



Corporation of the Town of Hearst

2019 Annual Accessibility Status Report

The Accessibility Status Report is an annual update on the progress of the measures taken to improve accessibility and implement the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005, (AODA) and the Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation (O.Reg. 191/11).

This Status Report includes the accessibility initiatives and improvements that were completed in 2019 to implement the strategies outlined in the Town of Hearst Multi-Year Accessibility Plan. The purpose of this Status Report is to make the public aware of the Town of Hearst's progress with regards to the 2019-2023 Multi-Year Accessibility Plan.

Our Commitment to Accessibility

The Town of Hearst is committed to eliminating barriers and improving access to persons with disabilities by providing citizens with an inclusive accessible community through policies that promote dignity, independence, integration and equal opportunity for all citizens.

The Town of Hearst commits to work under the legislative frameworks of the OADA, the Ontario Human Rights Code, 1990 and other legislation to ensure compliance with accessibility standards is achieved.

Through the development of the Town of Hearst 2019-2023 Multi-Year Accessibility Plan, the Accessibility Advisory Committee identified key priorities which align with the Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulations as found in O. Reg. 191/11:

General

Consultation with Accessibility Committee for the Accessibility Plan update and adoption of the 2019-2023 plan version by Municipal Council.

Information & Communications

The Town continues to regularly post the Accessibility Committee minutes on its website.

Employment

With the hiring of a person with a disability at the Public Library, the Town consulted with said employee to implement strategies which allow her to perform her duties.

Customer Service

- New accessible design and renovations of Town Hall Reception Area.
- Purchase of floating chair for handicapped persons for use at swimming pool and/or public beach.

- Ongoing customer services training done at least twice per year (spring and fall).

Design of Public Spaces and Transportation

- On-going inspections and annual maintenance of municipal infrastructure.
- Monitoring of community transportation services to ensure accessible service; Council sets service fee to ensure fairness.
- Lights at all pedestrian crossings replaced with eye-level flashing lights.
- Installation of automatic handicap washroom door at Claude Larose Recreation Centre.
- Selection of design for new multi-generational and accessible park structure to be installed at Al Kinzey Park.
- Addition of designated handicapped parking space downtown, in front of the Public Library.

Information regarding accessibility in the Town of Hearst, including the multi-year plan can be found on the Town of Hearst website: www.hearst.ca. This information is also available in hard-copy and accessible formats, upon request.

Contact Information:

For more information, comments, questions or concerns relating to accessibility, please contact:

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