



City of  
**Peterborough**

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

**From:** Trish Reed, Accessibility and Communication Specialist  
Mark Buffone, Accessibility Compliance Coordinator

**Meeting Date:** April 6, 2016

**Subject:** Report AAC16-021  
Accessibility Office Report

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## **Purpose**

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

## **Recommendation**

That the Accessibility Advisory Committee approve the recommendation outlined in Report AAC16-021 dated April 6, 2016, of the Accessibility and Communication Specialist and the Accessibility Compliance Coordinator as follows:

That Report AAC16-021 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 March 24, 2016 meeting was cancelled due to weather and will be rescheduled.

### **Accessibility Training**

There were approximately 20 attendees at the accessibility training session held on March 30, 2016, for members of Council, Committees of Council, and AAC Sub-Committees.

### **Holnbeck Award**

Nominations for the 2016 Gordon Arbie Holnbeck Award opened on March 1, 2016 and will continue until Friday, April 29, 2016 at 4:30 p.m. This is an excellent opportunity to recognize the achievements of volunteers who have enhanced the quality of life for people with disabilities. The [2016 Holnbeck Award Nomination Form](http://www.peterborough.ca/City_Hall/Committees/Accessibility_Advisory_Committee/Documents) can be found on the City's website.

([www.peterborough.ca/City\\_Hall/Committees/Accessibility\\_Advisory\\_Committee/Documents](http://www.peterborough.ca/City_Hall/Committees/Accessibility_Advisory_Committee/Documents))

### **Employers Forum**

The Accessibility Office has partnered with the Peterborough DBIA and Andrea Dodsworth to host an Employers Forum as part of the Ontario Business Improvement Area Association's Accessibility Smart Businesses Project. The forum will serve as a conduit for business peers to connect, share, inspire and transfer best practices around accessible employment and build disability diversity confidence. The forum will be held on Monday May 9, 2016 at Princess Gardens. Details and time will follow.

### **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 include:

- Evinrude Centre: reviewed detailed design drawings of front door replacement and rear emergency exit stair roof projects
- Trans Canada Trail at Ackinson Road and Jackson Park: meet on site to direct Public Works on installation details of new entrance gate
- Peterborough Renovates Program Guidelines: formatted document to be accessible
- Exclusive Pouring Rights for Soft Drink Beverages and Vending Machines: incorporated accessibility wording in the request for proposal document
- 2016 Engineering Design Standards: submitted proposed revisions to Utilities Services to ensure alignment with AODA requirements
- Donegal Street reconstruction between McDonnell Street and Murray Street: reviewed final design submitted by consultant

- Peterborough Public Library Renovation and Expansion: reviewed final design submitted by consultant
- Property Tax Assistance Program: update the digital form to be a fillable pdf document

## Resources

The Accessibility Office actively monitors accessibility resources to assist in research, implementation and education:

- [Tecla Launches with Bell to Provide Customers Hands-Free Access to Mobile Technology](http://gettecla.com/blogs/news/76684933-tecla-launches-with-bell-to-provide-customers-hands-free-access-to-mobile-technology)  
(<http://gettecla.com/blogs/news/76684933-tecla-launches-with-bell-to-provide-customers-hands-free-access-to-mobile-technology>)
- With Tecla, users gain hands-free access to their touchscreen devices using their assistive switches. Offering includes a special price for Bell customers who live with motor impairments. [Mental Health Accessibility Training developed by Enabling Minds](http://www.enablingminds.ca/)  
(<http://www.enablingminds.ca/>)

The goal of the Enabling Minds project is to reduce barriers for people with mental health-related disabilities to participate in physical activity programs offered by recreation and fitness organizations. The Enabling Minds Training Module is an interactive 45 minute self-study course.

Submitted by,

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