



City of
Peterborough

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

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

Meeting Date: **January 4, 2017**

Subject: **Report AAC17-001**
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 AAC17-001 dated January 4, 2017, of the Accessibility and Communication Specialist and the Accessibility Compliance Coordinator as follows:

That Report AAC17-001 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 provided a written report for the December 22, 2016 meeting of the Council for Persons with Disabilities.

Text to 911

On Monday, December 19, 2016 Peterborough Police Service and Peterborough Fire Services became equipped to receive emergency calls for service via Text with 9-1-1 from people who are deaf, hard of hearing, or speech impaired. An event to officially announce the service is planned for early 2017.

International Day of Persons with Disabilities 2016

The International Day of Persons with Disabilities celebration held on December 3, 2016 at the Art Gallery of Peterborough was a positive event. Sioux Lily and Craig Barron were revealed as the winners of the Accessible Peterborough Photo Contest. The Accessibility Office thanks the members of the AAC that participated in and supported the event.

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:

- talkPDI Community Consultation: worked to ensure accessibility was considered throughout the process including the selection of venues for open houses, and the creation of print materials.
- Interpretive panel for a tree in Del Crary Park: accessibility review of panel design.
- Mapping of benches: input GPS location and details of existing benches located on City trails and in City parks.
- Accessible library materials: reviewed the Library's practices vs. the AODA requirements to provide library materials in alternative formats.
- Curb radii details: received a presentation from the City of Toronto on the need to minimize curb radii at street corners to make streets more accessible. Developed an action plan to have various departments implement best practices for accessible intersection geometry.
- Standard bench pad detail: developed a standard accessible bench detail for trails.
- Curb cut on Rubidge at Hunter: developed solutions to eliminate vehicles that are parking in front of a curb cut on Rubidge Street.
- Public Works Operations Centre: accessibility review of the Site Plan Application.
- Public Works Operations Centre: accessibility review of the Permit set.
- Pearson Daycare move: provided feedback on need to occupy an accessible site.

- Pioneer Road reconstruction: review of road details and requested “future” sidewalk and trail be incorporated into the scope of work at time of road reconstruction.
- George Street improvements: preliminary review of road and pedestrian realm details.
- Accessible infographics: researched best practices and provided information to IT Services.
- Peterborough trails and bikeways sign update: reviewed proposed new signage.
- Zoning by-law revisions related to accessible parking: requested Planning update zoning by-law to ensure alignment with AODA requirements.
- Return to Work/Employment Accommodation Procedure: reviewed proposed procedure updates to ensure alignment with AODA requirements.
- Charlotte Street reconstruction: accessibility review of the on-street accessible parking concept.
- Slippery metal plates on sidewalk: reviewed solutions for slippery conditions of metal plates at sections of sidewalk over Jackson Creek on Charlotte Street and King Street.

Resources

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

- [The Accessible Cities Award](http://www.rickhansen.com/Our-Work/Accessible-Cities-Award)
(www.rickhansen.com/Our-Work/Accessible-Cities-Award)

The Rick Hansen Foundation has created the Accessible Cities Award to celebrate the good work, showcase the best national accessibility programs among municipalities both large and small, and measure progress towards a fully accessible Canada.

Applications open on November 1, 2016 and close on March 3, 2017. The results will be announced in late May 2017.

- [Global Street Design Webinars](http://www.islandpress.org/blog/watch-global-street-design-webinar)
(www.islandpress.org/blog/watch-global-street-design-webinar)

Island Press teamed up with the Global Designing Cities Initiative (GDCI) to present two webinars on December 12, 2016 spotlighting the Global Street Design Guide. Each session offered an overview of the Guide plus two case studies highlighting best practices in street and public space design.

Submitted by,

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