



## Corporation of the Town of Hearst

# 2021 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 2021 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:

The year 2021 having been another exceptional one considering the Covid-19 pandemic, municipal services were dramatically affected. The following tasks and projects were undertaken:

- Continuing consultations with persons with disabilities through the Hearst Accessibility Advisory Committee.
- Meetings of the Accessibility Committee were held via teleconference.
- Despite the unusual circumstances, the Town of Hearst maintained its standards and continued to accommodate those clients with special needs.
- Community bus transportation provided to persons with disabilities.

- Completion of the new multi-generational accessible play structures at Al Kinsey Park.
- Notification of available accommodations on employment offers.
- Submission of the 2021 Accessibility Compliance Report to the Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility.

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](http://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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