

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 joint multi-year accessibility with the 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 **2023** 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:

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Accessibility Accomplishments in 2023

Customer Service Accomplishments

- Additional training for staff on accessible document software Equidox for the remediation and creation of accessible documents.
- Implementation of new Corporate website which enhanced accessibility
- Continued accessible customer service training for new employees and volunteers

Employment Accomplishments

- Job recruitment ads continue to contain information regarding the opportunity for accessible accommodation during the recruitment process
- Offers of Employment (Hire Letter) includes information on accessible accommodation

Design of Public Spaces Accomplishments

- Installation of a new accessible door, lift and accessible walkway at the Stanhope Library

Next Steps

Proposed projects that will include accessible features in the Township for 2024 include:

- Continue with Accessible updates to existing websites and documents on the website.
- Continued accessible customer training for new employees and volunteers
- Installation of a swing set and accessible pathway at the Oxtongue Lake Community Centre
- Replace deck at the Dorset Tower gift shop and install an accessible ramp
- Renovations to the Dorset Recreation Centre, as follows:
 - Installation of a concrete Wheel-chair Ramp with steel railings to facilitate AODA/Barrier free access to the Main Entrance.;
 - Covered Entry leading to the Main Entrance providing accessibility and security from weather;
 - Installation of new automatic AODA/Barrier Free Compliance Doors for Front Entrance and Vestibule Area;
 - Installation of a new Universal Washroom on the Main Floor that will be designed to current AODA/Barrier Free requirements;
 - Upgrade of Men's and Women's Washroom on the Main Floor to current AODA/Barrier Free requirements that include automatic door openers, new counter tops and faucets, grab bars and toilets; and
 - Provision for Accessible parking at close proximity to main entrance and Ramp.

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.