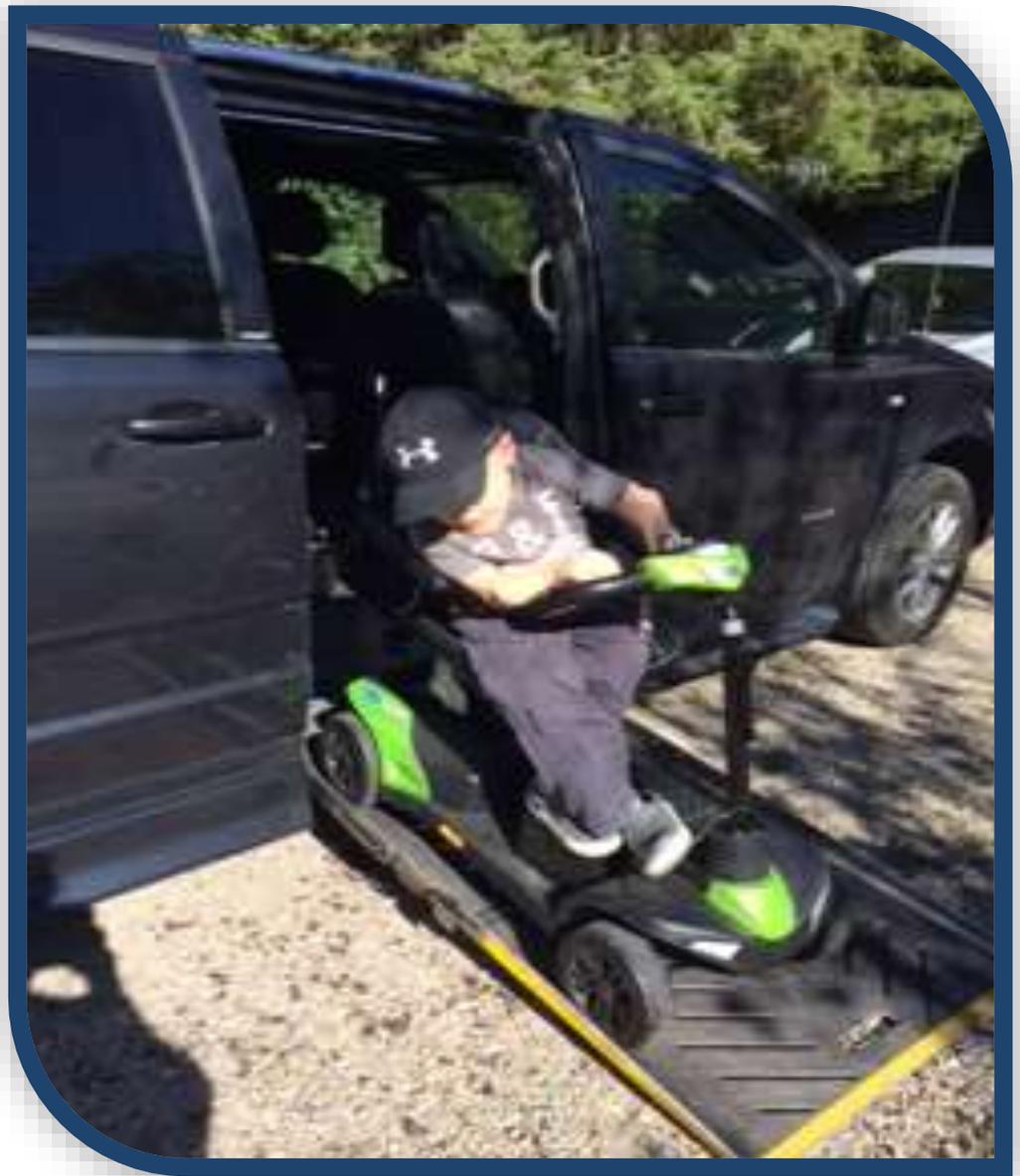




# 2016 Annual Accessibility Plan



**Sandra Thompson,  
Wheeling and Able**

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



The Huron County Accessibility Advisory Committee is an established community resource that creates, develops and implements the objectives of Huron County be it mandated by legislation or inspired by local community groups and people from across Huron County sharing the vision of Huron County's Accessibility Advisory Committee.

It is the responsibility of the Huron County Accessibility committee to advise Huron County Council about the requirements and implementation of accessibility standards.

Since inception, the Huron County Accessibility Committee has been promoting and developing a barrier-free Municipality for citizens of all abilities including persons with disabilities. Through local media, public events, award ceremonies and speaking engagements the

Committee continues to educate and advise on accessibility issues while broadening awareness within Huron County and its lower tier municipalities.

As the provincial legislation and regulations mature, the Huron County Accessibility Advisory Committee will continue its efforts in promoting awareness, while implementing educational and training guidelines, policies and standards defined by The Ontarians with Disabilities Act.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Communication supports and accessible formats are available upon request.

For additional information, please contact:

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This report is available online at:

[http://www.huroncounty.ca/administration/acc\\_accessibilityplan.php](http://www.huroncounty.ca/administration/acc_accessibilityplan.php)

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## ONGOING GOALS

Huron County continues bettering its communities for all abilities including those with disabilities.

The Huron County Accessibility Advisory Committee (HCAAC) believes in taking action. That action today will improve tomorrow and strengthen our communities for all. By improving the quality of life for people with disabilities today we ensure access for those who face disabilities tomorrow.

The HCAAC is determined to provide Huron County businesses with the knowledge and information needed to create barrier free communities and economies.



The Huron County Accessibility Advisory Committee created three sub committees to assist with removing barriers. They are Special Events, Awareness and Community Education Sub Committee; Building Plan Review, Site Plan and Physical Architectural Sub Committee; Directive and Regulation Review Sub Committee.

The Special Events Awareness and Community Education Committee meets as required to develop and implement programs to educate agencies, businesses and the broader private sector and to plan for special events that will bring awareness to the community regarding accessibility.

This Committee will develop resources for the private sector about the AODA, Huron County's Universal Design and Accessibility Guideline for Site Plan Control, and the importance of identifying, preventing and removing barriers and challenges faced by people with disabilities.

This committee will also increase awareness and create a stronger presence in the community by developing an interactive event to participate in National Access Awareness Week

The Building Plan Review, Site Plan and Physical Architectural Sub Committee is responsible for advising Councils within 30 days on the accessibility for persons with disabilities to a public municipal building prior to purchasing, construction, renovation or lease.

This Sub Committee is responsible for drafting, periodically reviewing and updating the document titled "Huron County Universal Design and Accessibility Guidelines" and providing it to local Municipalities to assist in their review of site plans under section 41 of the Planning Act. The Committee may, if requested by a local Municipality, review a site plan under section 41 of the Planning Act to ensure facilities designed are accessible for persons with disabilities.

This Sub Committee is continually increasing site plan reviews to the public which is considered a huge success in breaking down barriers before they are made during construction of new buildings and renovations of old buildings. The word is out in Huron County on the importance of accessibility in ensuring inclusion for all.

This Sub Committee reports back to Council, advises participating municipalities and public businesses that requested a review on the accessibility of buildings, structures or premises in relation to the updated Building Codes and Huron County's Universal Design and Accessibility Guideline for Site Plan Control document. These reports will provide County staff with valuable information on items that need to be addressed during building upgrades.

The third and final Sub Committee that assists the Huron County Accessibility Advisory Committee in breaking down barriers is the Directive and Regulation Review Sub Committee.

The Directive and Regulation Review Sub Committee will review any relevant regulations and directives and identify concerns, provide solutions and provide recommendations to the Accessibility Coordinator. Ie) drafting new policies identified in IASR.

The Accessibility Coordinator will gather input from the Directive and Regulation Review Committee, the Working Group and the Senior Management Team and draft a response to the Ministry of Economic Development Employment and Infrastructure and write County Council identifying areas of concern and possible solutions and recommendations.

This Sub Committee will review the draft response and provide final feedback to the Accessibility Coordinator.

In Summary, with the implementation of the Special Events, Awareness and Community Education Sub Committee; Building Plan Review, Site Plan and Physical Architectural Sub Committee; and the Directive and Regulation Review Sub Committee, the Huron County Accessibility Advisory Committee has been very successful in removing and avoiding barriers in our communities.

## **BACKGROUND**

One in seven people in Ontario has a disability. Over the next 20 years, that number will rise as the population ages. Creating municipalities where every person who lives or visits can participate fully makes good sense — for our people, our businesses and our communities.

Although our governments have dedicated tremendous resources towards the vision of a barrier free Ontario, the reality is that persons with disabilities still face barriers which prevent them from participating in all aspects of society. As a community we must learn to see barriers as our fellow citizens with disabilities live with them.

The Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 calls on the business community, public sector, not-for-profit sector and people with disabilities or their representatives to develop, implement and enforce mandatory accessibility standards. Accessibility standards are the rules that businesses and organizations in Ontario will have to follow to prevent or remove barriers to accessibility for all citizens.

## MESSAGE FROM THE HURON COUNTY ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE'S CHAIR

### AWARENESS & ENGAGEMENT

One of Huron County Accessibility Advisory Committee's (HCAAC's) greatest strengths lies in our Committee Members, who pursue so passionately a vision of informing, educating and inspiring residents from across Huron County on making Huron County accessible for people of all abilities and ages, eventually leading to a fully inclusive society for all.

The HCAAC has continued to invest a lot of time and effort into the development of accessibility training to employees/staff of all kinds through continuous learnings on training requirements defined in the Integrated Accessibility Regulation. These learning opportunities were customized into six modules:

- Customer Service,
- General Requirements,
- Human Rights,
- Employment,
- Information & Communication, and
- Design of Public Spaces.

What training each staff is required to take is based on the job responsibilities, ex) if you are a Facilities staff you are required to take the minimum training which includes Human Rights, General Requirements and Customer Service. If you have a Management position you are required to complete all training modules.

In 2015 the HCAAC expanded training amongst Huron County Businesses. It is a goal of the HCAAC to continue to provide businesses' with training opportunities and provide training material to increase their awareness and knowledge of the Government Legislation in 2016. It is our hope to also increase engagement between HCAAC and local businesses.

### GOVERNANCE

At 2014 year-end, County Council approved the revised HCAAC Terms of Reference.

We successfully ushered in a newly elected Committee with a nice blend of energized individuals mixed with a couple experienced Committee members that have brought their past knowledge and experience to the Committee. I would like to take this opportunity to thank

those past members that contributed years of volunteering and their passion for creating an inclusive society.

Thank you.

Dave Frayne,  
Committee Chair

## **COUNTY COUNCIL (2016)**

Huron County is governed by County Council, which is made up of fifteen (15) members from area municipalities. Each municipality located within Huron County, is represented at County Council by their representatives - Mayors or Reeves, Deputy Mayors or Deputy Reeves.

At their Inaugural Session in December (every 2 years), County Council elects a Warden from among the Councilors. The Warden is the executive officer of the Corporation and the head of County Council. The Warden chairs County Council meetings, sits as an ex-officio member on all Standing Committees, and represents the County at a wide range of functions and activities.

## **HURON COUNTY ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (HCAAC)**

The Huron County Accessibility Advisory Committee is made up of 9 voting members including 5 persons with a disability as defined in the Ontarians with Disabilities Act (ODA): 1 person from professional discipline; 1 citizen representative; 1 elected official; Warden as ex-officio. The HCAAC is supported by 6 non-voting members including the chair of the ODA Working Group, 1 person from County Planning Department, 1 Municipal Building Official; Huron County CAO; the Accessibility Coordinator and the County Clerk.

Voting Members: Debbie Braun, David Burnfield, Crystal Groom, Barbara Hicks, Laurie Jacques, Charlene O'Reilly, Shawn Thomson, Paul Gowing-Warden, Dave Frayne – Chair

Non-Voting Members: Claire Dodds, Susan Cronin, Paul Gosling, Janice Hallahan, Brenda Orchard, Sandra Thompson

## MESSAGE FROM ACCESSIBILITY COORDINATOR

Dear Friends:

I am proud and honored to present to you our 2016 Annual Plan on behalf of the Huron County Accessibility Advisory Committee. Over the years I have witnessed a lot of change in society and a multitude of emerging opportunities to reduce existing barriers that prevent the disabled population from enjoying full inclusion. The HCAAC has created a vision to make Huron County accessible for people of all abilities. They articulate their vision, passionately own their vision, and are working to drive it to completion.

The HCAAC has stayed focused on achieving full compliance to the Government's legislation as deadlines approach. Successfully achieving compliance resulted in us becoming a truly engaged community partner, and continues to strengthen us as we continue on this journey of inclusion, independence, compliance and choice.

Other areas of focus are collaborating with and providing training opportunities and materials to businesses in Huron County and developing some social media avenues. HCAAC will continue to modernize our service delivery methods with investments in technology and social media tools as resources allow.

We are very proud of our successful expansion of our annual National Access Awareness Week Event and Awards Program. The guest speaker was Luca "LazyLegz"

Patuelli. There were three performances held on June 2, 2015 at the Maitland River Elementary School and F.E. Madill Secondary School in Wingham Ontario. The performances were broken down by age to ensure the different attention spans were accommodated. The first performance was for Grades PK – Grade 2, the second for Grades 3 – 6 and the third performance at F.E. Madill for all high school students from Grades 7-12. Approximately 1290 students participated in the performances. This is our largest audience by far and the most engaged audience. Luca's message of No Excuses – No Limits was heard and retained by our



youth. This event also received the most media attention we have ever had: London City TV, Wingham Advanced Times, Lucknow Sentinel, Citizen, The Focus, On-Air CKNX Interview. Our Awards portion of the event doubled in size.

We benefit from the wise members of our Committee, the strong support of our County Council and Management, the dedication of Huron County staff, and the talents and commitment of our volunteers. We thank them all. Together, we see the promise of a more inclusive society and together we will continue to deliver on our vision.

Thank you and I hope you enjoy reading our report.

Sandra Thompson  
Accessibility Coordinator

## **OUR VISION**

The Huron County Accessibility Advisory Committee will inform and inspire people from across Huron County on making Huron County accessible for people of all abilities and ages. Age-Friendly Community Planning and the removal of barriers for persons with disabilities go hand-in-hand.

## **OUR MISSION**

The Huron County Accessibility Advisory Committee will assist Huron County Council and participating municipalities to fulfill the purpose of the Ontarians with Disabilities Act and Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act by providing vision and advice to council in regards to the removal of barriers by 2025.

## **OUR MANDATE**

The authority to establish the Huron County Accessibility Advisory Committee (HCAAC) originated from the provisions of the Ontarians with Disabilities Act (ODA) and will continue to exist under the provisions of the Accessibility for Ontarians with disabilities Act.

The HCAAC is the advisory committee to Huron County Council and participating municipalities fulfilling the purpose of the ODA and the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA).



Nearly Completed Barrier Free Entry to WIngham Hospital  
Proudly designed with disabilities in mind.

## **GOALS & OBJECTIVES OF THE HCAAC**

The objective of the Huron County Accessibility Advisory Committee are revised and updated annually in November and are used as a resource that outlines the role and responsibilities of the HCAAC and also provides a monitoring tool to ensure all tasks are completed and not forgotten. (See Appendix 1) This document is divided into two sections:

- Objectives mandated by legislation under the requirements of the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act,2005 (AODA) and the Integrated Accessibility Standard (IASR)

- Objectives driven by communities to accomplish the committee's vision of informing and inspiring people from across Huron County on making Huron County accessible for people of all abilities.

## LAST YEAR'S GOALS

- Under the requirements of the Ontarians with Disability Act 2001, the HCAAC continued to create and post a Multi-Year Accessibility Plan and an Annual Accessibility Plan that contains the goals of Huron County and last year's successes.
- Under the requirements of both the ODA and the AODA, the HCAAC continued to review, in a timely manner and advise municipalities, local businesses and County Council on the accessibility of building plans and drawings for renovation and new construction, and the purchase or lease of public buildings as well as review exterior site plans as requested.
- The HCAAC received approval from County Council to use the document -Illustrated Technical Guide to the Accessibility Standard for the Design of Public Spaces developed by the Global Alliance on Accessible Technologies and Environments (GAATES) and supported by the Ontario Government as the main staff resource. This document was very well done and incorporates both site plan and design of public spaces requirements.
- Provided advice to County Council and participating municipalities with respect to government directives and regulations relating to the status of persons with disabilities including regulations for the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 and more specifically the Integrated Accessibility Standard Regulation. The HCAAC will continue to provide advice and direction to Huron County Council on obtaining full compliance within timelines set out in the Regulation.
- The Committee continued to enhance relationships with County Council, local municipalities, businesses, the Huron Perth Catholic District School Board and the Avon Maitland District School Board.
- Continued to incorporate and enhance an annual awards program in conjunction with National Access Awareness Week to celebrate organizations and individuals who are working to build a more inclusive society. The award is to promote public awareness of the importance of barrier-free design and to recognize excellence in accessibility design.
- To increase awareness and create a stronger presence in the community, the Committee continued to host the National Access Awareness Week Celebration with this year's goal bringing more than one school together for the event.

- The Committee will keep Huron County Building Officials updated on "new" legislation with regards to the built environment, public spaces and site plans.

## 2015 ACHIEVEMENTS

The Huron County Accessibility Advisory Committee has worked diligently to achieve the goals defined within the approved plan. Recognized achievements include:

- **Accessibility Plans:** The County of Huron has created an Annual Accessibility Plan under the Ontarians with Disabilities Act 2001 and a Multi-Year Accessibility Plan update under the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act 2005, with annual updates on successes. The County of Huron has completed both requirements with the documents approved by County Council at the December 2015 County Council meeting.
- **Site Plan Reviews:** The Huron County Accessibility Advisory Committee has been actively engaged with county staff as well as private businesses and organizations in conducting Site Plan Reviews in a timely fashion. The committee believes public awareness will continue to stimulate community participation and the sub-committee's time and commitment.
- **Government Directives and Regulations:** The Accessibility Advisory Committee has provided updates and advice about new government directives and regulations to County Council and the Working Group. The Working Group is made up of one volunteer/staff member from each lower tier. Each member of the group reports back to and shares newly developed resources and material approved by County Council to their Mayor/Councillors.
- **Continued Relations with County Council, Lower Tiers and Businesses:** The Committee has reached out to the community. Aside from regular Council updates shared by County council representatives with their respective municipalities the committee has contacted lower tiers and private business to participate in committee organized awareness events and various speaking engagements with a noticeable increase in Councillor participation in community events.
- **Annual Awards Program.** The Annual Awards Program has been expanded and well received. The awards program was created to promote public awareness of the importance of barrier-free design, and to recognize excellence in accessibility design. Four awards were presented in 2015 (which is double the awards awarded in 2014) in

conjunction with National Access Awareness Week to the owner(s) of a building or facility that has been designed or renovated with special regard to accessibility for persons with a disability. Two awards will be presented to private businesses and two to public sector organizations.

- **National Awareness Week:** The HCAAC has successfully hosted its fifth National Awareness Week event in co-operation with the Avon Maitland School Board. Attendance as well as media attention continues to build awareness in our community.
- **Approval of New Resources:** The HCAAC & Huron County Council have approved the “Illustrated Technical Guide to the Accessibility Standard for the Design of Public Spaces” as the official document for Building Officials to ensure that Huron County is in compliance with the standard. The HCAAC provided each lower tier with two printed hard copies of the document (one for each Building Official and one to be kept in the office for residence to use), one copy for each of the Site Plan Review Subcommittee and 2 copies for Huron County residence to use. This additional resource can be found online at: <http://www.gaates.org/DOPS/default.php>
- Huron County’s Planning Department consulted with the HCAAC, County Council, appropriate County Staff and public businesses on Design Elements we are required to be in compliance with and when. (See Appendix 2)
- Huron County’s Planning Department received County Council approval on the revised document entitled “[Universal Design and Accessibility Guideline for Site Plan Control, 2015 Edition](#)”. In the interest of assisting municipalities in Huron County, the HCAAC committee has prepared this document, outlining standards for accessibility that can be adopted by municipal councils and implemented locally through the site plan control approval process. The HCAAC committee firmly believes that it is important to implement the same standards of accessibility throughout the province and region; as such, the 2008 guideline has been updated to be consistent with the Design of Public Spaces Standard, a standard under the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005.
- A new HCAAC was elected implementing the newly revised Terms of Reference.
- All new County staff received all required training within an appropriate time frame.
- The HCAAC was represented at Huron County’s Brochure Swap by two disabled young men who are local resident. The event proved to successful as we received

thirteen requests for business training on the regulations. This will be completed in early 2016.

## 2016 GOALS

- Under the requirements of the Ontarians with Disability Act 2001 (ODA) and the Accessibility for Ontarians With Disabilities Act 2005 (AODA), the HCAAC will continue to create and post a Multi-Year Accessibility Plan and an Annual Accessibility Plan that contains the goals of Huron County and last year's successes.
- Under the requirements of both the ODA and the AODA, the HCAAC will continue to review in a timely manner and advise municipalities and local businesses on the accessibility of building plans and drawings for renovation and new construction, and the purchase or lease of public buildings as well as review exterior site plans as requested.
- The Committee will continue to enhance relationships with County Council, local municipalities, businesses, the Huron Perth Catholic District School Board and the Avon Maitland District School Board.
- Continue to incorporate and enhance an annual awards program in conjunction with National Access Awareness Week to celebrate organizations and individuals who are working to build a more inclusive society. The award is to promote public awareness of the importance of barrier-free design and to recognize excellence in accessibility design.
- To increase awareness and create a stronger presence in the community, the Committee will continue to host a National Access Awareness Week Celebration with this year's goal bringing more than one school together for the event.
- The Committee will keep Huron County Building Officials updated on all new legislation with regards to the built environment, public spaces and site plans.
- Develop new programs to engage local businesses in developing barrier free communities. Example, One Step, a program to encourages businesses to get involved in developing barrier free communities while getting recognized in the community for their efforts and participation.
- The HCAAC will work with the County's IT Specialist by providing recommendations on making the Accessibility portion of the County's website much more user friendly.

- Develop a training package for Huron Businesses to fulfill their training request received at the Brochure Swap for an Accessibility Workshop on AODA Compliance Requirements.
- Develop a training package for Huron Business to fulfill their training request received at the Brochure Swap.
- Actively participate in the International Ploughing Match being held in Huron County in 2017 and events leading up to this event.

## **BARRIER FREE COMMUNITIES BETTER BUSINESSES AND BOTTOM LINES**

People with disabilities regularly face barriers that prevent them from working, shopping, travelling and simply living in their communities. The Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 was passed leading to the creation of five standards in accessibility in the areas of Customer Service, Information and Communication, Employment, Transportation and the Built Environment. Recognizing the leadership role of our government by passing the act in 2005 its local communities and private businesses that are now tapping into new customers while harnessing a larger, more diverse work force.

## **RETURN ON INVESTMENT**

What is the return on investment or benefits to employers for hiring people with disabilities? The following are some of the benefits as reported by employers.

Hiring people with disabilities:

- Contributes to a better rate of attendance, punctuality, employee morale, team-work and safety in the workplace.
- Often leads to a reduction in staff turnover; people with disabilities have proven to be skilled and loyal employees.
- Shows that the company values diversity and is a tangible example of good corporate citizenship.
- Increases the purchasing power for individuals with a disability and their families.

- Reflects the demographics of your community, and enhances the community's understanding of people with disabilities.
- May free up resources to complete other tasks and increase productivity.
- Allows the person with a disability to be a role model to the staff and community and others with a disability.
- May include free corporate marketing when your new employee talks about where they work.
- May require accommodations for your new employee, but the change may make your company more robust, innovative and adaptive.

## QUICK FACTS

- Improved accessibility in Ontario can help generate up to \$9.6 Billion in new retail spending and 1.6 billion in new tourism spending.
- Currently, Canadians with disabilities influence the spending decisions of 12-15 million other consumers.
- In the next 20 years, an aging population and people with disabilities will represent 40% of total income in Ontario-that being \$536 Billion
- 1 in 7 people in Ontario have a disability. That's 1.85 million Ontarians.
- By 2036, as our population ages, 1 in 5 people in Ontario will have a disability

**APPENDIX 1**

**2016 PRIORITIES FOR HURON COUNTY ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
OBJECTIVES MANDATED BY LEGISLATION:**

	<b>Priority</b>	<b>HCAAC Responsibility</b>	<b>Council Responsibility</b>	<b>Working Group Responsibility</b>	<b>Timeline Targets</b>
1	Under the requirements of the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 (AODA) and the Integrated Accessibility Standard (IAS), the County of Huron is required to establish, implement, maintain, and document a Multi-Year Accessibility Plan. The Plan outlines the organization’s strategy to identify, prevent and remove barriers for people with disabilities in the County’s programs, services, and facilities, over a five-year plan.	Huron County’s Accessibility Coordinator will review and revise the Multi 5-Year Accessibility Plan highlighting the previous year’s successes in consultation with the HCAAC and County staff annually. Once approval is obtained from County Council, the revised Multi 5- Year Accessibility Plan will be posted on the County website as directed in the Integrated Accessibility Standard (IAS).	County Council will approve the revised Multi 5-Year Accessibility Plan and send a copy to the Ministry of Economic Development, Trade and Employment as directed in the Integrated Accessibility Standard (IAS). CAO will share the plan with Senior Management Team to ensure all departments work towards implementation of the Multi 5-Year Accessibility Plan.	HCAAC Working Group Representatives will present the revised Multi 5-Year Accessibility Plan to their Councils for approval. Once approval is obtained for the revised Multi 5- Year Accessibility Plan, it will be posted on lower tier websites and will be implemented.	Multi 5-Year Accessibility Plan written every 5 years, effective January, 2013. The Multi 5-Year Accessibility Plan will be reviewed, maintained, updated and successes reported on and posted on the website annually. Council to approve by January 1st

	<b>Priority</b>	<b>HCAAC Responsibility</b>	<b>Council Responsibility</b>	<b>Working Group Responsibility</b>	<b>Timeline Targets</b>
<b>2</b>	Under the requirements of the ODA, the County of Huron is required to create and post an Annual Accessibility Plan that contains the goals of Huron County and last year's successes.	Huron County's Accessibility Coordinator will create the Annual Accessibility Plan in consultation with the HCAAC and County staff as appropriate and will present annual plan to committee by December each year.	County Council will approve and send a copy of the Annual Accessibility Plan to the Ministry of Economic Development, Trade and Employment as directed in the ODA, 2001.	HCAAC Working Group will present the Annual Accessibility Plan to their Councils for approval.	County Council will approve the Annual Accessibility Plan by January 1 each year.
	The identified goals are in alignment with the Multi-Year Plan.	Once approval is obtained from County Council, the Annual Accessibility Plan will be posted on the County website as directed in the ODA 2001.	CAO will share the plan with Senior Management Team to ensure all departments work towards implementation of the Annual Accessibility Plan.	Once approval is obtained the Annual Accessibility Plan will be posted on lower tier websites and will be implemented.	The identified goals are in alignment with the Multi-Year Plan.

	Priority	HCAAC Responsibility	Council Responsibility	Working Group Responsibility	Timeline Targets
3	<p>Under the requirements of both the ODA, 2001 and the AODA, 2005 the HCAAC must review in a timely manner and advise municipalities and businesses on the accessibility of building plans for renovation and new construction, and the purchase or lease of public buildings as well as review exterior site plans as requested. The Committee will use the Illustrated Guide of the Accessibility Standards for Outdoor Spaces produced by GAATES and supported by Ontario Government.</p>	<p>The HCAAC ~ Building Plan Review, Site Plan and Physical Architectural Assessment Committee is responsible for meeting and reviewing site plans and providing comment and recommendations in a timely manner. A motion will be presented to County Council for the Illustrated Guide of the Accessibility Standards for Outdoor Spaces by approved as the resource of choice.</p>	<p>Huron County Council is responsible for keeping appropriate lower tier staff informed of their duty to request site plan reviews with the HCAAC prior to purchasing, construction, renovation or lease.  County Council to review and approve if appropriate.</p>	<p>The Working Group is responsible for keeping appropriate lower tier staff informed of their duty to request site plan reviews with the HCAAC prior to purchasing, construction, renovation or lease.  If approved the Working Group will share the resource with building officials.</p>	<p>The HCAAC Building Plan Review Site Plan and Physical Architectural Assessment Committee will accommodate as quickly as possible, not being any longer than 30 days.  Completed</p>
4	<p>Provide advice to County Council and participating municipalities with respect to government directives and regulations relating to the status of persons with disabilities including regulations for the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005.</p>	<p>To gather comments on proposed regulations and standards, the Accessibility Coordinator will work with the Directive and Regulation Review Subcommittee. The Accessibility Coordinator will also work with staff from various departments across the County and the Working Group to further identify concerns on how the proposed regulation may be implemented.</p>	<p>The Accessibility Coordinator will prepare regular updates for County Council. The update will provide a summary of the requirements outlined in the regulations and standards and an overview of the County's readiness to meet the requirements.</p>	<p>The Working Group will provide comments and concerns with the Accessibility Coordinator on the requirements of the regulations and standards.  The Working Group will share updates with appropriate staff at their Municipality.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>

**OBJECTIVES DRIVEN BY PASSION TO ACCOMPLISH THE COMMITTEE’S VISION OF INFORMING AND INSPIRING PEOPLE FROM ACROSS HURON COUNTY ON MAKING HURON COUNTY ACCESSIBLE FOR PEOPLE OF ALL ABILITIES.**

	<b>Priority</b>	<b>HCAAC Responsibility</b>	<b>Council Responsibility</b>	<b>Working Group Responsibility</b>	<b>Timeline Targets</b>
<b>5</b>	The Committee will continue to enhance relationship with the Avon Maitland District School Board and Huron Perth Catholic District School Board and focus on the importance of changing societal stigmas associated with individuals living with a disability. The greatest change starts with our youth.	<p>The Special Events Awareness and Community Education Subcommittee will come up with joint ventures with the AMDSB.</p> <p>The subcommittee will explore options available in making next year’s National Access Awareness Week Event a school outing involving more than one school for local school children. May also consider collaborating with Perth County.</p>	County Council will be consulted with in the development stages.	The Special Events Awareness and Community Education Subcommittee will consult with the working group during development stages.	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Completed by May 2016.</p>

	<b>Priority</b>	<b>HCAAC Responsibility</b>	<b>Council Responsibility</b>	<b>Working Group Responsibility</b>	<b>Timeline Targets</b>
<b>6</b>	<p>Continue to develop greater relationships with County Council, Lower Tiers and local businesses. This will be achieved through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the development of information packages regarding new legislation</li> <li>speaking engagements at BIA meetings, lower tiers and to agencies and business by individuals with disabilities, putting a face to the issues at hand.</li> <li>regular council updates.</li> </ul>	<p>The Accessibility Coordinator will provide regular County Council updates keeping Council informed on the issues and set up speaking arrangements for Debbie, Luke and Zane Braun to speak and illustrate how important barrier free communities are.</p> <p>The Special Events Awareness and Community Education Subcommittee will develop an information package for local businesses.</p>	<p>County Council will encourage lower tiers to participate in and host a speaking engagement at one of their Council meetings.</p> <p>County Council will provide their feedback and suggestions on the content of the information packages.</p>	<p>The Accessibility Coordinator will work with the Working Group on scheduling speaking engagements at their Council Meetings.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>

	<b>Priority</b>	<b>HCAAC Responsibility</b>	<b>Council Responsibility</b>	<b>Working Group Responsibility</b>	<b>Timeline Targets</b>
<b>7</b>	<p>Continue to implement our annual awards program to celebrate organizations and individuals who are working to build a more inclusive society. The award is to promote public awareness of the importance of barrier-free design and to recognize excellence in accessibility design.</p> <p>The awards are incorporated with National Access Awareness Week.</p> <p>To increase awareness and create a stronger presence in the community, the Committee will continue to host National Access Awareness Week Celebrations.</p>	<p>The Special Events Awareness and Community Education Subcommittee will continue to implement an annual awards program recognizing one public sector organization and one private business or individual.</p>	<p>Ask County Council to have a greater presence at National Access Awareness Week celebrations.</p>	<p>Will ask Working Group to share nomination forms with County Building Inspectors as they have the greatest knowledge of who is building and/or renovating with barrier-free design being a focus.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<b>8</b>	<p>The Committee will promote the One Step Project with Municipalities.</p>	<p>The Accessibility Coordinator will set meeting dates with Municipal Council to present project.</p>	<p>No action required.</p>	<p>No action required.</p>	<p>June 2016</p>

	<b>Priority</b>	<b>HCAAC Responsibility</b>	<b>Council Responsibility</b>	<b>Working Group Responsibility</b>	<b>Timeline Targets</b>
<b>9</b>	Develop a training package for Huron Business to fulfill their training request received at the Brochure Swap.	The Special Events Awareness and Community Education Subcommittee and the Accessibility Coordinator develop a training package on our Governments Regulations.  We will explore social media options to use when providing the training.	County Council will approve the training package that is developed.	The Working Group Representatives will share the material with the Council.	Spring 2016
<b>10</b>	The HCAAC will work with the County's IT Specialist by providing recommendations on making the Accessibility portion of the County's website much more user friendly.	The Accessibility Coordinator will gather suggestions from the HCAAC Members and then meet with the County Clerk (Susan Cronin) to share thoughts and suggestions.	County Council will approve HCAAC's recommendations.	The Working Group will share our progress with their Councils.	Ongoing
<b>11</b>	Actively participate in the International Ploughing Match being held in Huron County in 2017 and events leading up to this event.	The Special Events Sub-Committee and the Accessibility Coordinator will present a request to County Council to participate.  The same Sub-Committee and the Accessibility Coordinator will develop an interactive display if County Council approves.  They will also organize volunteers to man booth.	County Council will receive request.  County Council will assist in manning the display.	Working Group will approach their Council to help man the booth.	Will start organizing in April.

NOTE: The HCCAC Objectives will be reviewed annually (November) by the Committee to assess progress and to update and add new initiatives accordingly.

## APPENDIX 2

### Development Requiring Consultation with the Huron County Accessibility Advisory Committee Under the Design of Public Spaces Standard, AODA 2005

#### Design of Public Spaces Standard, Integrated Accessibility Standards 191/11

[http://www.mcass.gov.on.ca/documents/en/mcass/accessibility/DOPS%20Guidelines%20\(short\)%20FINAL%20April%202014%20EN-s.pdf](http://www.mcass.gov.on.ca/documents/en/mcass/accessibility/DOPS%20Guidelines%20(short)%20FINAL%20April%202014%20EN-s.pdf)

#### Organization Compliance Dates

Affected Organizations	Compliance Dates
Ontario Government and Legislative Assembly	January 1, 2015
Designated <b>public sector</b> organizations with <b>50+</b> employees	January 1, 2016
Designated <b>public sector</b> organizations with <b>1-49</b> employees	January 1, 2016
<b>Private and not-for-profit</b> organizations with <b>50+</b> employees	January 1, 2017
<b>Private and not-for-profit</b> organizations with <b>1-49</b> employees	January 1, 2018

#### Development under the Design for Public Spaces Standard that require consultation with the HCAAC and the public:

Development Requiring Consultation with HCAAC	Design Elements	Page Number
<b>Recreational Trails and Beach Access Routes</b> <i>(all compliance dates apply)</i>	-Trail slope -Need for, and location of ramps on trails -Need for, location and design of: -Rest areas -Passing areas -Viewing areas -Amenities on trail -Any other pertinent feature -Consultation on Beach Access Routes NOT REQUIRED	23-24
<b>Outdoor Play Spaces</b> <i>(Private and not-for-profit organizations with 49 or fewer employees are not required to comply)</i>	-Needs of children and caregivers with various disabilities -Accessibility Features	50-51
<b>Exterior Paths of Travel</b>	-Design and placement of Rest Areas	81

<i>(Private and not-for-profit organizations with 49 or fewer employees are not required to comply)</i>		
<b>On-Street Parking</b> <i>(Only Designated Public Sector organizations of 1-49 and 50+ employees are required to comply)</i>	-Need for, location and design of accessible on-street parking spaces	99-101

The “Illustrated Technical Guide to the Accessibility Standard for the Design of Public Spaces” can be found online at: <http://www.gaates.org/DOPS/default.php>.