it's for CX or EX, making sure you're focused on humans at the core is fundamentally critical. In this session, we'll explore some key things to keep in mind as we navigate the AI Age.

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1:45 pm **Meghan Vallis, Equitable Life | Current trends and where they are taking the industry**

A review of what's happening in the benefits landscape today. The work place is evolving. How we work, where we work and what we care about has changed. This session will dig into how this evolution has impacted which benefit topics are top of mind. What risks or opportunities are present with these benefit plan evolutions and how affordability is interconnected to everything.

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2:30 pm **Tim Clarke, tc Health Consulting**

**Health and Benefits are Changing Fast – Current Hot Topics, What You and Your Clients Need to Know**

The speed of change in the world of group benefits is faster than ever – for advisors, for insurers and for plan sponsors.

- GLP-1s, Diabetes and Obesity – Managing Ozempic and other GLP-1s for diabetes has been the hottest topic and biggest challenge over the last couple of years. But that's only the beginning.....What's coming next, what do you need to know now and how can you help your clients to balance the substantial health benefits against financial realities
  - Digital Health and Technology – Virtual care has rapidly become a fundamental part of how healthcare is delivered, but with so many challenges in the broader health system, how can we (we meaning public health and benefit plans) better leverage technology going forward? Done right, existing and emerging health technologies can increase access to care, deliver better care and reduce costs. How do we as an industry, and how do you help your clients to get the most out of the future of healthcare?
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3:15 pm **Scott Dedels, Block Rewards | Bitcoin's emerging role in compensation and rewards**

Bitcoin is a rapidly growing monetary network and globally accepted currency. Its technology enables new ways of paying employees and with it the potential to re-imagine traditional ideas around compensation and rewards. This presentation will explore the characteristics of Bitcoin that make a compelling case for its inclusion in total compensation.

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4:00 pm **Christine Nenonen, Acclaim Ability Management Inc.**

**How Did We Get Here? Empathy's Impact on Disability Programs and Sick Leave Costs**

In this insightful 45-minute session, our expert speaker, Christine Nenonen of Acclaim Ability Management, will delve into the tangible benefits of incorporating empathy into the workplace. Through real-world case studies, she'll explore how empathy-driven approaches can significantly reduce the financial impact of disability programs. Attendees will also learn two practical strategies to infuse empathy into their professional environment or advise their clients on how to lower absenteeism-related expenses effectively.

Join us to discover how a touch of empathy can lead to substantial savings and a healthier work culture.

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4:45 pm **Closing | Marni Hefner, Director of Business Development, Workplace Solutions**