

Designated Public Sector and Multi-Year Accessibility Plans

Background

[Ontario Regulation \(O. Reg.\) 191/11 – Integrated Accessibility Standards](#) under the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 (AODA) requires designated public sector organizations to have a multi-year accessibility plan in place which documents the organization's strategy to prevent and remove accessibility barriers.

Organizations must establish, review and update these plans in consultation with persons with disabilities and when applicable, with a municipal accessibility advisory committee.

Plans must be updated at least once every five years and a status report must be completed on an annual basis. The plan and status report must be posted on the organization's website and be available in an accessible format upon request.

Designated Public Sector Annual Status Report

The Corporation of the Township of Algonquin Highlands has established a multi-year accessibility plan to prevent and remove barriers to accessibility and to meet requirements under the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act* and the Integrated Accessibility Standards.

This Annual Status Report details the required annual update for **2020** on the progress of measures taken to improve accessibility. The purpose of this report is to track our organization's progress and make the public aware of our initiatives.

This report is available online on the [Township of Algonquin Highlands Website](#)

To request an alternate format of this annual status report, please contact:

Name: **Dawn Newhook, Clerk**

Email: **dnewhook@algonquinhighlands.ca**

Telephone number: **705-489-2379 ext. 333**

Accessibility Accomplishments in 2020

General Accomplishments

- Addition to the Dorset Museum that is accessible
- Accessible renovations completed at Station 70 (Oxtongue Lake) Fire Hall.

Customer Service Accomplishments

- Continuation of accessibility training software for employees, including training on the Human Rights Code.

Employment Accomplishments

- Job recruitment ads continue to contain information regarding the opportunity for accessible accommodation during the recruitment process
- Review of the Accommodation and Emergency Response Plan, if required for persons requiring accessible accommodations
- Offers of Employment (Hire Letter) includes information on accessible accommodation

Design of Public Spaces Accomplishments

- Nine accessible picnic tables installed at the Oxtoung Lake Community Centre
- Installation of an accessible vault privy at Little Hawk Lake Access point
- Addition to the Dorset Museum (accessible)

Summary of Consultations

Staff presented the plans to the Joint Accessible Advisory Committee during the Museum addition.

Next Steps

Proposed projects that will include accessible features in the Township for 2021 include:

- Accessible lift to be installed at the Stanhope Library
- Review and updating of the Township's Purchasing Policy
- Review of Accessible Policies (Customer Service, Integrated Accessibility Standards)
- Accessible updates to website
- Continued staff training for new employees

The Township will continue review, and implement accessible features as identified in the Accessibility Plan, as well the implementation of new accessible features throughout the Township as the need, or opportunity, arises.