



City of
Peterborough

To: Members of the Accessibility Advisory Committee

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

Meeting Date: June 3, 2015

Subject: Report AAC15-025
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 AAC15-025 dated June 3, 2015 of the Accessibility Compliance Coordinator and the Accessibility Coordinator as follows:

That Report AAC15-025 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 Training and the Accessible Peterborough Learning Series

April 2nd was World Autism Awareness Day. To increase awareness, two Ted Talk videos were circulated to staff. The first 6 minute video features 16 year old Rosie King who challenges the stereotypes of people with autism and contextualizes the issue by asking us, “Why be normal?” The second 15 minute video features geneticist Wendy Chung who shares the facts of what we currently know about autism.

[How autism freed me to be myself, by Rosie King](http://www.ted.com/talks/rosie_king_how_autism_freed_me_to_be_myself?language=en)

(http://www.ted.com/talks/rosie_king_how_autism_freed_me_to_be_myself?language=en)

[Autism – what we know \(and what we don’t know yet\), by Wendy Chung](http://www.ted.com/talks/wendy_chung_autism_what_we_know_and_what_we_dont_know_yet)

(http://www.ted.com/talks/wendy_chung_autism_what_we_know_and_what_we_dont_know_yet)

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.

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 met on May 4 to evaluate the nominations and select the recipient for 2015. More information about the Ceremony will be available closer to the date.

Provincial Awards

- **The Ontario Medal for Good Citizenship**

The Ontario Medal for Good Citizenship honours Ontarians who, through exceptional, long-term efforts, have made outstanding contributions to community life. The deadline for nominations is July 17, 2015.

[Ontario Medal for Good Citizenship Nomination Information](http://www.citizenship.gov.on.ca/english/citizenship/honours/goodcitizenship.shtml)

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- **The Ontario Senior Achievement Award**

The Ontario Senior Achievement Award honours people who have made an outstanding contribution to their community after age 65. The deadline for nominations is June 15, 2015.

[Ontario Senior Achievement Award Nomination Information](http://www.citizenship.gov.on.ca/english/citizenship/honours/saa.shtml)

(<http://www.citizenship.gov.on.ca/english/citizenship/honours/saa.shtml>)

- **The David C. Onley Award for Leadership in Accessibility**

The David C. Onley Award for Leadership in Accessibility recognizes Ontarians who have gone above and beyond in improving accessibility for people with disabilities. The deadline for nominations is December 3, 2015.

[The David C. Onley Award Nomination Information](http://www.citizenship.gov.on.ca/english/citizenship/honours/onley.shtml)

(<http://www.citizenship.gov.on.ca/english/citizenship/honours/onley.shtml>)

Council for Persons with Disabilities

The Council for Persons with Disabilities met most recently on Thursday, May 21, 2015.

Updates were provided on plans for the 2015 Inclusion Conference – Active Together: Inclusive Sport and Physical Recreation, which was held at Fleming College from 9:45 a.m. to 4:40 p.m. on Friday May 29, 2015.

The Active Together Coordinator also provided an update on plans for the Adapted Sports Expo at Kenner Collegiate Vocational School, which was held from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 30, 2015. The Active Together initiative has also begun to offer a program for local schools. The initial response has been quite positive with interest expressed for further bookings in September.

A general update about Access Awareness Week activities was also provided.

At its meeting of April 16, 2015, the Council for Persons with Disabilities approved its proposed strategic and operational plans, which outline key organizational priorities and plans for implementation of these priorities.

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:

- City Hall elevator refurbishment: digital panel design
- Peterborough City County Health Unit, 185 King Street
- Electronic Signage at Peterborough Memorial Centre
- Peterborough Sport and Wellness Centre, meeting room and child minding room signage
- Street closure – King Street between George Street and Water Street – sidewalk clearance

- PanAm Games Torch Relay – reviewed route and access to Del Crary Park Stage
- King Edward Park: new washroom building

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:

- Web based communication system for City of Peterborough Waste Management Division
- Ongoing consultation on draft Policy on Notice to the Public.

Resources

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

- a) A guide has been prepared by the Global Alliance on Accessible Technologies and Environments to assist organizations in understanding the accessibility standards for the design of public spaces, as set out in the Integrated Accessibility Standards regulation 191/11.

[GAATES Illustrated Technical Guide to the Accessibility Standards for the Design of Public Spaces](#)

(<http://gaates.org/resources-build-environment/>)

Submitted by,

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