



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 3, 2017

Subject: Report AAC17-035
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 AAC17-035 dated May 3, 2017, of the Accessibility and Communication Specialist and the Accessibility Compliance Coordinator as follows:

That Report AAC17-035 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 Annual General Meeting of the Council for Persons with Disabilities was held on April 27, 2017 and the Accessibility and Communication Specialist did not attend.

Accessibility Social Media Campaign

This month, information on the below topics were shared via the City's Twitter account:

Tweets: 24,500 Impressions from March 25 – April 21, 2017

- Do you know someone who improves the lives of people with disabilities? Nominate them for the Holnbeck Award: <http://bit.ly/2nGdsxs> pic.twitter.com/rSOVBTR9Ai
- 2 Housing initiatives kick off April 3rd: Homeownership Assistance Loan Program and Peterborough Renovates Program <http://bit.ly/2oiyEJO> pic.twitter.com/JINzHtg9vq
- Chair of Transportation [@donvptbo](https://twitter.com/donvptbo) celebrates \$5.4M announced for 8 projects in [@CityPtbo](https://twitter.com/CityPtbo) <http://ow.ly/Sp8R30arnFL> pic.twitter.com/iAO0QK7rB9

Retweets:

- OntarioAccessibility [@ONAccessibility](https://twitter.com/ONAccessibility) #DYK if you design your business for #inclusion you can expand your customer base? <http://ow.ly/u2Wb30aJGpk> . [@bigideaproj](https://twitter.com/bigideaproj)
- Daryl Bennett [@MayorBennett](https://twitter.com/MayorBennett) Honoured to declare Special Olympics Week in [@CityPtbo](https://twitter.com/CityPtbo) April 10-17 at a flag raising ceremony this morning
- Peterborough Police [@PtboPolice](https://twitter.com/PtboPolice) At [@CityPtbo](https://twitter.com/CityPtbo) for the flag raising ceremony for [@SOOntario](https://twitter.com/SOOntario)! -LG
- OntarioAccessibilityVerified account [@ONAccessibility](https://twitter.com/ONAccessibility) Let's work together to go above & beyond minimum #compliance and create a culture of #accessibility in Ontario
- OntarioAccessibilityVerified account [@ONAccessibility](https://twitter.com/ONAccessibility) Let's work together to go above & beyond minimum #compliance and create a culture of #accessibility in Ontario

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:

- Community Engagement Training: Attended the train the trainer sessions on facilitating successful community engagement.
- Wheelchairs from Lions Club of Peterborough: obtained two wheelchairs suitable for temporary uses at City Hall or other City facilities/functions.
- Youth Council Application: revised the Youth Council Application to be an accessible fillable PDF.

- Electronic Agenda Management Solution: provided input to ensure new software purchased by the City will create agendas, reports and meeting minutes that are accessible and integrated with the live streaming feature on the City website.
- Trail conflict with vehicles, cyclists and pedestrians: reviewed options to improve safety at multi-use trail crossing at Peterborough Utilities driveways on Ashburnham Drive.
- Nicholls Oval Washroom Pavilion: completed an accessibility review of an initial washroom building concept.
- Parkway Trail benches: reviewed and advised Public Works on locations to add two benches on the Parkway Trail.
- City Hall Fire Safety Plan: reviewed the updated fire safety plan to ensure people with disabilities are safe in the event of an emergency.
- Crawford Trail connection to Lansdowne Place: provided input on a concept to connect the Crawford Trail to a rear entrance of Lansdowne Place.
- Barnardo Park Improvements: provided input to ensure the new playground, splashpad, shade structure, parking lot and walkway network are accessible.

Events

Social Services Open House: Social Services has renovated to create a more accessible and inclusive space for all, and they are welcoming everyone to come and check out their refreshed space.

Date: Thursday, May 18, 2017

Time: 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Location: Peterborough Social Services, 178 Charlotte Street, Peterborough Ontario

National Access Week Celebration: Local celebrities will participate in a time in my shoes program designed to bring greater understanding and awareness about disabilities and universal accessibility through the experiential program. The winners of the Accessibility Champion Award will also be announced.

Date: Monday, May 29, 2017

Time: 11:30 a.m. to approximately 1:30 p.m.

Location: Peterborough Square, 340 George Street North, Peterborough Ontario

Resources

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

- [Planning Accessible Events: So Everyone Feels Welcome](http://www.findmyspark.ca/sites/default/files/resource_files/accessible_events_booklet_eng.pdf)
(www.findmyspark.ca/sites/default/files/resource_files/accessible_events_booklet_eng.pdf)

The Accessibility Directorate of Ontario has published a new booklet titled, Planning Accessible Events: So Everyone Feels Welcome. It includes information on no-cost or low-cost actions that can help reduce barriers for people with disabilities and make events more inclusive.

- [Enabling Access Through Web Renewal](https://www.wlu.ca/docs/EnablingAccessHandbook_online.pdf)
(https://www.wlu.ca/docs/EnablingAccessHandbook_online.pdf)
Wilfrid Laurier University, with the support from the Government of Ontario, created a handbook that will help public sector organizations with 50+ employees take the necessary steps to make their websites accessible.

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