



City of  
**Peterborough**

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**To:** **Members of the Accessibility Advisory Committee**

**From:** **Mark Buffone, Accessibility Compliance Coordinator**

**Meeting Date:** **January 8, 2020**

**Subject:** **Report AAC20-004**  
**Accessibility Staff Report**

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## **Purpose**

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

## **Recommendation**

That the Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC) approve the recommendation outlined in Report AAC20-004 dated January 8, 2020, of the Accessibility Compliance Coordinator as follows:

That Report AAC20-004 with respect to the current work of Accessibility staff be received for information.

## **Budget and Financial Implications**

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

## **Background**

### **Accessibility Reviews**

The best way to remove barriers is to prevent them. Accessibility staff provide 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:

- Lease of a Mailing Machine: reviewed bid document to ensure the successful proponent is trained on accessibility law.
- Cedargrove Park Stormwater Pond upgrades: reviewed trail layout, grading details and connection to existing sidewalks.
- Waste Management assistance program: researched blue box assistance programs across Canada.
- Rotary Greenway Trail at Faryon Bridge: reviewed various multi-use trail details related to site grading, trail width and protection from vehicular zone.
- Water fountain and bottle filling stations for various parks: reviewed product specifications for mounting height and potential obstruction to adjacent walkways.
- Active Transportation and Health Indicators Report: reviewed accessible document requirements with the graphic designer retained to design the report document.

### **Status of Funding Applications**

- 2018 Enabling Accessibility Fund: Accessibility upgrades to the Art Gallery  
The City received funding to complete accessibility upgrades to the Art Gallery of Peterborough. Construction is expected to start in spring 2020.
- 2018 Enabling Accessibility Fund: Accessibility upgrades to Community Services  
The City received funding to complete accessibility upgrades to the Community Services Office at 210 Wolfe Street. Construction is expected to start mid 2020.

### **Council for Persons with Disabilities**

No updates.

### **International Day of Persons with Disabilities**

Accessibility staff partnered with Transit to host a “Snack and Chat” public engagement event at the Transit Terminal to celebrate the annual observance of International Day of Persons with Disabilities. Mayor Diane Therrien attended the event to proclaim December 3, 2019 as International Day of Persons with Disabilities. Staff initiated informal conversations with transit users and received 47 comments related to the buses, transit stops, customer service and other general transit issues. The comments were submitted to Transit and will be used to help set transit related accessibility priorities.

## **Interview with Queen's University**

The Accessibility Compliance Coordinator discussed accessibility with a Queen's University student completing a master's report on making heritage community centres accessible for an aging population in Peterborough.

## **Compliance Reporting**

The 2019 Accessibility Compliance Report was submitted to the Government of Ontario in December 2019. The City reported compliance to all of the report questions, except for a question related to documents posted to our websites. The report notes the City launched a new website in 2019 with compliant html pages and a major software upgrade and accessible document training project is in progress to facilitate WCAG 2.0 Level AA compliance for online PDF documents.

## **Resources**

[AODA Toolbox, Ontario's Accessibility Newsletter, November 2019](https://mailchi.mp/ontario/aoda-toolbox-november-19-1390099?e=d58b30ac84)

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The November 2019 newsletter features articles on:

- 2018 Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act annual report
- Tourism industry Association of Ontario's Accessible Tourism award winners
- Innovative accessibility advisory committee projects showcase
- Engaging with Ontario's municipalities
- Remember to submit your accessibility compliance report
- Accessibility FAQ's
- Register for a free webinar

Submitted by,

Mark Buffone  
Accessibility Compliance Coordinator

Contact Name:

Mark Buffone  
Accessibility Compliance Coordinator  
Phone: 705-742-7777 extension 1630  
Toll Free: 1-855-738-3755  
Fax: 705-876-4607  
E-mail: [mbuffone@peterborough.ca](mailto:mbuffone@peterborough.ca)