



City of
Peterborough

To: Members of the Accessibility Advisory Committee

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

Meeting Date: April 1, 2015

Subject: Report AAC15-013
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 AAC15-013 dated April 1, 2015 of the Accessibility Compliance Coordinator and the Accessibility Coordinator as follows:

That Report AAC15-013 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 10th 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 10th 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 10th 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)

The AODA 10th Anniversary Event Working Group has been meeting regularly since February and has put together a brief presentation that combines 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)

Handi-Van Application Form

The current Handi-Van Eligibility Application 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.

There is currently an open call for proposals to receive funding from the Government of Canada for projects that improve accessibility in community facilities where services are offered to people with disabilities.

The City is eligible to submit an application for a project that would enhance access to recreational facilities. Staff are reviewing City projects to identify one initiative that might make for a strong application.

[Enabling Accessibility Call for Proposals](http://www.esdc.gc.ca/eng/disability/eaf/community.shtml)

(www.esdc.gc.ca/eng/disability/eaf/community.shtml)

Holnbeck Award

The Call for Nominations for the 2015 Holnbeck Award was 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 is currently posted on our website.

Council for Persons with Disabilities

The Council for Persons with Disabilities met on Thursday, March 19, 2015. Planning for the 2015 Inclusion Conference at Fleming College and Adaptive Sports Expo at Trent University continues. More information about both events should be available soon.

The Active Together program hosted its first wheelchair basketball event on Saturday, March 14. The event was well attended and enjoyed by all participants. Active Together also recently provided programming to both the inclusive recreation and the therapeutic recreation courses at Fleming College.

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:

- Social Services office interior renovations
- Wallis Drive/Parkhill Road West Phase 1 Reconstruction
- Accessible parking signs, installation height

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:

- Housing Division, Duty to Accommodate policy template for housing providers
- Peterborough Fire Services website
- Age-Friendly survey, newspaper advertisement
- Ontario Building Officials Association (OBOA) March 11, 2015 workshop on accessibility amendments to the Ontario Building Code (OBC)

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.

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

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

Resources

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

- a) Guides have been prepared by the Ontario Municipal Social Services Association (OMSSA) in partnership with the Government of Ontario to help make public engagement and meetings more accessible.

[Guide to Accessible Public Engagement](http://www.omssa.com/accessible-community-engagement/omssa-guides/view-the-guides/guide-to-accessible-public-engagement)

(<http://www.omssa.com/accessible-community-engagement/omssa-guides/view-the-guides/guide-to-accessible-public-engagement>)

[Guide to Conducting Accessible Meetings](http://www.omssa.com/accessible-community-engagement/omssa-guides/view-the-guides/guide-to-conducting-accessible-meetings)

(<http://www.omssa.com/accessible-community-engagement/omssa-guides/view-the-guides/guide-to-conducting-accessible-meetings>)

- b) A guide has been prepared by the Government of Ontario to help make festivals and outdoor events more accessible.

[Guide to Accessible Festivals and Outdoor Events](http://www.mcass.gov.on.ca/documents/en/mcass/accessibility/Festivals%20and%20Events%20Guide%20EN.pdf)

(<http://www.mcass.gov.on.ca/documents/en/mcass/accessibility/Festivals%20and%20Events%20Guide%20EN.pdf>)

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

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