



City of
Peterborough

To: Members of the Accessibility Advisory Committee

From: Mark Buffone, Accessibility Compliance Coordinator

Meeting Date: January 9, 2019

Subject: Report AAC19-004
Accessibility Office Report

Purpose

A report to advise the Accessibility Advisory Committee on the current work of the Accessibility Office.

Recommendation

That the Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC) approve the recommendation outlined in Report AAC19-004 dated January 9, 2019, of the Accessibility Compliance Coordinator as follows:

That Report AAC19-004 with respect to the current work of the Accessibility Office be received for information.

Budget and Financial Implications

There are no budgetary or financial implications associated with the recommendation.

Background

Council for Persons with Disabilities

The Accessibility and Communication Specialist attended the Council for Persons with Disabilities Board meetings on November 29, 2018 and December 13, 2018.

International Day of Persons with Disabilities

The local celebration of International Day of Persons with Disabilities was held on Monday, December 3, 2018. The celebration included a social media campaign highlighting the accessible features throughout the City. An Accessible Parking Campaign with the Peterborough Police and City parking officials also occurred.

Legislation Changes

The Food Premises regulation was amended to align with the Integrated Accessibility Standards. All types of service animals are now permitted in restaurants and other areas where food is normally served, sold or offered for sale. The Food Premises Regulation previously only permitted guide dogs and service dogs.

In some cases, food might be prepared in the same area where it is served, sold or offered for sale. In these cases, organizations are encouraged to contact their local Public Health Unit to learn more about how to interpret their requirements.

Accessible Document Training

The Accessibility Office updated the [City of Peterborough's Guide to Accessible Documents](#) to meet current standards.

[www.peterborough.ca/GuideToAccessibleDocuments]

The Accessibility Office developed a new 10 minute e-learning course called [Intro to Accessible Documents](#).

[www.peterborough.ca/AODATraining]

In celebration of International Day of Persons with Disabilities held every December 3, the Accessibility Office circulated accessible document tips by email to City staff. The tips include: use simple fonts, left align text, use descriptive words for web links, use the Styles tool in Microsoft Word, add alt text and keep tables simple. The Accessibility Office will send a recap email in January 2019 with links to resources.

Accessibility Reviews

The best way to remove barriers is to prevent them. The Accessibility Office provides formal reviews during the planning and design stages of all City projects, including projects related to buildings, public spaces, services, documents, websites, by-laws, plans and policies. Recent reviews and research include:

- Evinrude Centre signage: reviewed signage for exterior walkways.
- CP Rail Line multi-use trail crossing improvements: reviewed concepts for pedestrian crossings at Maria St. multi-use trail, west end of the Trans-Canada trail bridge at Holiday Inn, and street crossing at Rink Street.
- Tivey St. and Euclid Ave. road reconstruction: reviewed sidewalks, walkway connections, street corner designs and other various details.
- Trent University Area Transportation Environmental Assessment: reviewed concepts for pedestrian network, transit network and intersection points.
- Crawford Rail Trail (Romaine St. to Lake St.): reviewed pedestrian crossings, bench locations and other various details.
- Lansdowne St. reconstruction (Clonsilla to Spillsbury): reviewed sidewalks, pedestrian crossings, street corner designs, transit stops and other various details.
- Community Services upgrades: reviewed concept drawings of a new walkway and accessible parking space.

Funding Applications

The Accessibility Office is currently overseeing five funding applications through the Government of Canada's Enabling Accessibility Fund:

- 2018 Enabling Accessibility Fund – Beavermead Campground

The City submitted an application for funding to construct a new accessible washroom, change room, shower and laundry facility. The City is waiting for a response from the Government of Canada.

- 2018 Enabling Accessibility Fund – Community Services

The City submitted an application for funding to upgrade the exterior walkway, vestibule and stairs, and add an accessible customer service desk, waiting area, public access computer kiosk and two accessible offices. The City is waiting for a response from the Government of Canada.

- 2018 Enabling Accessibility Fund – Art Gallery of Peterborough

The City submitted an application for funding to upgrade the exterior walkway, vestibule, various flooring and studio space. The City is waiting for a response from the Government of Canada.

- 2017 Enabling Accessibility Fund – Assistive Listening Device Kits

The City received funding to purchase five assistive listening device kits, compatible with hearing aids and cochlear implants. Canadian Hearing Society is providing the kits. The devices will be available for use in February 2019 in meeting rooms at the Peterborough Public Library, Community Services, Social Services, Peterborough Police and City Hall.

- 2017 Enabling Accessibility Fund – Park Upgrades

The City received funding to upgrade 9 City parks. The upgrades include enhancing the walkway network, adding benches, and replacing sand surfacing with engineered wood fibre at playground zones. The completion date is July 2019.

Resources

[Guide for Small Businesses: Making Your Business Accessible for People with Disabilities](#)

[www.conferenceboard.ca/docs/default-source/public-pdfs/19187_accessibilityguide_en_pac.pdf]

Submitted by,

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