

Corporation of the Town of Perth
Accessibility Plan Update
As of December 31, 2019

Overview

The Town is committed to improving the ability of people with disabilities to live independently and contribute to our community. We recognize that our municipal government plays an important role in the development of our community and the delivery of important public services. Streets, parks and public spaces, recreation facilities, public buildings, programs, services, elections are all within the responsibility of the Corporation of the Town of Perth. It is critical that these services and responsibilities are reviewed and evaluated to ensure barriers to accessibility are removed.

Current Accessibility Plan

The Corporation's current Accessibility Plan was adopted in 2015. The Multi-Year Plan is based upon requirements under the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act* (AODA) and *Integrated Accessibility Standard Regulations O. Reg 191/11*. It contains standards in the following five (5) areas:

1. Customer Service;
2. Information and Communications;
3. Employment;
4. Transportation, and;
5. Built Environment.

Progress

Since the current Accessibility Plan was approved in 2015, the following actions have been taken:

Facilities

- An accessibility audit of the Indoor Pool was undertaken and a new accessible change-room installed as a result;
- A second accessible ramp was been installed at the Town Hall;
- An inventory of washroom accessibility deficiencies was established and a plan for upgrades implemented including more automatic door openers;
- Installed depressed curb profiles along the downtown on-street parking spots;
- Installation of 800m of new sidewalk in established residential areas with textured metallic panels (OPSS) at crossing zones;

- Modification of municipal standards to increase sidewalk widths from 1.5m to 1.8m widths;
- The new Terrace on the Tay facility was constructed to be fully accessible including several accessible washrooms and one universally accessible washroom.

Processes

- The Town's Community Improvement Plan (CIP) grants now include funding for accessible ramps for businesses;
- An accessibility policy for the Stewart Park Festival was adopted by Council;
- An accessibility awareness workshop was offered to Town Staff;
- A review of election accessibility was undertaken;
- A review of Human Resource Manual was undertaken.
- The Town website has been modified to be AODA compliant;
- Report formats (font, presentation) have been upgraded to be more accessible;
- An accessibility procurement policy was adopted by Council.

Conclusion

A broad range of initiatives have been implemented since 2015 and efforts to improve accessibility in the Town are continuous and ongoing.