

Municipal Accessibility Plan

“SCHEDULE A”

NOVEMBER 2013-DECEMBER 2018

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF JOLY

Original Submitted to:

**Mayor and Council
Township of Joly**

By:

**Joanne Griffiths
Clerk Administrator Treasurer
November 2013**

Annual update Submitted to:

**Mayor and Council
Township of Joly**

By:

**Brenda Smith
Office Administrator
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Executive Summary

The purpose of the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2001 (AODA) 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 AODA mandates that each municipality prepare an annual accessibility plan.

The current accessibility report was first prepared by the Clerk Administrator Treasurer for the Township of Joly in November 2013. The report describes the measures the Township has taken in the past and the measures the Township will take in the current and future years to identify, remove and prevent barriers to people with disabilities who use the facilities and services of the Township, including staff and members of the community at large.

This year the Township committed itself to the continual improvements of access to municipal facilities and physical premises.

Aim

This report describes one measure that the Township of Joly has taken for the 2013 year and the measures that the Township will take for the 2016 year to identify, remove and prevent barriers to people with disabilities who utilize the facilities and services of the Township, including staff.

Objectives

This report:

1. Describes the process by which the Township of Joly will identify, remove and prevent barriers to people with disabilities.
2. Review earlier efforts to remove and prevent barriers to people with disabilities.
3. List the facilities, policies, practices and services the Township will review in the coming year to identify barriers to people with disabilities.
4. Describe the measure the Township will take in the coming year to identify, remove and prevent barriers to people with disabilities.
5. Describe how the Township will make this accessibility plan available to the public.

Description of the Township of Joly

The Township of Joly is located in the north of Central Ontario. The Township of Joly is bordered on the north with the Township of Laurier, the west by the Township of Strong, the south by the Town of Kearney and the east by the Township of Paxton.

The Township has a population of approximately 284 (2011 census).

The Township has a Municipal Office and a Public Works Garage as well as a public beach on Lynch Lake.

Council Commitment to Accessibility Planning

The Council of the Corporation of the Township of Joly is committed to:

1. The continual improvement of access to all municipally owned facilities, premises and services for all those with disabilities.
2. The provision of quality services to all members of the community.

The Council authorized the Clerk Administrator Treasurer to prepare an accessibility plan that will enable the Council to meet these commitments.

Prior Barrier-Removal Initiatives

In 1998 the Council authorized the building of a wheelchair ramp to make the Municipal Office accessible. There is a braille sign on the washroom door. The council chamber meeting area is now accessible to wheelchairs. A new exterior steel door has been installed that opens to the outside. The washroom is wheelchair accessible. In 2013 a municipal website was launched so that members of the public can access our municipal information on-line.

Informal Site Audit of the Municipally Owned Buildings

This year staff and council discussed municipally owned buildings and in particular to assess any barriers that may exist and with that any solutions to removing those barriers and decide what can be placed in the budget for the upcoming year.

Barrier Identification Methodologies

In order to identify barriers the following methodology was used:

Methodology: Council and staff went over the list of barriers for each municipally owned building.

Description: Each year council will look at placing monies in the budget to allow for further correction of identified barriers

Status: Each time a barrier is discussed we will ensure compliance with the Building Code.

Barriers Identified

The barriers identified are listed below. Over the next several years, Council will have to decide which barriers should be addressed each year keeping in mind budget restraints and feasibility.

Barrier	Type of Barrier	Strategy for Removal or Prevention
Space in cement slabs at top of stairs	Architectural	Fill gap with pouring mixed cement
No handicap parking spot at Municipal Office	Architectural	Have a spot designated for handicap parking at the municipal office and install a sign to signify as such.
Washroom is not handicap accessible	Physical	A soap and towel dispenser that is operable by one hand should be installed.
No handicap signage on buildings	Communication	OBC states that there is to be Accessibility Signs installed where necessary to indicate location of entrance. There should be signs indicating means of egress as well.
Tax Bills are designed so that a sight impaired person would not be able to read	Communication	Because of the legislative requirements by the Province on the wording etc., on the bills, the government will have to look at the requirements in order to also be in compliance with the Act. Tax bills can be enlarged by the photocopier for those with sight impairment.
Ways of communication to residents	Communication	Notices to the public which are in print form will be issued in a print size suitable to those with sight impairments whenever it is requested to do so.
All of Council cannot communicate to residents through electronic means	Communication	All of council now has access to a computer/the internet.
No wheelchair accessible counter	Physical	Flip up counter can be affixed to low, entrance door beside current counter

Barriers to be addressed in 2016

In 2016, budget permitting, council and staff will address the issues with the stairs, signage, washroom dispensers and wheelchair accessible counter. Council will review municipal decisions made related to by-laws, planning, building and the creation of municipal services.

Review and monitoring of the process

The council of the Corporation of the Township of Joly is committed to following through with this plan. This plan will be created annually allowing council, staff and the public to monitor the barriers identified and the direction to which the Township of Joly is moving to remove the barriers under the Ontarians with Disabilities Act.

Communication of the Plan

The plan will be available at the Township of Joly administration office and on the website. 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. In every situation staff will assist to the best of their ability.