



City of
Peterborough

To: Members of the Accessibility Advisory Committee

From: Mark Buffone, Accessibility Compliance Coordinator

Meeting Date: October 2, 2019

Subject: Report AAC19-033
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 AAC19-033 dated October 2, 2019, of the Accessibility Compliance Coordinator as follows:

That Report AAC19-033 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 June 27, 2019 and September 26, 2019 Council for Persons with Disabilities meeting.

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:

- Community Housing Guide: reviewed document for compliance with document accessibility
- Parks Canada Lock 19: reviewed various details including walkway network, accessible parking, and rest areas.
- Temporary on-street patios at Hootenany on Hunter event: reviewed various details including patio access, clear paths of travel and table layout.
- DBIA/GreenUp Downtown Vibrancy Canoe Art project: reviewed various details including overhead clearance of canoe art, rest areas, and boardwalk surface.
- Official Plan: reviewed the June 19, 2019 draft to ensure the plan incorporates accessibility across all sections of the document.
- Peterborough Musicfest: reviewed options for an accessible viewing zone and discussed assistive listening devices, autism awareness, wayfinding signage, service animals and support persons, event maps, and access to the VIP entrance.

Status of Funding Applications

- **2017 Enabling Accessibility Fund – Park Upgrades**

The City received funding to upgrade 9 City parks. The upgrades include enhancing walkway networks, adding benches, and replacing sand surfacing with engineered wood fibre at playground zones. Construction is completed.

- **2018 Enabling Accessibility Fund – Accessibility upgrades to the Art Gallery of Peterborough**

The City received funding to complete accessibility upgrades to the Art Gallery of Peterborough. The upgrades include a new exterior walkway complete with an ice/snow melt system, new vestibule with sliding style doors, new flooring to provide mobility aid friendly surface and to improve visual cues/navigational aids, and a dedicated exhaust system in the Studio space to improve access for people with environmental sensitivities. The project is in the concept design stages. A consultant will prepare design concepts and construction is expected to start in fall 2019.

Resources

[AODA Toolbox, Ontario's July 2019 Accessibility Newsletter](https://mailchi.mp/ontario/aoda-toolbox-july-19-1390035?e=d58b30ac84)

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The July 2019 newsletter features articles on:

- Creating accessible recreation facilities for people who are deaf and hard of hearing
- Accessible recreational trails in Ontario
- Mobile app innovation breaking down barriers to hospitality and restaurants
- Sensory-friendly Saturdays at the Ontario Science Centre
- Cyber safety: seniors and scams
- Information and Communications Standards Development Committee's initial recommendations report
- Community recreation for all
- Disruptions in service – How do we notify persons with disabilities?
- Accessibility toolkit for creative spaces in Ontario
- Recognizing the Canadian Wheelchair Boxing Association
- Resource of the Month

Submitted by,

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