



**The County of Brant Ontario
Annual Accessibility Plan
2013**

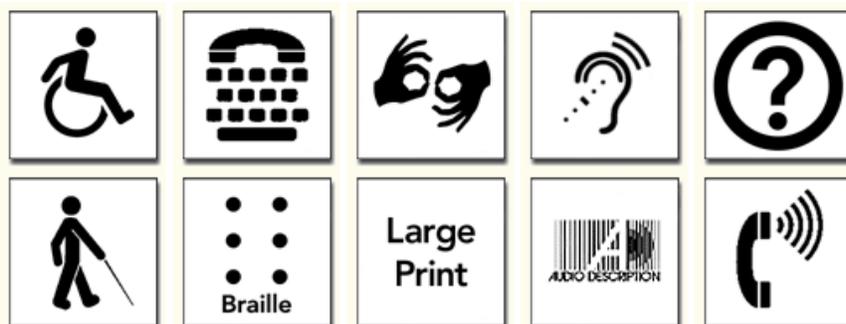


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1 Mission Statement

To promote equal opportunity and access for all persons regardless of their needs; to enhance the quality of life for those who live, work or play in the County; and to allow them to participate as fully as possible in all aspects of community life.

2 Terms of Reference/Procedure

2.1 Terms of Reference

To assist Council by reviewing, advising and making comments and recommendations on Federal, Provincial and Municipal policies, procedures and By-Laws in the interests of people with disabilities County wide within the framework of the Procedures detailed below, to deal with community issues relevant to persons with disabilities to achieve our Mission Statement.

2.2 Procedures of Committee

1. The Committee shall have a Chairperson and a Secretary.
2. The Committee will liaise with County Council through the Planning Advisory Committee and by forwarding the minutes and relevant documents to the Clerk for submission to Council.
3. The majority of the Committee is to be formed with persons who are disabled and with County staff members as resource persons from Community Services, Development Services, Corporate Services, Libraries and Public Works.
4. All public members shall be appointed by the County of Brant Council and may have staggered appointments of one, two and three year terms. There shall be a maximum of 10 members from the public not including the Chairperson or County of Brant staff.
5. The Chairperson shall be elected at every term of council.
6. The Secretary is an appointed staff member.
7. The Coordinator is an appointed staff member.
8. The Committee will review and comment on accessibility and universal design concerns related to public works, development approvals, community services and libraries.
9. The Committee will monitor all areas of the community for changes and improvements to accessibility and universal design and recommend to Council that a Certificate of Merit be presented to those recipients who accomplish this on a volunteer basis.
10. The Committee will respond to written requests from the public to review barriers for disabled persons and will conduct investigations and make

recommendations to council as to whether or not action is required to remove such barriers.

2.3 List of Committee Members

The following are representatives from the community.

Person	Position
Pat Newstead	Chair
Sherry Lawrence	Vice Chair
Drew Baird	
Jack Davis	
Jeff Weir	

Council and Staff Representatives

Person	Position
David Miller	Council Representative
Kelly Reichheld	Community Services
Kathy Ballantyne	Parks and Facilities
Lesley Head	Recreation
Eric Miles	Coordinator
Andre Gravelle	Building
Christine Scrivener	County Libraries
Sarah Hastings	Community Services
Adam Crozier	Secretary

2.4 Certificate of Merit

Members of the Accessibility Advisory Committee will review on a yearly basis private business(s) that remove barriers for persons with disabilities.

The Accessibility Advisory Committee will make recommendations to County of Brant Council to have these business(s) recognized for their efforts for improving their facilities to accommodate persons with disabilities.

A Certificate of Merit may be issued by the County of Brant Council to those business(s) in recognition of their efforts to remove barriers for persons with disabilities which they may display at their business.

3 Legislation Requirements

The following are helpful resources in understanding the legislation around human rights and legislation specific to Ontario.

Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms

<http://www.pch.gc.ca/pgm/pdp-hrp/canada/frdm-eng.cfm>

Ontario Human Rights Code

http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/statutes/english/elaws_statutes_90h19_e.htm

Ontarian's with Disabilities Act 2001

http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/statutes/english/elaws_statutes_01o32_e.htm

Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act 2005

http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/statutes/english/elaws_statutes_05a11_e.htm

Ontario Regulation 429/07 Accessibility Standards for Customer Service

http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/regs/english/elaws_regs_070429_e.htm

Ontario Regulation 191/11 (Accessible Ontarians with Disabilities Act) Integrated Accessibility Standards (Information Communications, Transportation and Employment)

http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/source/regs/english/2011/elaws_src_regs_r11191_e.htm

Accessible Ontarians with Disabilities Act

Built Environment Standards have not been released as of the date of this plan.

http://www.mcsc.gov.on.ca/en/mcsc/programs/accessibility/other_standards/builtenvironment/index.aspx (This is the Ministry web site where information on the built environment standards will be posted.)

4 Action Plan

4.1 Upgrades to Built Environment of Public Spaces

In 2011 an accessibility review of all County of Brant owned parks was undertaken. A report entitled *Accessibility Assessment Report for All County Owned Parks* was created which detailed the individual assessment of each park. This report will be used to implement the required upgrades to the Built Environment of Public Spaces in the County by 2016, as stipulated by the AODA.

4.2 Access Upgrades around the County

Every year, a budget is allocated towards making accessibility upgrades to public areas and facilities around the County. This could be the addition of accessible parking spaces in parks, improvements to washroom facilities, or the installation of pathways within public spaces. The projects will be determined through consultation between the Parks & Facilities Supervisors and the Parks and Facilities Division Manager as well as the Accessibility Advisory Committee.

4.3 Facility Accessibility Design Standard

A Facility Accessibility Design Standard (FADS) will be created which will be applied to all newly constructed, renovated or managed County of Brant facilities. This standard will be adhered to by all developers or contractors working on any facility described above.

The FADS will provide standards for universal accessibility such as sidewalk treatment, depressed curbs, lighting, parking, ramps and signage. Details on construction and planning for access will no longer be a secondary issue. It will be the forefront in community design.

The legislation presently before the Ontario Legislature provides for the establishment by the Minister for a series of committees that will set out a new set of standards that will apply to the entire Province.

Once these standards are law the Accessibility Advisory Committee will incorporate these regulations as part of the FADS.

4.4 Design Review

The Accessibility Advisory Committee will continue to review subdivision application plans; site plan control application plans and large building construction plans as well as Municipal By-Laws.

The review of these plans are strictly in regards to accessibility issues with comments being made to the planning and building department staff to ensure accessibility concerns are addressed.

This review helps to reduce or even eliminate roadblocks to persons with disabilities.

The Accessibility Advisory Committee has, and will continue to provide comments once a month on a continuous basis. It is vital that these comments be incorporated as requests by the Accessibility Advisory Committee.

4.5 Accessible Taxicabs

As per Part 4 of the IASR:

79 (1) Every municipality shall consult with its municipal accessibility advisory committee, where one has been established in accordance with subsection 29 (1) or (2) of the Act, the public and persons with disabilities to determine the proportion of on-demand accessible taxicabs required in the community.

(2) Every municipality shall identify progress made toward meeting the need for on-demand accessible taxicabs, including any steps that will be taken to meet the need, in its accessibility plan required under Part I.

The county has consulted with the Accessibility Advisory Committee and members of the public regarding the proportion of on-demand accessible taxicabs required in the community. It was determined that the current required amount (1 out of every 5, or 20%) appears to be adequate for meeting current demand, however, this issue will be studied further in 2013 to better determine the required proportion to meet the needs of all County of Brant citizens who require an accessible taxicab.

Additional information, such as dispatch calls and wait time logs will be reviewed in consultation with the Accessibility Advisory Committee. Currently, out of the 13 taxis licensed in the County, three (or 23%) are accessible. In the event that the complement of licensed accessible cabs is reduced to less than 10% of all licensed taxicabs, the County shall give consideration to amending the Taxi By-law, as required to meet the need.

In order to ensure that accessible taxicabs are available 'on-demand', the County, by January 1, 2014, shall give consideration to amending the Taxi By-law to require that every taxicab owner that has a licensed accessible taxicab, ensures that the accessible taxicab is available to provide service at all times a standard taxicab is available for service and that the accessible taxicab is dispatched in sequential order.

4.6 Communications

The Accessibility Advisory Committee has met, and will continue to meet, once a month and continues to encourage input from the public in the form of guest speakers, written correspondence and public meetings.

The Accessibility Advisory Committee has, and will continue to review all forms of communication such as brail, website access, CD format for sign language and bolder print in publications. This may include verbal tape recordings of council minutes.

Members of the Accessibility Advisory Committee will continue to be available to make presentations to interested groups within the County. They will also continue to raise community awareness about the Accessible Ontarians with Disabilities Act legislation and the importance of complying with the standards that have been developed under this Act such as the Accessible Customer Service Standard which came into effect for all businesses on January 1, 2012 and the Integrated Accessibility Standards (Information Communication, Transportation and Employment) which came into effect July 1, 2011

4.7 Training

The Accessibility Advisory Committee is interested in continuing professional development and training. Members and staff have, and will continue to attend workshops and seminars on an on going basis.

Guest speakers are always welcome to speak at the committee meetings.

Under the requirements of the Accessible Ontarians with Disabilities Act, the County developed a set of policies for accessible customer service which are taught to every employee. This training procedure was implemented on January 1, 2010.

4.8 Funding

County of Brant Council through the budget process will provide funding for the Accessibility Advisory Committee to administer on a yearly basis

4.9 List of services

Canadian National Institute for the Blind http://www.cnib.ca	1-519-752-6831
Brant Community Care Access Centre http://www.hnhb.ccac-ont.ca access@hnhb.ccac-ont.ca	1-519-759-1016
Paris Transportation Services dispatch@paristaxi.ca	1-519-442-7873
Brantford Taxi http://www.branttaxi.com	1-519-752-1010
Participation House Brantford http://www.participationhousebrantford.org	1-519-756-1430
Canadian Hearing Society Hamilton http://www.chs.ca	1-905-522-0755
Canadian Hearing Society Waterloo Region www.chs.ca/offices/waterloo office@waterloo.chs.ca	1-519-744-6811 TTY 1-519-774-6901
Alzheimer Society of Brant http://www.alzbrant.ca	1-519-759-7692
Accessibility for Ontarians with Disability Act http://www.mcass.gov.on.ca	1-866-515-2025 TTY 1-416-325-3408

5 Accomplishments

The following are the tasks undertaken by the Accessibility Advisory Committee, County of Brant Ontario.

2005

- Green Lane Park Building – Accessible Parking Area
- Town of Paris – Depressed curbs along Grand River St. at H/C Parking Spaces
- Completion of Accessibly Review of Community Centres and Halls
- Certificate of Merit issued to Pharma Plus in Paris
- New Scotland Library providing barrier free access.

2006

- Town of Paris- Depressed curbs at William and Elm Streets for access to Syl Apps Arena
- Council Chambers - New Barrier Free entrance and automatic doors.
- Mount Pleasant Community Centre - New automatic doors.

2007

- Airport Community Centre - New Barrier Free Ramp, entrance and family wash room.
- Cainsville Community Centre - New Barrier Free entrance and automatic doors.
- Paris Fire Administration Building - New automatic doors.
- New Burford Library providing barrier free access.

2008

- Margaret Graham Memorial Chapel (Paris Cemetery) – New Barrier Free public washrooms and automatic doors.
- Burford Arena- New Barrier Free Stair Lift.
- Certificate of Merit issued to Maranatha Baptist Church, Landsdown Children Center, Paris High School & St. Paul's United Church
- St. George - Snowball Park access ramp
- Burford Arena – New automatic doors

2009

- Council Chamber upgrades, screens for skylights and power operated doors for washrooms.
- Power operated doors for Paris Library washrooms.
- Purchase 10 inclusive picnic tables for various parks within the county.
- Certificate of Merit issued to Sacred Heart School, the St. George United Church and Tim Horton's located on Grand River Street North in Paris

2010

- South Dumfries Community Centre upgraded providing full barrier free access
- Certificate of Merit issued to Cobblestone Elementary School, Paris Dental Centre (Smile City), Paris Jewelers and all of the County of Brant Libraries

2011

- All County owned parks reviewed for accessibility and compiled into a report for Council regarding required upgrades
- Accessible Parks Design Standard manual was created - First draft completed
- Burford Arena and Community Centre upgraded providing full barrier free access
- Paris Public Library – New barrier free toilets and sinks were installed in the washrooms
- Certificate of Merit issued to Tim Horton's on Rest Acres Road in Paris, Harvey's in Paris, Swiss Chalet in Paris, the County of Brant Community Centres in Burford and South Dumfries, and the Brant Sports Complex in Paris

2012

- Syl Apps Arena, Paris - Power Assist door openers installed
- Community Services Office opened, Paris – Accessible ramp and power assist door opener
- Two accessible audio systems were purchased called Audio ToGo to be used throughout the County at public events
- Certificate of Merit issued to the Paris BMO branch, Legends Taphouse and Grill and Rest Acres Pharmacy

6 Building Inventory

Refer to attachments at <http://brant.ca/ourcounty/accessibility.shtml>

7 Parks Inventory

Refer to attachments at <http://brant.ca/ourcounty/accessibility.shtml>