Annual Status Update 2018

To the 2018-22 Joint Accessibility Plan

County of Perth

Municipality of North Perth

Township of Perth South

Township of Perth East

Municipality of West Perth

If you require this document in an alternate/accessible format, please contact accessibility@perthcounty.ca or call 519-271-0531 ext. 141.

Table of Contents

Perth County Joint Accessibility Plan Annual Status Update 2018 - DRAFT

County of Perth Joint Accessibility Plan Annual Status Update 2018

Executive Summary

This is the first Annual Status Update to the 2018-2022 County of Perth Joint Accessibility Plan, and illustrates the intentions of the County of Perth and its Member Municipalities for meeting their obligations under the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 (AODA), and for identifying, removing and preventing barriers for people with disabilities in communities across the County.

This plan was established, reviewed and updated in consultation with staff, with persons with disabilities and with the Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC).

This plan will be posted on the County's website, as well as the Member Municipalities websites, and shall be made available in an alternate format and with communication supports, upon request.

Obligations

The County of Perth and the Member Municipalities must meet the requirements under the Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2001 (ODA) and the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 (AODA). Please refer to the Multi-Year Accessibility Plan 2018-2022 for more information.

Consultation

This plan has been developed in consultation with the Perth County Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC).

Implementation

The County of Perth and its Member Municipalities support the spirit and goals of the AODA to make the Province of Ontario accessible by 2025. A commitment has been made to identify and eliminate wherever possible, all forms of barriers faced by people with disabilities, including:

- Attitudinal
- Physical
- Architectural
- Policy/Practices

- Technological
- Information and Communications
- Legislative

Structure and Governance

The Human Resources Division of the Office of the CAO, the Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC) and the Accessibility Coordinator are responsible at a corporate level for ensuring compliance to the AODA, and sharing legislative analyses and subject matter expertise. The County of Perth and each of its Member Municipalities are separately responsible for ensuring that all departments with their Municipalities are compliant with the Standards contained within the AODA. Each department is accountable for ensuring that their respective clauses are executed according to the legislative requirements to the service industry.

Informal consulting groups will be developed on an ad hoc basis for variable terms to assist in policy and procedure review and development and implementation.

This plan is subject to approval by the County of Perth Council and all Member Municipalities Councils.

Municipal Jurisdictions Participating in this Plan

The Corporation of the County of Perth

1 Huron Street
Stratford, ON N5A 5S4

Member Municipalities

The Municipality of North Perth

330 Wallace Ave N
Listowel, ON N4W 1L3

The Township of Perth East

P.O. Box 455
25 Mill Street E
Milverton, ON N0K 1M0

The Township of Perth South

3191 Road 122
St. Pauls, ON N0K 1V0

The Municipality of West Perth

P.O. Box 609
169 David Street
Mitchell, ON N0K 1N0

Key Contact

Julia Opie, Accessibility Coordinator
Corporation of the County of Perth
1 Huron Street, Stratford, ON N5A 5S4
Tel: 519.271.0531 Ext. 141
Cell: 519.301.1979
jopie@perthcounty.ca

Our Progress on the AODA Regulations

The following outlines our commitments, our progress in 2018 and new goals established for 2019-22 in meeting the accessibility standards in five key areas, all of which are part of the Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation (IASR), ON Reg. 191/11.

- Customer Service
- Information & Communications
- Employment
- Transportation
- Design of Public Spaces (and Built Environment)

There are also a number of General Requirements that apply across all of the accessibility standards.

Any updates to the IASR and any new goals established under each of the accessibility standards in the coming years will be reflected in the Annual Status Update Reports to the 2018-2022 Accessibility Plan.

General Requirements

Procurement

People with disabilities will be treated equitably with respect to the procurement, use and benefit of County services, programs, goods and facilities in a manner that respects their dignity, independence, and integration. This commitment extends to residents, employees, visitors and other stakeholders with visible and non-visible disabilities. Furthermore, the County will ensure that accessibility is integrated into all County initiatives, business practices, boards, committees, departments and divisions. Where it is not practicable to incorporate accessibility criteria and features into the procurement of goods, services or facilities, an explanation will be provided, upon request.

Reporting

Reports will be produced annually on the progress and implementation of the multi-year Accessibility Plan, and this information will be posted on our websites and will be available in alternate formats, upon request. The multi-year Accessibility Plan will be reviewed and updated once every five years. Compliance Reports will be filed bi-annually with the Accessibility Directorate by the County and the Member Municipalities, as legislated.

Training

All employees, volunteers and persons developing policies for the County of Perth and its Member Municipalities are trained on the requirements of the accessibility standards in the IASR and on the Ontario Human Rights Code as it pertains to people with

Perth County Joint Accessibility Plan Annual Status Update 2018 - DRAFT

disabilities. Persons who provide goods, services or facilities on behalf of the County must also be trained.

All members of the County and Member Municipalities Councils are trained on accessible customer service and how to interact with people with different disabilities. The Corporate Accessibility Policy is updated to reflect changes to any of the standards, and training is provided in order to ensure an understanding of any changes.

Records will continue to be maintained for training provided on accessibility, including the dates of the training and the number of individuals who attended.

Perth County Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC)

The Perth County AAC currently has nine (9) voting positions, which provide representation for each Municipality and Township within Perth County, consistent with the expectations of the Ontarians with Disabilities Act (ODA), 2001. The majority of the members are persons with disabilities. A new Organization member position was added to the Accessibility Advisory Committee in 2018, and is to be filled by the Alzheimer Society Perth County. They will represent the "voice" of the growing numbers of people with dementia across the County.

The AAC meets approximately nine times a year on the fourth Tuesday of each month (excluding July, August and December) at the Perth East Municipal Offices in Milverton, unless otherwise noted. Committee agendas and minutes are posted on the Perth County website. Members of the public are welcome at the meetings. Alternate formats of the agenda packages are available, upon request.

In addition to Accessibility Plans, the County and the Member Municipalities are required to consult with the Perth County Accessibility Advisory Committee under several of the Accessibility Standards of the IASR, and under the Municipal Accessibility Advisory Committees section of the AODA, including:

- **Transportation Standard**
  - On the proportion of on-demand accessible taxicabs required in the community;

- **Design of Public Spaces Standard**
  - On specific technical requirements for Recreation Trails;
  - On the needs of children and caregivers with various disabilities for Outdoor Play Spaces;
  - On the design and placement of rest areas along the Exterior Paths of Travel; and
  - On the need, location and design of accessible on-street parking spaces

Perth County Joint Accessibility Plan Annual Status Update 2018 - DRAFT

- **Municipal Accessibility Advisory Committees (Part VII of the AODA)**
  - **Site Plan Reviews** – Councils are required to seek advice from the committee on the accessibility for persons with disabilities to a building, structure or premises, or part of a building structure or premises for all municipally owned or leased facilities. In addition to all municipal properties, the Committee is responsible for reviewing the site plans and drawings described in Section 41 of the Planning Act that the committee selects.

Feedback

The County of Perth and its Member Municipalities welcome input from the public in order to help identify ways in which we can improve accessibility in facilities, goods and services. Members of the public are encouraged to share their comments or suggestions by contacting the Accessibility Coordinator at the County of Perth or complete the Contact Us [1] section on the County of Perth website.

Accessible formats and communication supports are available, upon request.

Phone: 519-271-0531 x 141
Email: accessibility@perthcounty.ca
Mail: Accessibility Coordinator
            Corporation of the County of Perth
            1 Huron Street
            Stratford, ON N5A 5S4

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[1]
https://www.perthcounty.ca/Modules/contact/search.aspx?s=uJRqyPbMwIWHcHH8PySJQQeQuAleQuAl

Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation Ontario (IASR)

(Ontario Regulation 191/11)

Accessible Customer Service Standard

Commitment

The County of Perth and its Member Municipalities are committed to providing equal treatment to people with disabilities with respect to the use and benefit of County services, programs, goods and facilities in a manner that respects their dignity, independence, integration and is equitable in relation to the broader public. This commitment extends to residents, employees, visitors and other stakeholders with visible and non-visible disabilities.

Progress

The Corporation of the County of Perth and Member Municipalities

Accomplishments:

The County and the Member Municipalities are meeting the requirements of the Customer Service Standard, which includes:

- Establishment of policies governing the provision of goods, services or facilities to persons with disabilities;

- Use of service animals and support persons by persons with disabilities;

- Notice of temporary disruptions to good, services or facilities used by persons with disabilities;

- Training about the provision of goods, services or facilities to persons with disabilities for staff, volunteers, policy developers, and providers of goods, services or facilities;

- Establishment of a process for receiving and responding to feedback about the manner in which they provide goods, services or facilities, ensuring that the feedback process to accessible to persons with disabilities.

- Provision of accessible formats of documents or communication supports, upon request.

Goals:

The Councils of the County of Perth and the Member Municipalities have all committed to working with the Alzheimer Society of Perth County in the roll-out of training for all front-line staff on Dementia Friendly Communities, which is anticipated to happen in 2019.

County of Perth

Accomplishments:

- o The Provincial Offences Office continues to provide American Sign Language (ASL) interpreters and Court interpreters upon request.

- o Stratford-Perth Archives continues to provide copies of documents from the collections in alternative formats at no extra cost, upon request.

- o Paramedic Services are a part of the Huron-Perth Roundtable, which involves Police, Social Services, Mental Health Services and the Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) to support identified vulnerable populations across the region.

- o Canadian National Institute for the Blind (CNIB) visited Paramedic Services in 2017 with a service dog and a deaf/blind interpreter to show Paramedics how to use the "Intervenor Kit" to communicate with people who are deaf/blind.

- o A high/low desk was moved into ES McNally Room to accommodate persons with disabilities, and as an alternative to using the podium.

Goals:

- o The Clerk's Office will be introducing new iCompass software in 2019 for the creation of agenda packages. The software meets the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.0 Level AA.

- o The Clerk's Office is exploring audio and FM systems for the Courthouse Council Chambers.

- o Paramedic Services to investigate options to accommodate bariatric patients for transport.

- o Paramedic Services to investigate options for transporting the wheelchairs of patients who rely on wheelchairs for their mobility in order to eliminate separation from their chairs while in hospital and mobility upon release from hospital. Without their wheelchairs, patients must be transported home in ambulance at their cost.

Municipality of North Perth

Accomplishments:

- o Municipal Election:
  - o Accessibility training provided to all personnel working on the election;
  - o Magnifiers were available at all election screens;
  - o Staff member signed an Oath of Assistance in order to assist people as required at Caressant Care;
  - o Greeter available at the front door in order to assist people;

- o Ballots accessible;
- o Facilities met accessibility requirements.

Township of Perth South

Accomplishments:

- o Municipal Election:
    - o Vote by mail;
    - o Size 14 font for the ballots;
    - o Municipal office open for people needing assistance;
    - o Staff available for home visits to assist upon request.

Township of Perth East

Accomplishments:

- o Municipal Election
    - o Prepared and ensured that the 2018 Municipal Election was fully accessible to all eligible electors.

Municipality of West Perth

Accomplishments:

- o Municipal Election:
    - o A Municipal Election policy was created to ensure that the Municipality met the requirements for accessibility;
    - o Internet and telephone voting was used for the municipal election, which made voting more accessible in many ways and to a wide range of voters, regardless of ability.

Information and Communications Standard

Commitment

The County of Perth and its Member Municipalities are committed to ensuring that information and communications about our goods, services and facilities are available and accessible to people with disabilities. The County and its Member Municipalities will follow universal design principles and best practices as a minimum, based upon the Ontario Human Rights Code and the Information and Communications Standard of the IASR, when developing, implementing and maintaining information and communication strategies and products. This includes website, intranet sites, communication materials, telephone communications and face-to-face interactions. If our organization determines that it is not technically feasible to convert the information or communications, or the

Perth County Joint Accessibility Plan Annual Status Update 2018 - DRAFT

technology to convert the information is not readily available, we will be obligated to provide the person who requires the information with an explanation as to why the information or communications are unconvertible, and with a summary of the unconvertible information or communications.

Progress

The Corporation of the County of Perth

Accomplishments:

- o Planning and Development Department purchased GeoCortex Software to update the County webGIS. GeoCortex Software provides enhanced access to end-users with disabilities, including full keyboard control, screen reader friendly, and other features to make mapping technology more accessible to users, regardless of their level of ability. GeoCortex Viewer or HTML5 conforms to WCAG 2.0 Level AA.

- o Emergency Management: Partnered with Stratford Beacon Herald on a 24 page supplement. Over 24,000 copies distributed and worked with Accessibility Coordinator to include an article on Emergency Preparedness for Seniors and Persons with Special Needs. Ensured that the print was suitable with larger sans serif font and high contrast.

- o CoolAid Brochure updated for accessibility.

- o Accessible formats and communication supports are available for persons with disabilities, upon request, and are responded to in a timely manner. Policies are in place to ensure that accessible formats are provided at a cost no higher than other documents available to the public. This is made clear to all employees as well as the public on any public communications, including the new County of Perth website.

- o Ongoing use of Communications Plan & Policy, which outlines guiding principles, goals and an implementation schedule for improving the quality of internal and external communications, and supporting and encouraging an engaged community, with accessibility considerations.

- o All new County employees trained on the Information and Communications Standard through online Moodle module or instructor led sessions, as applicable to their duties.

- o Ongoing use of "Administration of Social Media: Guidelines" document created for staff, including section on Accessibility.

- o Ongoing conversion of departmental templates to accessible formats

Perth County Joint Accessibility Plan Annual Status Update 2018 - DRAFT

- o Efforts to provide accessible/alternate formats at the Stratford-Perth Archives will be continued, upon request, considering new technologies for converting archival materials as they become available.

Goals:

- o Work on new Accessibility Standards Policy and Procedure Manual for the County and the Member Municipalities.
- o Emergency Management:
    - o Continue to distribute public education materials that meet accessibility standards.
    - o Consider the needs of seniors and special needs persons in all aspects of our emergency program.
- o Continue to ensure that County of Perth website, County of Perth internet and intranet websites and web content, with some exceptions, conform to Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.0 Level AA.
- o Continue to update templates for accessibility.
- o Update Accessible Documents Guidelines, and share with applicable staff across the County.

Municipality of North Perth

Accomplishments:

- o New accessible North Perth Municipal Website launched.

Goals:

- o Planning accessible documents training for new staff with focus on accessible documents on the website.
- o Continue to ensure that the Municipal internet and intranet websites and web content, with some exceptions, conform to Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.0 Level AA.
- o Continue to update templates for accessibility.

Township of Perth South

Accomplishments:

- o Updated the Township newsletter for accessibility, including larger, sans serif font.

Goals:

- o Continue to ensure that the Township internet and intranet websites and web content, with some exceptions, conform to Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.0 Level AA.
- o Continue to update templates for accessibility.

Township of Perth East

Accomplishments:

- o Ensuring that documents uploaded to the Perth East website are in an accessible format

Goals:

- o Continue to ensure that the Township internet and intranet websites and web content, with some exceptions, conform to Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.0 Level AA.
- o Continue to update templates for accessibility.

Municipality of West Perth

Accomplishments:

- o Ongoing conversion of departmental templates to accessible formats.

Goals:

- o Accessible Documents training for new staff.
- o Subscription-based, accessible newsletter.Continue to ensure that the Municipal internet and intranet websites and web content, with some exceptions, conform to Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.0 Level AA.
- o Continue to update templates for accessibility.

Employment Standard

Commitment & Progress

A commitment has been made by the County of Perth and its Member Municipalities to inclusive and accessible employment practices that ensure the process of finding, hiring and retaining employees who have disabilities is inclusive. The County and the Member Municipalities are all in compliance with the requirements of this standard.

There were no new requirements for the Employment Standard in 2018.

All of the requirements in the Employment Standard continue to be maintained by the County of Perth and its Member Municipalities, including those pertaining to the following:

Perth County Joint Accessibility Plan Annual Status Update 2018 - DRAFT

- Recruitment, assessment and selection

- Accessible formats and communication supports for employees

- Workplace emergency response information

- Documented individual accommodation plans

- Return to work process

- Performance management

- Career development and advancement

- Redeployment

Policies and procedures will be adjusted when the legislation is updated.

County of Perth

Accomplishments

o Have accommodated many staff throughout the year, with both permanent and temporary disabilities, in order to return to or stay at work. In each case, an individualized plan is developed.

o Created a new formalized process for accommodating injured workers and rehabilitating so they may return to work.

Goals:

o Develop a standard paragraph to be included in all training documentation; from time of scheduling of training for both internal and external programs. This will inform participants that accessible training will be made available, and encourage confidential self-disclosure/request for accommodation in advance of training, so that all can be accommodated for optimal participation.

o Work on an in-house accommodation for disability program for staff who have identified needs for accommodation during training sessions at Paramedic Services, with a focus on learning disabilities.

Transportation Standard

Commitment

The County of Perth is committed to ensuring that people with disabilities have access to accessible public transportation.

The County of Perth and its member Municipalities do not currently license any conventional, specialized or public transportation services, nor does the County license taxicabs. Of the four Member Municipalities, only the Municipalities of North and West Perth license taxicabs.

Perth County Joint Accessibility Plan Annual Status Update 2018 - DRAFT

Duties of Municipalities – Taxicabs

Progress

The Corporation of the County of Perth

The County of Perth has no obligations to meet under the Transportation Standard of the Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation (IASR), however the County is committed to ensuring that people with disabilities have information on accessible public transportation services available within the County. There is a listing of available accessible transportation services provided by organizations servicing the Member Municipalities, the City of Stratford and the Town of St. Marys, and surrounding areas within the County of Perth.

This information is all available and is maintained on the Southwest Healthline website, under "Transportation - Accessible - Huron and Perth" at the following link:

[Southwest Healthline](#) [2]

This link is provided on the County of Perth website.

Municipality of North Perth

Accomplishments:

- o By-law 166-2014 is in effect.
- o An Accessible taxi is now available in Listowel/North Perth.

Goals:

- o Planning a public meeting to determine the demand for on-demand accessible taxis in North Perth.
- o Braille was added to taxi driver's identification documents.

Municipality of West Perth

Accomplishments:

By-law 123-2012 is in effect. Any taxi company that is licensed can operate in the Municipality of West Perth, including accessible taxis. This creates a larger pool of accessible taxis for people with disabilities.

Duties of Municipalities – Specialized Transportation Services

The County of Perth and three of the Member Municipalities do not license Specialized Transportation Services for persons with disabilities. However, there are some Specialized Transportation services available within these communities, including:

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[2] http://www.southwesthealthline.ca/listServices.aspx?id=10109&region=HuronPerth

Perth County Joint Accessibility Plan Annual Status Update 2018 - DRAFT

- **VON – Easy Ride** – for residents of North Perth
- **Perth East Transportation** – for residents of Perth East

There are also Specialized Transportation Services within the City of Stratford and the Town of St. Marys, which travel to locations within the County of Perth, including:

- **Parallel Transit** – Located in the City of Stratford, but will travel to locations in Perth County
- **Easy Ride** – Located in the City of Stratford, but will travel to locations in Perth County
- **St. Marys & Area Mobility Services** – Located in St. Marys, but will travel to locations in Perth County.

Progress

Municipality of West Perth

- o **Mitchell and Area Mobility Bus** – residents of West Perth, and anyone who can show proof of eligibility in any other paratransit service in Ontario, can use this service.

Accomplishments:

- o By-law 123-2012 is in effect.
- o New accessible van was purchased by the Municipality of West Perth and delivered in 2018. Ritz Lutheran Villa operates the van, and bookings are managed by Easy Ride.

The Built Environment

Commitment

The Accessibility Standards for the Built Environment focus on removing barriers in two areas:

1. public spaces, and
2. buildings.

This will make it easier for all Ontarians — including people with disabilities, seniors and families — to access the places where they work, travel, shop and play.

As a large public sector organization, the Design of Public Spaces Standard only applies to new construction and planned redevelopment on or after January 1, 2016.

Ontario's Building Code has been amended to include enhancements to accessibility in buildings. As of January 1, 2015, new construction and renovations were subject to updated accessibility requirements.

Maintenance of Public Spaces

The County of Perth and the Member Municipalities will reasonably maintain public spaces as required under the Minimum Maintenance Standards for Municipal Highways (Municipal Act, 2011). In addition, the accessible elements of all accessible trails and playgrounds will be maintained from May to October, unless otherwise stated or posted. Elements such as external pathways (sidewalks) will be maintained year-round by the County and the Member Municipalities to ensure the safety of citizens and to prevent barriers to people with disabilities.

If a public space is temporarily disrupted or not functioning, the public will be notified in a variety of formats about the scope of the disruption.

Please refer to Appendices A through E for County and Member Municipality specific procedures for Preventative and Emergency Maintenance of Accessible Elements in Public Spaces.

Progress

The Corporation of the County of Perth

Accomplishments

- o   Installed automatic door opener at Service Ontario (5 Huron) Public bathroom

- o   Reapplied for grant for improving the ramp and stairs at 5 Huron Street

- o   Began work on creating accessible wayfinding signage for 1 Huron Street

- o   Organized an educational forum for staff and committee members on "Heritage Marrying Accessibility" to facilitate communications and an understanding of different priorities and legislated requirements for Accessibility Advisory Committees and Heritage Committees when reviewing site plans.

- o   Paramedic Services Building used for many events in the past year since it is the most accessible County building.

- o   Ongoing reviews by the Perth County Accessibility Advisory Committee of accessibility plans, recreational trails, exterior paths of travel, and site plans.

Goals

- o   Accessibility Coordinator to create a brochure for businesses across the County outlining the importance and benefits of accessibility both outside and inside of their facilities.

- o   Accessible ramp for 5 Huron Street

- o   Automatic closers for accessible bathrooms in 1 Huron

- Remodel 1 Huron level 1 bathrooms to fully accessible/gender neutral bathrooms
- Resurface 1 Huron Street parking lot and add more accessible parking
- Continue to refer to the Perth County Site Plan Design Guidelines, the Ontario Building Code and the Design of Public spaces Standard for any new construction or redevelopment.
- Installation of accessible signage throughout 1 Huron Street and other facilities
- Installation of a proper elevator at 1 Huron Street that can be independently operated to replace operator-assisted lift.
- Upgrade any accessibility needs indicated by accessibility audit conducted by accessible coordinator at 1 Huron and other County facilities.
- Ongoing reference and updates to Maintenance Procedures for the Design of Public Spaces Standard.
- Purchase of a height adjustable table/podium for County Courthouse Council Chambers.
- Add power door operator (PDO) to McNally Room A at the Paramedic Services Building.
- Consider options for better access within the County Courthouse Council Chambers.

Municipality of North Perth

Accomplishments
- Monkton Fire Station completed, and is accessible.
- Two new accessible pedestrian crossovers installed with flashing lights and audible signals.
- Master Recreation Plan completed, including accessible playgrounds and trails.
- Ongoing replacement and repair work to sidewalks incorporated into the Sidewalk Master Plan, including tactile plates.
- Riverside subdivision/Phase 2 Emerald Green – dedicated woodlots and greenspace to promote wellness and good mental health.
- Ongoing reviews by the Perth County Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC) of accessibility plans, recreational trails, outdoor play spaces, exterior paths of travel, on-street parking spaces and site plans.

Goals:

- o Continue to refer to the Perth County Site Plan Design Guidelines, the Ontario Building Code and the Design of Public spaces Standard for any new construction or redevelopment.

- o Planning on installing more pedestrian crossovers with flashing lights and audible signals.

- o New subdivision park conceptual plans to be developed incorporating accessibility standards.

- o Accessible cemetery to be built in 5-10 years.

- o To use completed accessible plans when beginning redevelopment construction of the downtown streetscapes for Atwood, Monkton and Listowel.

- o Investigation of and planning for library alternatives to replace or enhance existing facilities.

- o Planning a new accessible playground at Listowel Memorial Park.

- o Relocation of the Monkton branch of the North Perth Public Library to the Elma-Logan Recreation Complex, resolving accessibility barriers at the existing location.

Township of Perth South

Accomplishments

- o Ongoing reviews by the Perth County Accessibility Advisory Committee of accessibility plans, recreational trails, outdoor play spaces, exterior paths of travel, on-street parking spaces and site plans.

- o Replaced three standard toilets with taller, more accessible toilets at the Downie Optimist Hall.

Goals:

- o Continue to refer to the Perth County Site Plan Design Guidelines, the Ontario Building Code and the Design of Public spaces Standard for any new construction or redevelopment.

Township of Perth East

Accomplishments

- o Ongoing reviews by the Perth County Accessibility Advisory Committee of accessibility plans, recreational trails, outdoor play spaces, exterior paths of travel, on-street parking spaces and site plans.

- o Installed automatic door opener on the double doors into the Perth East Recreation Complex (PERC) arena from the tower entrance.

- o Completion of the upgrades to the microphones and sound system within the Perth East Council Chambers.

- o Installed automatic door opener on the main lobby door entering the Perth East Fire Department – Milverton Fire Station.

- o New Milverton Fire Station completed with accessible design considerations and having consulted with the Perth County Accessibility Advisory Committee.

- o Removed the carpet in the training/meeting room of the Sebringville Fire Station to make more accessible.

- o Constructed accessible sidewalks in Sebringville, including the installation of Tactile Walking Surface indicators at curb depressions.

- o Liaised with the Ministry of Transportation regarding sidewalk design of the Highway 7/8 reconstruction through the Shakespeare corridor.

- o Incorporated accessible sidewalks and Tactile Surface Walking Indicators into the design of various Milverton Streets.

- o Installed accessible parking stalls in downtown Milverton.

Goals

- o Continue to refer to the Perth County Site Plan Design Guidelines, the Ontario Building Code and the Design of Public spaces Standard for any new construction or redevelopment.

- o Continue to construct sidewalks and pathways in conformance with AODA Standards.

- o Continue to liaise with the Ministry of transportation regarding the reconstruction of Highway 7/8 specifically through the Shakespeare corridor.

Municipality of West Perth

Accomplishments

- o Hired a Recreation and Leisure Services Coordinator to take the lead on many strategic initiatives identified in the Recreation and Leisure Services Master Plan, including accessible programs for seniors and people with disabilities.

- o Completed a Feasibility Study regarding new Municipal offices or a significant renovation, taking into account accessibility needs and requirements. Awaiting Council direction.

- o New concrete installed to address a trip hazard at Keterson Park.

Perth County Joint Accessibility Plan Annual Status Update 2018 - DRAFT

- o Ongoing maintenance of the accessible parts of Public Spaces, including budget for ongoing sidewalk improvements which incorporate tactile plates.
- o New accessible picnic tables were purchased for Keterson Park at the Pavillion facing the ball diamond where Challenge Ball is played weekly in Mitchell. Challenge Ball is for people with disabilities.

Goals

- o To refer to the Perth County Site Plan Design Guidelines, the Ontario Building Code and the Design of Public Spaces Standard for any new construction or redevelopment.
- o To consult with the Perth County Accessibility Advisory Committee on accessibility plans, recreational trails, outdoor play spaces, exterior paths of travel and on-street parking spaces.
- o To consult with the public and the Perth County Accessibility Advisory Committee on site plans and drawings described in Section 41 of the Planning Act that the committee selects.
- o Ongoing reference and updates to Maintenance Procedures for the Design of Public Spaces Standard.
- o Installation of a Power Door Operator at the Dublin Hall. Applied for a grant.
- o Canada's 150th Legacy Project Gazebo planned at the Lion's Park in Mitchell. Structure to be accessible.
- o New washrooms planned for 2019-22 at Keterson Park, taking into account accessibility needs and requirements.
- o New trail proposed and a new bridge at Henry/Campbell Streets. Tunnel under the bridge will include a trail that links to the Lion's park trail in order to create a loop trail.

Our Commitment to Accessibility

A commitment has been made by the County of Perth and its Member Municipalities to make accessibility in County services, programs, goods and facilities a reality. Progress to date has been and will continue to be a collaborative effort between the County and Member Municipalities. As well, the sharing of knowledge and documentation between Municipalities and other Organizations in Ontario has been invaluable, and illustrates the commitment that the people of Ontario have made to the AODA.

There is much work to be done, and we will continue to identify and remove barriers in order to create accessible spaces and services that everyone can use. Our success is dependent upon continued collaboration and feedback from the public.

Perth County Joint Accessibility Plan Annual Status Update 2018 - DRAFT

We encourage employees, residents and visitors to Perth County to share their suggestions and comments on how we might make improvements in order to create a more accessible County.

Please contact us through one of the following methods:

County of Perth Website:[3]

Phone: 519-271-0531 x 141

Mail: Accessibility Coordinator
County of Perth
1 Huron Street
Stratford, ON N5A 5S4

Email: accessibility@perthcounty.ca

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[3] https://www.perthcounty.ca/en/index.aspx

Perth County Joint Accessibility Plan Annual Status Update 2018 - DRAFT