

2019 Annual Accessibility Report

In 2005, the Ontario government passed the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act* (AODA) with the objective of improving accessibility for Ontarians by identifying, removing and preventing barriers faced by persons with disabilities by 2025.

A requirement under the *Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulations* (IASR) is the annual reporting of the measures taken by the County to remove barriers and improve accessibility for persons with disabilities, as required under the AODA.

The Accessibility Advisory Committee advises Prince Edward County Council on what can be done to make it easier for people with disabilities to use the County's many programs and services. Committee Members come from different backgrounds and abilities. Meetings are open to the public and are held at various County facilities.

The [County's 2017-2021 Accessibility Plan](#) was approved in accordance with the requirements of the AODA and the IASR. The Plan goes beyond legislated requirements and aligns with the and aligns with the County's Corporate Strategic Priorities.

Accessibility Status Update for 2019

This annual update describes the progress and measures taken by the County to improve accessibility and implement the requirements set out in the AODA.

Accessibility Survey

The Accessibility Survey provided the Accessibility Advisory Committee with valuable information to assist with identify and assessing barriers faced by people with disabilities in Prince Edward County. The survey consisted of 16 questions which focused on accessibility, barriers, and services. The results of the survey will be provided in a report to Council in the fourth quarter of 2020.

Outdoor Play Spaces

The County requires that all outdoor play spaces are designed to provide opportunities and experiences for children and caregivers. When constructing new or redeveloping existing outdoor play spaces on municipal property, the County consults with the Deputy Clerk to ensure that accessibility provisions on the site are maintained.

Accessible Website and Web Content

The County's website follows the WCAG 2.0 Level A guidelines within the IASR. This guideline meets the requirements of the AODA website compliance standard. Training has been provided to County staff regarding developing accessible web content. The municipality is undertaking a significant refresh of its website in 2020. The updated



webpage will follow WCAG 2.0 Level AA guidelines prior to the January 1, 2021 deadline.

From the Office of the Clerk

The Corporation of the County of Prince Edward

332 Picton Main Street, Picton, ON K0K 2T0

T: 613.476.2148 x 1021 | F: 613.476.5727

clerks@pecounty.on.ca | www.thecounty.ca

The Accessibility Advisory Committee provided feedback on multiple projects in 2019 including:

- Drafting a new Terms of Reference for the Accessibility Advisory Committee
- Prince Edward County has partnered with Quinte Access to provide accessible transportation options to residents.
- Providing accessible formats and communications supports for residents upon request.

Accessible Customer Service

The Accessible Customer Service procedure is designed to address the accessible customer service standards outlined under the IASR of the AODA. New staff receive training on the service standards during the Town's onboarding process.

CONCLUSION

As required under the AODA, the County's Annual Status Update outlines the actions taken to comply with the requirements from January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019. This update reinforces the County's commitment to accessibility and creating a community that is accessible and inclusive for persons of all abilities.

As required by the IASR the annual report will be posted publicly on the County's accessibility webpage.