



City of
Peterborough

To: Members of the Accessibility Advisory Committee

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

Meeting Date: September 7, 2016

Subject: Report AAC16-036
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 AAC16-036 dated September 7, 2016, of the Accessibility and Communication Specialist and the Accessibility Compliance Coordinator as follows:

That Report AAC16-036 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

On July 21, 2016 the Council for Persons with Disabilities (CPD) executive met with the Accessibility Office staff and the Manager of Transportation to discuss their concerns with the Handi-Van service. The Accessibility and Communication Specialist will inform CPD when the Manager of Transportation's Handi-Van review is presented to Committee of the Whole.

CPD has relocated to:
175 George Street North, Unit 1
Peterborough, Ontario, K9J 3G6

Wheel Chairs at Peterborough Memorial Centre

Two wheel chairs were generously donated by Living Well Home Medical Equipment. These chairs will be available for visitors upon request.

Accessibility Audits

As requested by the Built Environment Sub-Committee, the Accessibility Office has completed audits at 17 City facilities and 11 City parks. For each audit the operating department received a summary of quick fixes and a summary of large projects that they could consider applying to the Access Fund for.

Beach Access Route

On Tuesday, August 23, 2016 the Accessibility and Communication Specialist met with the Supervisor of Parks and Forestry, Recreation Coordinator and Recreationist (Summer Aquatics, Promotion and Instructional Sports) at the Beavermead Beach and the Rogers Cove Beach. The next step is for Public Works to provide a cost estimate to the Accessibility Office. The cost estimate will include the installation of a permanent asphalt path (1.5m wide) leading from the current path near the entrance of Beavermead that would extend to the water.

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:

- Human Resources Recruitment and Selection procedure: updated procedure
- Railway crossing on George Street at Dalhousie: retrofitted deteriorating surface
- "Shaping Our City for the Future" Strategic Framework: incorporated accessibility
- Animal by-law: incorporated service animal requirements

- Handi-Van Review: provided feedback to the Manager of Transportation
- Hilliard and Marina Road Reconstruction: accessibility review
- Capital Asset Management Plan: reviewed document format to make it accessible
- Waste Water Treatment Plan: accessibility review of proposed building signage
- Kirk Street Sidewalk: accessibility review of proposed new sidewalk
- Social Services internal newsletter: reviewed document format to make it accessible

Resources

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

- [Consulting with Canadians on Accessibility Legislation](http://www.esdc.gc.ca/en/consultations/disability/legislation/index.page)
(www.esdc.gc.ca/en/consultations/disability/legislation/index.page)

Between July 2016 and February 2017, Employment and Social Development Canada will be consulting with Canadians on accessibility legislation. This will help the Government of Canada to new accessibility legislation to promote equality of opportunity and increase the inclusion and participation of Canadians who have disabilities or functional limitations.

- [Accessibility Design Guidelines for York Regional Forest Trails](http://www.york.ca/wps/wcm/connect/yorkpublic/e3f0c19e-974d-4720-8071-2b8ee854e410/nov+20+buchanan.pdf?MOD=AJPERES)
(www.york.ca/wps/wcm/connect/yorkpublic/e3f0c19e-974d-4720-8071-2b8ee854e410/nov+20+buchanan.pdf?MOD=AJPERES)

York Region developed a guideline for multi-use trails and accessible trail design to provide an integrated recreational experience for all visitors, with and without disabilities.

- [Beyond Compliance: Accessibility Self-Assessment Tool for Organizations](https://beyondcompliancetool.ca/)
(<https://beyondcompliancetool.ca/>)

The Beyond Compliance: Accessibility Self-Assessment Tool was developed by the Regional Municipality of York with support from the Ontario Government. The tool provides information for what organizations can do to go beyond compliance with Ontario's accessibility laws to create a more accessible organization.

- [CNIB Clearing Our Path](http://www.clearingourpath.ca)
(www.clearingourpath.ca)

CNIB developed the first print edition of "Clearing Our Path" in 1998 to address the need for information on creating accessible environments for people with vision loss. The second edition of "Clearing Our Path" provided updated information based on new research, new international standards, emerging technology and universal design principles. It incorporates changes to the National Building Code of Canada and various Canadian Standards Association standards, as well as international best practices.

Submitted by,

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