

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LIMERICK

BY-LAW NO. 2009-16

BEING A BY-LAW TO CREATE EQUAL ACCESSIBILITY, AND TO ADDRESS THE IDENTIFICATION, REMOVAL AND PREVENTION OF BARRIERS TO PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES ENSURING ACCESS TO MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS WITHIN THE MUNICIPALITY.

WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Limerick considers it to be in the public interest of their ratepayers to adopt an equal opportunity access to designated Municipal Buildings and;

WHEREAS the Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2001 provides for a Municipality to be accessible to persons with disabilities and gives authority to the Municipality to create an equal access plan in this regard;

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the Township of Limerick does enact as follows:

- (b) That the Accessibility Plan as drawn up under Schedule "A" attached hereto and forming part of this By-Law is now in effect.
- (c) The aforementioned plan may be amended from time to time under resolution of Council.
- (d) The aforementioned plan will be posted in the Municipal Office Council Chamber as required by the Ontarians with Disabilities Act.
- (e) That this bylaw repeals By-Law No. 2008-12 and shall come into force and effect immediately upon the passing thereof.

READ A FIRST TIME THIS 06TH DAY OF OCTOBER, 2009

READ A SECOND TIME THIS 06TH DAY OF OCTOBER, 2009.

READ A THIRD TIME AND FINALLY PASSED THIS 06TH DAY OF OCTOBER, 2009.



ACTING REEVE: B. COFELL

SEAL



CLERK: B. CROCKER

Schedule "A"
To By-Law No. 2009-16

CORPORATION
OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF LIMERICK

ACCESSIBILITY PLAN

SEPTEMBER 2009

Submitted to:

Reeve and Council
Township of Limerick

Submitted by:
Bernice Crocker
Clerk Administrator

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of the Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2001 (ODA) is to improve opportunities for people with disabilities and to provide for their involvement in the identifications, removal and prevention of barriers to their full participation in the life of the Province. To this end, the ODA mandates that each Municipality prepares an annual accessibility plan.

AIM

The aim of the Accessibility Plan is to identify, remove and prevent barriers to persons with disabilities in the Township. This report describes measures that the Township of Limerick has taken for the 2009 year and the measures that the Township will take for the 2010 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 Limerick 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, programs, practices and services the Township will review in the coming year to identify barriers to people with disabilities.
4. Describe the measures the Board 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 LIMERICK

The Township of Limerick is a small rural area located in Eastern Ontario. The Town of Bancroft (formerly Dungannon Township in part) borders the Township on the north, on the west by Wollaston Township, on the east and south by Tudor & Cashel Township.

The Township is approximately 20269 hectares in area, has a population of approximately 320 persons and approximately 900 seasonal residents.

The Township has a Community Centre on Hwy 620, which is utilized by many groups and the public at large for weddings, meetings, etc. There is a public boat launch on St. Ola Lake and a public beach at Steenburg Lake. The Township Office(s) – Council Chambers is attached to the same building complex which houses the Volunteer Fire Department and the Roads Department Garage.

COUNCIL COMMITMENT TO ACCESSIBILITY PLANNING

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

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

AREAS ALREADY ADDRESSED IN PREVIOUS YEARS

Both the Municipal Building complex and the Community Centre have been wheelchair accessible for years, either with ramps and rails being installed or paved walkways to ground level doors.

The Community Centre washrooms, open areas, hallways, signs, doors, etc. have all been reviewed over past years and if a barrier was perceived to be there it was identified and addressed accordingly.

The Municipal Building complex is accessible by all, as is on ground level with no steps up or down to enter/exit. Large print is used wherever possible for notices, minutes, advertising, etc., and we have page size magnify sheets to assist the seeing impaired if required.

Council and staff realize the Disabilities Act covers many areas and forms of disabilities which most may not consider, and it is the Township of Limerick's intent to break any and all barriers wherever possible.

BARRIERS IDENTIFIED

A physical inspection of all municipally owned buildings was conducted. No barriers were identified.

BARRIERS TO BE ADDRESSED IN 2010

Council will address what should be first priority in this exercise acting accordingly, and budget for remainder of those barriers addressed to be completed in 2010. Council will look at Steenburg Lake Beach pertaining to a walkway to the outhouse and will look at whether the existing outhouse is wheelchair compatible. Council will address the same concerns at St. Ola Beach area. There will also be a continued review of all by-laws, policies and programs will continue to ensure that there are no new barriers created in the future.

REVIEW AND MONITORING OF THE PROCESS

Council is committed to following through with this plan. The plan shall be reviewed each year, thus allowing Council, staff and the public to monitor the barriers identified and the direction to which the Township is moving to remove these barriers as addressed. The Municipality will continue on an ongoing basis to consult with all parties to identify, remove and prevent barriers to persons with disabilities, as defined under the Ontarians With Disabilities Act, and which have been identified as a problem in any of Limerick Township's buildings.

COMMUNICATION OF THE PLAN

This plan 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.