



City of  
**Peterborough**

---

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

**From:** Mark Buffone, Accessibility Compliance Coordinator and  
Kathryn McLeod, Accessibility Coordinator

**Meeting Date:** March 4, 2015

**Subject:** Report AAC15-009  
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 approves the recommendation outlined in Report AAC15-009 dated March 4, 2015 of the Accessibility Compliance Coordinator and the Accessibility Coordinator as follows:

That Report AAC15-009 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**

### **AODA 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event**

In Recognition of the tenth anniversary of the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA), the Association of Municipal Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO) is organizing a series of events across Ontario and a one-time award, the AODA 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Champion Award. Peterborough was selected as one of nine cities across Ontario to host an event. The Peterborough event will be on Wednesday, April 8, 2015 at the McDonnell Street Activity Centre. Register for the event by March 31, 2015.

#### [Peterborough AODA 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event](http://www.eventbrite.ca/e/aoda-10th-anniversary-celebration-peterboro-tickets-15524534300)

([www.eventbrite.ca/e/aoda-10th-anniversary-celebration-peterboro-tickets-15524534300](http://www.eventbrite.ca/e/aoda-10th-anniversary-celebration-peterboro-tickets-15524534300))

The AODA 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event Working Group held its first meeting on Friday, February 20, 2015. The group is working to put together a brief presentation that will combine information and anecdotes to provide a snapshot of accessibility advocacy and successes in Peterborough.

### **AODA Training and the Accessible Peterborough Learning Series**

A second Accessible Peterborough Learning Series (=AP) course was launched in February 2015. Through an 8 minute Epilepsy Simulator, people learn how to help someone who is having a seizure by deciding what to do... and the fate of a young couple. The course content was provided by Epilepsy Toronto and will be updated in the near future to include closed captioning. In the interim, a transcript of the content is available in the resource section of the course window.

#### [Epilepsy Simulator](http://www.peterborough.ca/AODA/ACS-102%20Epilepsy%20Simulator/presentation.html)

([www.peterborough.ca/AODA/ACS-102%20Epilepsy%20Simulator/presentation.html](http://www.peterborough.ca/AODA/ACS-102%20Epilepsy%20Simulator/presentation.html))

### **Handi-Van Application Form**

The current Handi-Van Eligibility Application in use was created in 1990 and is out-dated. A revised Handi-Van Eligibility Application, and an accompanying booklet, has been drafted by Transit and is in the process of being reviewed by the Accessibility Office. Once the final draft is prepared, the application will be presented to the AAC Transportation Sub-Committee for their feedback. Recommended changes or additions will be considered for the final version.

### **Funding Opportunities**

The Accessibility Office actively monitors funding opportunities to improve accessibility of City services. No opportunities were pursued during the month of February.

## **Holnbeck Award**

The Call for Nominations for the 2015 Holnbeck Award has been updated and will be distributed in the first week of March. The date for the Awards Ceremony is June 8, 2015. The Ceremony will take place at the beginning of a meeting of Council. The Selection Committee will meet early in May to evaluate the nominations and select the recipient for 2015.

This year, the Call for Nominations Form will be updated to meet best practices for accessible document formatting. A fillable PDF version of the form will be posted on our website.

## **Council for Persons with Disabilities – Active Together**

The Active Together project includes a series of special events and activities which aim to increase sport and recreation opportunities and participation rates for persons with disabilities, and to encourage recreation opportunities allowing people with and without disabilities to enjoy sport and recreation together.

Upcoming events include: wheelchair basketball, March 14 to April 18, 2015 (Appendix A); sledge and skating event, March 21, 2015; and an Inclusion Conference on May 29 and Sports Expo on May 30, 2015 at Trent University.

Formal referral forms have also been created for the Active Together Ambassador program (Appendix B).

## **Accessibility Reviews: Public Spaces and Buildings**

The best way to remove barriers in public spaces and buildings is to prevent them. The Accessibility Office provides formal reviews during the planning and design stages of all City projects. Recent reviews include:

- Beavermead Campground, campsite upgrades
- Art Gallery of Peterborough mechanical upgrades and interior alterations
- Council Chamber, millwork and audio revisions to accommodate new CCTV
- West end splash pad and playground: reviewed the design build bid document
- Natural sport turf fields at Trent University: preliminary pathway discussions

## **Accessibility Reviews: Information and Communication**

To make information accessible to as many people as possible, the Accessibility Office recommends best practices for all City projects, documents and websites. Recent reviews include:

- Council Chamber: reviewed CCTV options and recommended new model
- Live stream meetings: Council, Committee of the Whole, Planning, Budget
- Holnbeck Award Nomination Form: created accessible PDF
- Peterborough Council on Aging, Age-Friendly Survey: created accessible PDF
- Official Plan, map revisions: consulted on colour contrast, alt-tags
- E-Maps Peterborough: all text revised from upper case to sentence case

### **Peterborough Council on Aging (PCOA)**

The PCOA is seeking input from community members to develop an Age-friendly Plan for the Peterborough region. The Plan will identify the needs, priorities, and service gaps of older adults and outline strategies to support active and healthy aging across the region.

A survey, open to all community members is now available online. Your input will be used to gauge how age-friendly the Peterborough region is today and what could help make it more age-friendly in the future.

If you have any questions, or require an alternative format to complete the survey please contact Sarah Cullingham, Age-friendly Coordinator, at (705) 748-8830 ext. 3227 or [scullingham@peterborough.ca](mailto:scullingham@peterborough.ca).

#### [Age Friendly Peterborough Survey](http://fluidsurveys.com/s/age-friendly-ptbo/)

(<http://fluidsurveys.com/s/age-friendly-ptbo/>)

### **Review of the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA)**

The AODA stipulates that regular reviews of the legislation must take place. Since the AODA was enacted in 2005, two independent reviews have occurred. The first review of the AODA was undertaken by Charles Beer in 2010. The second review of the AODA was completed recently by Mayo Moran and is now available online. A summary of recommendations made to the Ontario Government begins on page 55 of the latest review.

#### [The first review of the AODA](http://www.mcass.gov.on.ca/en/mcass/publications/accessibility/charles_beer/tableOfContents.aspx)

([http://www.mcass.gov.on.ca/en/mcass/publications/accessibility/charles\\_beer/tableOfContents.aspx](http://www.mcass.gov.on.ca/en/mcass/publications/accessibility/charles_beer/tableOfContents.aspx))

#### [The second review of the AODA](https://www.ontario.ca/document/legislative-review-accessibility-ontarians-disabilities-act)

(<https://www.ontario.ca/document/legislative-review-accessibility-ontarians-disabilities-act>)

### **Resources**

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

- a) A report related to the economic Impacts of increased accessibility in Ontario was published by the Martin Prosperity Institute in 2010 and is available online at the following location:

#### [Releasing Constraints: Projecting the Economic Impacts of Increased Accessibility in Ontario](http://martinprosperity.org/media/ReleasingConstraints_June22.pdf)

([http://martinprosperity.org/media/ReleasingConstraints\\_June22.pdf](http://martinprosperity.org/media/ReleasingConstraints_June22.pdf))

- b) The Kenguru is a vehicle designed specifically for people who use wheelchairs.

[The Kenguru accessible vehicle](http://www.accessiblenz.com/2014/02/this-electric-car-is-specifically-designed-for-people-in-wheelchairs/)

(<http://www.accessiblenz.com/2014/02/this-electric-car-is-specifically-designed-for-people-in-wheelchairs/>)

Submitted by,

Mark Buffone  
Accessibility Compliance Coordinator

Kathryn McLeod  
Accessibility Coordinator

Contact Names:

Mark Buffone  
Accessibility Compliance Coordinator  
Phone: 705-705-742-7777, extension 1630  
Toll Free: 1-855-738-3755  
Fax: 705-876-4607  
E-mail: [mbuffone@peterborough.ca](mailto:mbuffone@peterborough.ca)

Kathryn McLeod  
Accessibility Coordinator  
Phone: 705-705-742-7777, extension 1785  
Toll Free: 1-855-738-3755  
Fax: 705-876-4607  
E-mail: [kmcleod@peterborough.ca](mailto:kmcleod@peterborough.ca)

Attachments:

Appendix A – Wheelchair Basketball Poster  
Appendix B – Active Together Referral Form