



City of
Peterborough

To: Members of the Accessibility Advisory Committee

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

Meeting Date: May 4, 2016

Subject: Report AAC16-026
Accessibility Office Report

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 AAC16-026 dated May 4, 2016, of the Accessibility and Communication Specialist and the Accessibility Compliance Coordinator as follows:

That Report AAC16-026 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 April 21, 2016 Annual General Meeting.

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, targeted at business owners, will be held on Monday May 9, 2016 at Princess Gardens from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Register online at www.accessibilityemployerforum.eventbrite.ca, by phone at 705-748-4774 or email terryguiel@peterboroughbia.com.

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:

- City Hall parking lot reconstruction: preliminary review of proposed concept
- Peterborough Public Library: review exiting issues related to existing doors to remain
- Peterborough Memorial Centre: review various accessibility related issues including parking, drop-off area, rest areas (benches), access to accessible seating, aisle lighting during events that require low light levels.
- Age-friendly Peterborough Plan: review baseline assessment and incorporate accessibility statistics on existing services, programs and infrastructure.

Resources

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

- [Accessibility Certification Model prototypes are available for public review and comment](https://www.certifiedforaccess.ca/)
(<https://www.certifiedforaccess.ca/>)

There are seven prototypes which are meant to showcase the range of ideas and ongoing work being done in the community to raise the bar on accessibility. Some are more detailed, some more high-level; some offer a complete picture of a certification model, while others illustrate how they might lend their expertise to a broader whole. All are based on the Phase 1 discussion and Phase 2 working group recommendations.

Certified for Access is looking for your input to make sure that the prototypes evolve and come together in a way that will work for the whole community – people of all abilities and the businesses they operate and frequent.

Submitted by,

Trish Reed
Accessibility and Communication Specialist

Contact Names:

Trish Reed
Accessibility and Communication Specialist
Phone: 705-705-742-7777 extension 1785
Toll Free: 1-855-738-3755
Fax: 705-876-4607
E-mail: treed@peterborough.ca

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