

Township of Leeds and the Thousand Islands

## Accessibility For Ontarians with Disabilities Act: Integrated Accessibility Standards - Multi-Year Plan

Policy Implementation Date: By-Law 16-024, Policy Statement for Integrated Accessibility Standards for the Township of Leeds and the Thousand Islands.

The <u>Integrated Accessibility Standards Plan and Policy</u> will be available on the web site as well as at the office and we will make every attempt to make it available to those with disabilities for their perusal and review. Should a copy in Braille be requested, Council will try to accommodate by having staff contact the CNIB to inquire if it could be translated. This publication can be made available in alternative formats.





## Part 1 - General Requirements

| Section | Initiative                                    | Description  | Action  | Status (Dec 2021) |
|---------|---|--|---|-------------------|
| 3       | Establishment<br>of Accessibility<br>Policies | 3(1) Every obligated organization<br>shall develop, implement and<br>maintain policies governing how the<br>organization achieves or will achieve<br>accessibility through meeting its<br>requirements under the accessibility<br>standards referred to in this<br>Regulation. | Applicable policy, plans and bylaws posted to website   | Complete          |
| 4       | Accessibility<br>Plans                        | 4(1) Large organizations shall,<br>a) establish, implement, maintain and<br>document a multi-year accessibility<br>plan, which outlines the<br>organization's strategy to prevent and<br>remove barriers and meet its<br>requirements under this Regulation;                   | The Township is committed to the continual<br>improvement of access to municipal facilities<br>- 2021 included new play structure; complete<br>facility condition assessment (included<br>accessibility component); secured external<br>funding for office improvements | Ongoing           |
|         |   | b) post the accessibility plan on their website, if any, and provide the plan in an accessible format upon request;  | Posted and available in alternate formats   | Complete          |
|         |   | c) review and update the accessibility plan at least once every five years   | Prepare a written Integrated Accessibility<br>Standards Policy (review & update 2022/23)  | Complete          |
| 7       | Training                                      | Shall ensure that training is<br>provided on the requirements of the<br>Integrated Accessibility Standards<br>Regulation (IASR) specifically:<br>• Information and<br>Communications   | Policy development and corresponding training;<br>continual review and updating to processes  | Complete          |



| Section | Initiative | Description   | Action | Status (Dec 2021) |
|---------|------------|---|--------|-------------------|
|         |            | <ul> <li>Employment</li> <li>Transportation</li> <li>Design of Public spaces</li> <li>Customer Service.</li> </ul>  |        |                   |
|         |            | Within the customer service training, provide training specifically in:   |        |                   |
|         |            | The purpose of the Accessibility<br>for Ontarians with Disabilities<br>Act, 2005  |        |                   |
|         |            | <ul> <li>Overview of the requirements<br/>of the Customer Service<br/>Standard</li> </ul>   |        |                   |
|         |            | <ul> <li>How to interact with people<br/>with various types of disabilities</li> </ul>  |        |                   |
|         |            | <ul> <li>How to interact with people<br/>with disabilities who use an<br/>assistive device or require the<br/>assistance of a service animal<br/>or support person</li> </ul> |        |                   |
|         |            | <ul> <li>What to do if a person with a<br/>disability is having difficulty<br/>accessing your organization's<br/>goods, services or facilities</li> </ul>                     |        |                   |



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|---------|------------|--|--------|-------------------|
|         |            | <ul> <li>The Township policies on<br/>providing accessible customer<br/>service</li> </ul>   |        |                   |
|         |            | <ul> <li>The Township use of any<br/>equipment or devices available<br/>in your organization that can<br/>help to provide goods, services<br/>or facilities to people with<br/>disabilities</li> </ul> |        |                   |
|         |            | and on the Human Rights Code as it pertains to persons with disabilities.  |        |                   |

# Part II – Information & Communication Standards

| SECTION | Initiative              | Description / Requirement  | Action   | Status             |
|---------|-------------------------|--|--|--------------------|
| 11      | Feedback                | 11 (1) Every obligated organization that<br>has processes for receiving and responding<br>to feedback shall ensure that the processes<br>are accessible to persons with disabilities<br>by providing or arranging for accessible<br>formats and communications supports,<br>upon request | Customer processes completed   | Complete / Ongoing |
| 12      | Accessible<br>Formats & | 12 (1) Except as otherwise provided, every obligated organization shall upon request provide or arrange for the provision of   | Outlined in Accessible Customer Service<br>Policy (scheduled for review and update<br>2022/23) | Complete / Ongoing |



| SECTION | Initiative  | Description / Requirement   | Action   | Status             |
|---------|---|---|--|--------------------|
|         | Communication<br>Supports                             | <ul> <li>accessible formats and communication supports for persons with disabilities,</li> <li>a) In a timely manner that takes into account the person's accessibility needs due to disability; and</li> <li>b) At a cost that is no more than the regular cost charged to other persons.</li> </ul> |  |                    |
|         |   | 12 (2) The obligated organization shall<br>consult with the person making the<br>request in determining the suitability of an<br>accessible format or communication<br>support  | Process is outlined in HR Recruitment Policy<br>(scheduled for review and update 2022/23)    | Complete           |
|         |   | 12 (3) Every obligated organization shall<br>notify the public about the availability of<br>accessible formats and communication<br>supports  | Included in Accessible Customer Service<br>Policy (scheduled for review / update 2022)       | Complete / Ongoing |
| 13      | Emergency<br>Procedures,<br>Plans or Public<br>Safety | 13 (1) In addition to its obligation under<br>Section 12, if an obligated organization<br>prepares emergency procedures, plans or<br>public safety information and makes the  | Emergency Preparedness Plan can be made<br>available in an accessible format upon<br>request | Complete           |
|         |   | information available to the public, the<br>obligated organization shall provide the<br>information in an accessible format or with<br>appropriate communication supports, as<br>soon as practicable, upon request.   | Emergency communications are distributed via multi-media to enhance accessibility            |                    |



| SECTION | Initiative                             | Description / Requirement | Action  | Status   |
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| 14      | Accessible<br>Website & Web<br>Content |                           | Website is compatible to WCAG 2.0 Level AA specifications and follows best practices and legislative requirements for accessibility | Complete |



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### PART III – Employment Standard

| SECTION | Initiative  | Description  | Action  | Status   |
|---------|---|--|---|----------|
| 22      | Recruitment –<br>General                              | Every employer shall notify its employees<br>and the public about the availability of<br>accommodation for applicants with<br>disabilities in its recruitment processes  | Included in HR policy, and on all job advertisements                        | Complete |
| 23      | Recruitment,<br>Assessment or<br>Selection<br>Process | <ul> <li>23 (1) During a recruitment process, an employer shall notify job applicants, when they are individually selected to participate in an assessment or selection process, that accommodations are available upon request in relation to the materials or processes to be used.</li> <li>(2) If a selected applicant requests an accommodation, the employer shall consult with the applicant and provide or arrange for the provision of a suitable accommodation in a manner that takes into account the applicant's accessibility needs due to disability.</li> </ul> | Included in HR policy, and included in recruitment / hiring processes       | Complete |
| 24      | Notice to<br>Successful<br>Applicants                 | Every employer shall, when making offers<br>of employment, notify the successful<br>applicant of its policies for<br>accommodating employees with<br>disabilities  | The process is included in the contract of employment and orientation list. | Complete |



| SECTION | Initiative  | Description   | Action  | Status   |
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| 25      | Informing<br>Employees of<br>Supports                                 | 25 (1) Every employer shall inform its<br>employees of its policies used to support<br>its employees with disabilities, including,<br>but not limited to, policies on the<br>provision of job accommodations that<br>take into account an employee's<br>accessibility needs due to disability   | Incorporated in recruitment / orientation processes                               | Complete |
|         |   | 25 (2) Employers shall provide the<br>information required under this section to<br>new employees as soon as practicable<br>after they begin their employment   | Incorporated in recruitment / orientation processes                               | Complete |
|         |   | 25 (3) Employers shall provide updated<br>information to its employees whenever<br>there is a change to existing policies on<br>the provision of job accommodations that<br>take into account an employee's<br>accessibility needs due to disability  | Ongoing communication with existing staff to relay changes in policy              | Ongoing  |
| 26      | Accessible<br>Formats &<br>Communication<br>Supports for<br>Employees | 26.1 In addition to its obligations under<br>Section 12, where an employee with a<br>disability so requests it, every employer<br>shall consult with the employee to provide<br>or arrange for the provision of accessible<br>formats and communication supports for,<br>a) information that is needed in order to<br>perform the employee's job; | Included in HR policy; forms available for<br>employee for accommodation requests | Complete |



| SECTION | Initiative  | Description   | Action   | Status                                     |
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|         |   | b) information that is generally available to employees in the workplace  |  |  |
|         |   | 26.2 The employer shall consult with the<br>employee making the request in<br>determining the suitability of an<br>accessible format or communication<br>support  | Included in HR policy; forms available for<br>employee for accommodation requests                        | Complete                                   |
| 27      | Workplace<br>Emergency<br>Response<br>Information | 27 (1) Every employer shall provide<br>individualized workplace emergency<br>response information to employees who<br>have a disability, if the disability is such<br>that the individualized information is<br>necessary and the employer is aware of<br>the need for accommodation due to the<br>employee's disability.   | Currently, no individualized emergency plans<br>are required; regular emergency plans are<br>appropriate | Complete, but subject to<br>ongoing review |
|         |   | 27 (2) If an employee who receives<br>individualized workplace emergency<br>response information requires assistance<br>and with the employee's consent, the<br>employer shall provide the workplace<br>emergency response information to the<br>person designated by the employer to<br>provide assistance to the employee | Currently, no individualized emergency plans<br>are required; regular emergency plans are<br>appropriate | Complete, but subject to ongoing review    |
|         |   | 27 (3) Employers shall provide the<br>information required under this section as<br>soon as practicable after the employer  | Currently, no individualized emergency plans<br>are required; regular emergency plans are<br>appropriate | Complete, but subject to ongoing review    |



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|         |  | becomes aware of the need for<br>accommodation due to the employee's<br>disability  |  |  |
|         |  | <ul> <li>27 (4) Every employer shall review the individualized workplace emergency response information,</li> <li>a) When the employee moves to a different location in the organization;</li> <li>b) When the employee's overall accommodations needs or plans are reviewed; and</li> <li>c) When the employer reviews its general emergency response policies.</li> </ul> | Currently, no individualized emergency plans<br>are required; regular emergency plans are<br>appropriate | Complete, but subject to<br>ongoing review |
| 28      | Documented<br>Individual<br>Accommodation<br>Plans | 28 (1) Employers, other than employers<br>that are small organizations, shall develop<br>and have in place a written process for<br>the development of documented<br>individual accommodation plans for<br>employees with disabilities  | Forms available for employees to request an accommodation  | Complete                                   |
|         |  | <ul> <li>28 (2) The process for the development of documented individual accommodation plans shall include the following elements:</li> <li>1. The manner in which an employee requesting accommodation can participate in the development of the individual accommodation plan.</li> </ul>   | Forms available for employees to request an accommodation  | Complete                                   |



| SECTION | Initiative | Description  | Action | Status |
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|         |            | <ol> <li>The means by which the employee<br/>is assessed on an individual basis.</li> <li>The manner in which the employer<br/>can request an evaluation by an<br/>outside medical or other expert, at<br/>the employer's expense, to<br/>determine if and how<br/>accommodation can be achieved.</li> <li>The manner in which the employee<br/>can request the participation of a<br/>representative from their bargaining<br/>agent, where the employee is<br/>represented by a bargaining agent,<br/>or other representative from the<br/>workplace, where the employee is<br/>not represented by a bargaining<br/>agent, or other representative from<br/>the workplace, where the employee<br/>is not represented by a bargaining<br/>agent, in the development of the<br/>accommodation plan.</li> <li>The steps taken to protect the<br/>privacy of the employee's personal<br/>information</li> <li>The frequency with which the<br/>individual accommodation plan will</li> </ol> |        |        |



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|         |                           | <ul> <li>be reviewed and updated and the manner in which it will be done.</li> <li>7. If an individual accommodation plan is denied, the manner in which the reasons.</li> <li>8. The means of providing the individual accommodation plan in a format that takes into account the employee's accessibility needs due to disability.</li> </ul>                |  |          |
| 29      | Return to Work<br>Process | <ul> <li>29 (1) Every employer, other than an employer that is a small organization,</li> <li>a) Shall develop and have in place a return to work process for its employees who have been absent from work due to a disability and require disability-related accommodations in order to return to work; and</li> <li>b) Shall document the process</li> </ul> | Forms available for employees to develop return to work plan | Complete |
|         |                           | 29 (2) The return to work process shall,<br>a) Outline the steps the employer will<br>take to facilitate the return to work<br>of employees who were absent<br>because their disability required<br>them to be away from work; and   | Forms available for employees to develop return to work plan | Complete |



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|         |  | <ul> <li>b) Use individual documented<br/>accommodation plans, as described<br/>in Section 28, as part of the process</li> </ul>  |   |          |
| 30      | Performance<br>Management              | 30 (1) An employer that uses<br>performance management in respect of<br>it's employees shall take into account the<br>accessibility needs of employees with<br>disabilities, as well as individual<br>accommodation plans, when using its<br>performance management process in<br>respect of employees with disabilities.         | The process is included in HR Policy and performance review form. | Complete |
| 31      | Career<br>Development &<br>Advancement | 31 (1) An employer that provides career<br>development and advancement to its<br>employees shall take into account the<br>accessibility needs of its employees with<br>disabilities as well as any individual<br>accommodation plans, when providing<br>career development and advancement to<br>its employees with disabilities. | The process is included in HR Policy for Staff Training.          | Complete |