

Multi-Year Accessibility Plan (MYAP) 2024-2029

PDS 32-2024

Planning and Economic Development Committee

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Overview

- Accessibility legislation
- Equitable Region
- Shaping the Plan
- Focus Areas of the Plan
- Implementation

Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 (AODA)

- Removal of barriers through accessibility standards:
 - Customer Service
 - Information and Communication
 - Employment
 - Design of Public Spaces
 - Transportation

Barriers to Accessibility

- Attitudes
- Physical or architectural
- Information or communications
- Technology
- Systemic or organizational

Other Legislation

- Ontario Human Rights Code
 - Disability is a protected ground under Ontario Human Rights Code
 - Code has primacy over the AODA
- Building Code
 - Minimum accessibility requirements for built environments

An Equitable Region

- Accessibility:
 - Barriers prevent full and equal participation in life for people with disabilities
 - 29 percent of people in Niagara have a disability
- Accessibility benefits everyone

Shaping the MYAP



Jan. - June

Community and staff
engagement



July - August

Engagement report
Draft MYAP



Sept. - Oct.

Corporate
Leadership Team

Accessibility
Committee
Endorsement



Dec.

PEDC
Council

Learning and sharing back

- Community
 - In person sessions
 - Survey
 - Virtual meeting
- Advisory Committees
- Staff Working Group
- Council updates – Jan, May, July (CWCD)

MYAP Six Focus Areas



General Requirements



Customer Service



Information and Communication



Employment



Design of Public Spaces



Transportation

The Plan

- MYAP based on:
 - Legislative requirements
 - Internal accessibility audits (built environment/web)
 - Regional committees, staff and community engagement
 - Best practices

Focus Area 1

General Requirements

1.1 Accessibility plan and policies

1.2 Training processes

Focus Area 2

Customer Service Barriers

2.1 Procedures and meetings

2.2 Staff training

Focus Area 3

Information and Communication Barriers

3.1 Feedback processes

3.2 Accessible information

Focus Area 4

Employment Barriers

4.1 Recruitment, hiring and accommodations

4.2 Workplace emergency response

4.3 Employee support

Focus Area 5

Design of Public Spaces Barriers

5.1 Accessible facilities project

5.2 Accessible design standards

5.3 Scent and fragrance-free spaces

Focus Area 6

Transportation Barriers

6.1 Accessible paths of travel

6.2 Conventional and Specialized Transit

- This MYAP **does not** include actions related to Niagara Transit

MYAP Implementation

- Corporate education
- Department or divisional workplan and operating budget
- Grant opportunities will be monitored
- Progress facilitated through accessibility advisor, staff working group and Accessibility Advisory Committee
- Progress and compliance reporting