



ACCESSIBILITY PLAN **2011**

Section 1

1. The Plan

The purpose of the Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2001 (ODA) is to improve opportunities for people with disabilities and to provide for their involvement in the identification, removal and prevention of barriers to their full participation in the life of the Province. To this end, the ODA mandates that each Municipality prepare an annual accessibility plan.

The Ontarians with Disabilities Act 2001 requires that the accessibility plan include:

- a) a report on the measures the municipality has taken to identify, remove and prevent barriers;
- b) the measures in place to ensure that the municipality assesses its proposals for by-laws, policies, programs, practices and services to determine their effect on accessibility;
- c) a list of the by-laws, policies, programs, practices and services that the municipality will review in the coming year in order to identify barriers;
- d) the measures that the municipality intends to take in the coming year to identify, remove and prevent barriers; and
- e) make the accessibility plan available to the public.

1 (i) Obligations to Consult

The ODA specifies that organizations with annual accessibility planning obligations consult with people with disabilities or with the Accessibility Directorate of Ontario in the preparation of their plans.

Section 2

2. The Committee

Functions of the Committee

- a) Establish an accessibility working group.
- b) Commit to accessibility planning.
- c) Review recent initiatives and successes in identifying, removing and preventing barriers within the services offered by the Town of Kapuskasing.
- d) Identify (list/categorize) barriers that may be addressed in the coming year.
- e) Set priorities and develop strategies to address barrier removal and prevention.
- f) Specify how and when progress is to be monitored.
- g) Write and endorse the plan.
- h) Submit to Council for approval, implementation, publishing and communicating the plan.
- i) Review and monitor the plan.

2 (i) Structure of the Committee

The Advisory Committee for Transportation of Disabled Persons will become the Accessibility Advisory Committee. Members are appointed by Town Council.

Emilie Lemieux	Chair/Town Councillor
Patricia Simone	Co-Chair
Andre Belair	Member
Rachelle Lefebvre	Member
Brian Hachez	Member
Crystal Boulianne	Member
Bonnie Fenton	Member
Marc Dupont	Resource Person/Town Treasurer
Mark Babin	Resource Person/Accessible Bus Operator

People with disabilities are encouraged to submit their names to sit on the Committee. The Committee will ensure there will be adequate representation of people with disabilities. Consultation with people with disabilities when conducting assessments will be mandatory.

Section 3

3. Accessibility Achievements

Historical Review

Historically, the Town of Kapuskasing has had no formal process in place to identify, remove and prevent barriers to people with disabilities accessing its services. As issues arose, or barriers were identified, they were removed at the time with available resources or dealt with during planned renovations or rebuilds. In most occurrences,

the removal of barriers in the past has been a result of the Town of Kapuskasing meeting legislative requirements including those of the Provincial Building Code.

As part of the Municipality's commitment to create a caring, safe community, the municipality has already implemented a number of initiatives to make the community and our local government and services more accessible.

ACHIEVEMENTS FROM 2010 PLAN

Commitment: The Municipality of Kapuskasing will commit to maintaining the Accessibility Advisory Committee.

Action: A member of council appointed to ensure the AAC meets on a regular basis

Status: Although the year started with four new members, for various reasons, several members resigned during the year. Recruitment of new members will continue throughout the year. **ON-GOING**

Commitment: In the 2007 Plan, the Accessibility Advisory Committee along with volunteers from the disabled community reviewed all individual buildings, structures or facilities owned or rented by the Town of Kapuskasing, as identified in the plan, in order to identify additional barriers to people with disabilities and make recommendations to Council to make structures barrier free. Recommendations will be carried forward on each plan and will be removed once the issue has been resolved.

Action: Accessibility Audit Checklist identifying barriers to people with disabilities was approved by Mayor and Council and distributed to all Department Heads of the Town of Kapuskasing.

Status: The following recommendations were submitted to Council for implementation for the Civic Centre.

ENTRANCES

. A full handrail should be erected by the side entrance, eliminating the chain. **UNRESOLVED**

WASHROOMS

. Add additional coat hooks no more than 1200 mm above the floor in the accessible washrooms. **UNRESOLVED**

. Install L shape grab bar in accessible washroom on main floor. **UNRESOLVED**

. Add paper dispenser in mens washroom downstairs at a lower level to accommodate people using wheelchairs. **UNRESOLVED**

SIGNAGE

CHAIR LIFT

Commitment: Remove stair rail chair lift and replace with elevator.

Action: Chair lift removed at the Civic Centre and an elevator installed in its place, ensuring accessibility and independence for all members of the community.

Status: : Chair lift removed, elevator installed and operating.

RESOLVED

AIRPORT

PARKING

Signage for Handicap Parking spaces to be displayed on both sides.

RESOLVED

TELEPHONES

Phone and counter top to be lowered
Northern Tel was contacted and they inspected the
Height of the telephone. Height does meet code.

RESOLVED

FIRE ALARMS

Alarms to be lowered.
This is a major undertaking. Walls are constructed of
brick. Any future major renovations performed at the
Airport will incorporate this request.

UNRESOLVED

SPORTS PALACE (ARENA)

DOORWAYS

Emergency release from the outside
To be reassessed by AAC

UNRESOLVED

WASHROOM

Coat hooks no more than 1200mm above floor

UNRESOLVED

Floor to ceiling pole at front corner of sink

UNRESOLVED

Seat between 16" and 17" above floor

UNRESOLVED

Soap dispensers no more than 1200 mm above floor

UNRESOLVED

EXTERIOR WALKS

Colour contrast from curb to street.

UNRESOLVED

RAMPS

Back door does not have a ramp..

UNRESOLVED

Handrail extensions at top and bottom of ramp.

UNRESOLVED

WHEELCHAIR LIFT

Buzzer installed for staff to respond to request to use lift.

Buzzer no longer required for stair lift. The wheelchair stair lift has been removed and replaced with an elevator. Elevator has been installed and is operating. Policy for elevator key access developed and has been reviewed and accepted by AAC

RESOLVED

UNRESOLVED

CONCESSION BOOTH

Counter top to be lowered to accommodate wheelchair users.

UNRESOLVED

SIGNAGE

Colour contrast on all signage

UNRESOLVED

Tactile identification

UNRESOLVED

DRINKING FOUNTAINS

At least one to be barrier free

Drinking fountain has been removed.

RESOLVED

Front spout, 910mm above floor.

RESOLVED

FIRE ALARMS

Visual and audio signalling devices to be installed.

Note: Audio resolved, Visual on-going

UNRESOLVED

Signal from one appliance visible throughout floor area.

UNRESOLVED

RIVERSIDE WATER PARK

PARKING

Designated parking location within 30m of facility

UNRESOLVED

WASHROOM

Coat hooks and soap dispensers no more than 1200 mm above floor.

UNRESOLVED

Emergency release from outside

UNRESOLVED

Shelf over paper dispenser

UNRESOLVED

Floor to ceiling pole at front corner of sink

UNRESOLVED

SIGNAGE

Contrast colours on all signs

UNRESOLVED

DONAT BROUSSEAU POOL

TELEPHONE

Phone to be lowered

UNRESOLVED

CURLING RINK

POWER DOOR ENTRANCES

Push button to activate door to be relocated to opposite side.

RESOLVED

BOAT LAUNCH

PARKING

Area between post and metal rail is open - needs a physical barrier.

UNRESOLVED

WASHROOM

Grab bar beside toilet should be angled.

UNRESOLVED

SIGNAGE

No international sign of accessibility.

UNRESOLVED

FIXED SEATING

A seat or bench to be installed at end of rampway.

UNRESOLVED

RAILING

Railway by brick walkway onto main dock to be installed.

UNRESOLVED

EASTVIEW BALL PARK

GATE ENTRANCE

Remove or reconfigure middle bar at gate entrance to allow wheelchair and scooter access.

RESOLVED

Commitment: Assess Handi-trans bus booking system

Action: An ad-hoc committee was appointed under the AAC to review the Accessible Bus Service booking system. However, due to the non-existence of a policy manual, the AAC has directed their attention to developing a manual as the first priority before reviewing the bus booking system.

Status: A policy manual for the operation of the accessible bus has been developed and submitted to Council for approval. Over the next year, the AAC will review the bus booking system.

In an effort to meet growing demands for access to KABS, number of hours of operation for the secondary accessible bus has been increased by 6 hours per week.

ON-GOING

Commitment: Develop recommendations regarding public notices and Municipal billings.

Action: In discussion, the AAC determined that recommendations regarding public notices and Municipal billings would be included in the Accessibility Standards for Customer Service. A compliance Manual and a Customer Service Policy was created and adopted by Municipal council for municipal use. All Department Heads have received customer service training.

Front Line workers and volunteers will receive customer service training by June 2010. A majority of volunteers for the Municipality are involved with the local Lumberjack Festival and customer service training will be scheduled for the Spring of 2011.

ON-GOING

Section 4

4. Addressing Barriers

- a) The Town of Kapuskasing will use the Government of Ontario barrier-free design guidelines that promote accessibility for people with disabilities to buildings that the Municipality buys, leases, builds or significantly renovates. The barrier free design guidelines used will ensure the level of accessibility of Municipal government buildings is at least as good as or better than the level of accessibility required by the Building Code Act.
- b) Council will accommodate the employment-related accessibility needs of people with disabilities who apply for jobs with the municipal government, as required by the Human Rights Code.
- c) The Town of Kapuskasing will accommodate the accessibility needs of its employees as required by the Human Rights Code.
- d) The Town of Kapuskasing will make sure that its managers and supervisors have access to information necessary to meet the government's duties to employees with disabilities.
- f) The municipality will examine municipal services for barriers.
- g) The municipality will recommend accessibility requirements when granting business licences.

