



City of
Peterborough

To: Members of the Accessibility Advisory Committee

From: Mark Buffone, Accessibility Compliance Coordinator

Meeting Date: November 1, 2017

Subject: Report AAC17-056
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 AAC17-056 dated November 1, 2017, of the Accessibility Compliance Coordinator as follows:

That Report AAC17-056 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

Letter to the Accessibility Directorate of Ontario (ADO)

On Friday, October 13, 2017, a letter was sent to the ADO on behalf of the AAC expressing your concern following the decision made by the Human Rights Tribunal to rule in favour of the Waterloo Catholic District School Board to not allow an Autism Assistance animal to be present in the classroom with a student. The letter is attached as Appendix A.

Accessibility Social Media Campaign

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

Tweets: 134,000 Impressions from May 27, 2017 to August 28, 2017

- Beautiful day for the official opening of the beach access route at Beavermead. #accessiblePTBO – at Beavermead Park
- We want to hear from you about #AccessiblePTBO. Please complete our survey <http://www.peterborough.ca/AccessibilityPlanSurvey> ... before Friday August 25th.
- Peterborough Youth Council & Accessibility Office teamed up with @PeterboroughTr1 to film a "Transit 101" video! Coming soon! @CityPtbo
- One more week to go! Complete the survey by Fri Aug 25 to help shape the next phase of our accessibility planning. #accessiblePtbo
- Thanks for participating! Many responses already received. Please keep them coming. #accessiblePtbo
- We are updating our current Accessibility Plan. Please help us set priorities for the next phase of accessibility: <http://bit.ly/2uXecQZ>
- Looking to make your documents accessible to all? Check out our Guide to Accessible Documents: <http://bit.ly/2ta2sYy>
- Join the Age-friendly Forum on June 23. Learn about planning for an aging population in Peterborough. Register: <https://tinyurl.com/yckx99ve>
- It's National AccessAbility Week! What does accessibility mean? "Everyone Matters. #Love". #pushforaccess
- It's National AccessAbility Week! What does accessibility mean to "Let's talk about mental health!" #pushforaccess
- It's National AccessAbility Week! What does accessibility mean to you? "Being defined by my ability - not my disability" #pushforaccess
- Mayor Daryl Bennett has proclaimed the week of May 29, 2017 as National Access Week. Opening Ceremonies May 29: <http://bit.ly/2qkby7g> .

Retweets:

- Zach Makes Tracks @ZachMakesTracks Aug 21 Posted route through @CityPtbo for tmrw, August 22! Come out and cheer for Zach if you can! Start 9am.
<https://zachmakestracks.ca/zachs-route/>
- Lesley Parnell @LesleyParnell Aug 3 Please retweet if you agree. A walkable & accessible city are important. We need policies and infrastructure to ensure safety for all.
- OntarioAccessibilityVerified account @ONAccessibility Jul 30 Tomorrow is the last day to give us your input on the Transportation Standards Survey. Provide your feedback:
- Peterborough Chamber @ptbochamber July 21 1 in 5 working aged ppl deal w mental illness. How can employers help? @OntarioCofC toolkit: <http://bit.ly/2uhDKbv> #strengtheningbusiness
- OntarioAccessibilityVerified account @ONAccessibility Jul 21 Getting ready to submit your #accessibility compliance report? Register for our webinar for some great tips.
- OntarioAccessibilityVerified account @ONAccessibility Jul 7 Learn about #accessible design of public spaces requirements for orgs w. 50+ employees at our webinar July 18!
- PTBOPulse @PTBOPulse Jul 6 Did you know that @PeterboroughTr1 buses are fully accessible with wide doors and no stairs, including a ramp for those that need it?
- Lesley Parnell @LesleyParnell Jun 29 @PtboRotary @PtboKawRotary Outdoor Gym at Beavermead announced today @CityPtbo Adult size, accessible , great view
- OntarioAccessibilityVerified account @ONAccessibility Jun 9 Do you use paratransit? Your input on the #accessible transportation standard is valuable. Give us your ideas
- OntarioAccessibilityVerified account @ONAccessibility Jun 6 If you take public transit, your feedback is needed on the #accessible transportation standard.
- Joelle Kovach @JoelleKovach Jun 5 Sonia Guthrie has won the Holnbeck award at City Hall for volunteering w/ppl living e/disabilities.
- PTBOMuseum&Archives @PtboMuseum Jun 2 It's National #AccessAbility Week! Here at the PMA we provide an accessible, inclusive environment for everyone #pushforaccess #ptbo
- CPD- Active Together @PTBOCPD May 29 What does accessibility mean to you? @Ptbo_Canada @chextv @ptbolibrary @CityPtbo
- Downtown Ptbo @downtownPtbo May 29 Representatives from the business community participated @PTBOCPD program to bring awareness about disabilities & universal accessibility.

- Innovation Cluster @InnovationPtbo May 29 Here at Ptbo Square - About to try the activities for the event! #NationalAccessWeek
- CPD- Active Together @PTBOCPD May 29 CPD / @CityPtbo are hosting the Accessibility Champion Awards @ptbosquare today 12:00. #PtboAccess @Terry_Guiel @wbnpptbo @ptbochamber

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:

- Special Events Manual and Application Package: Provided input on event requirements related to washrooms, parking, service animals, and included a checklist on how to make an event accessible.
- Employment Accommodation Procedure: reviewed proposed procedure to ensure alignment with AODA requirements.
- Tree Pruning/ Tree Removal door hangers: reviewed the information to ensure accessible document formatting.
- Museum Accessibility Plan: helped develop the updates to the draft Museum Accessibility Plan.
- Rotary Trail Armour Road Crossing: helped develop a concept for accessibility improvements to the trail crossing at Armour Road.
- Feasibility Study for a Major Sport and Event Centre: provided input to ensure the consultant's scope of work includes studying the economic impact of constructing a fully accessible facility capable of hosting major disability related events, outlines accessible seating requirements, outlines requirement to consult with the AAC, details vehicle drop off and accessible public consultation/document requirements.
- Trans Canada Trail, missing link at McDonnell and Park Street: visited the site with key staff to envision a preliminary concept to develop the missing trail link.
- Brealey Drive sidewalk construction post evaluation: reviewed the construction method used on the new Brealey Drive sidewalks to determine if construction technique should be recommended as a new standard. The sidewalks used a technique that minimized bumpy control joints.
- Election 2018, ward map: Provided input on how to make the ward map formatting more accessible.

Partnerships

- **Working Together employment event:** The Accessibility Office worked an information booth at the Working Together employment event held on September 20, 2017, organized by Peterborough Social Services. The event was related to awareness, access and opportunities for job seekers and business owners.
- **Peterborough Public Health:** The Accessibility Office provided a review of the Peterborough Public Health logo to assist them in their goal to improve contrast.
- **Canadian Canoe Museum:** The Accessibility Office provided an accessibility audit to help the Canadian Canoe Museum set short term goals to improve accessibility.
- **AOTS, Chemong Village housing provider:** The Accessibility Office helped the Housing Division on a video project to showcase the renovation of a two bedroom accessible housing unit.

Funding Opportunities

- **EnAbling Change:** The Government of Ontario is inviting not-for-profit organizations to submit proposals to receive funding for educational projects that promote accessibility for people with disabilities. The program goals are to increase awareness and compliance with Ontario's Accessibility Standard for the Design of Public Spaces, increase awareness of invisible disabilities and promoting the removal of attitudinal barriers, and to advance Ontario's Employment Strategy for People with Disabilities. The deadline is December 15, 2017.

[Enabling Change Program Details.](http://www.grants.gov.on.ca/GrantsPortal/en/OntarioGrants/GrantOpportunities/PRDR006997)

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Events

- **International Day of Persons with Disabilities:** The annual observance of the International Day of Disabled Persons was proclaimed in 1992, by the United Nations General Assembly resolution 47/3. The observance of the Day aims to promote an understanding of disability issues and mobilize support for the dignity, rights and well-being of persons with disabilities. It also seeks to increase awareness of gains to be derived from the integration of persons with disabilities in every aspect of political, social, economic and cultural life. The day is celebrated internationally on the third day of December.

City of Peterborough Celebration:

The focus will be on the City's commitment to accessible transit.

Date: Friday, December 1, 2017

Time: 3:30 p.m.

Location: Vacant unit in the middle of the Transit Terminal on 190 Simcoe Street.

Resources

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

- **Discover Ability Network** is a new program and online portal that will connect people with disabilities who are seeking employment directly with Ontario businesses looking to meet their talent requirements.

[Discover Ability Network](https://discoverability.network/)

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- **Ontario's Employment Strategy for People with Disabilities** – The Government of Ontario is calling employers with 20 or more employees to take action and hire at least one more person with a disability, to help about 56,000 people with disabilities gain employment and have the opportunity to help further build and enrich our business and economy.

[Ontario's Employment Strategy for People with Disabilities](http://www.ontario.ca/page/access-talent-ontarios-employment-strategy-people-disabilities)

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Submitted by,

Mark Buffone
Accessibility Compliance Coordinator

Contact Name:

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

Attachment:

Appendix A – 2017-10-13 Letter Accessibility Directorate of Ontario