

JOINT ACCESSIBILITY PLAN: 2023-2027

2023 Accomplishments



The Council of the County of Haliburton is committed and guided by the four core principles of Accessibility - Dignity, Independence, Integration and Equal Opportunity - and supports the full inclusion of persons with disabilities as set out in the *Ontario Human Rights Code* and the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005* and its Standards.

All persons deserve the right to perform the tasks of daily living within their communities while utilizing County and Municipal buildings, properties or events. The County of Haliburton and the Municipalities it includes works toward a barrier-free community with assistance and guidance from a Joint Accessibility Committee.

With the passing of the Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation (IASR) under *the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA)*, the County and its member municipalities have created a multi-year plan to assist in implementing policies, practices, procedures and training, and to identify and evaluate projects to remove barriers.

Below is a review of the 2023 successes as a result of the 2023-2027 plan.

County of Haliburton:

- ✓ Met throughout the year with the 2023-2027 Joint Accessibility Committee
- ✓ Joint Accessibility Committee developed a checklist for site plan reviews
- ✓ Remediated all PDFs available on County website and created policy to enforce only accessible PDFs posted on iCompass and County website
- ✓ New website WCAG2.0AA compliant with software platform that scans all municipal websites for accessibility issues
- ✓ Updated County's procurement policy to incorporate accessibility standards

Township of Algonquin Highlands:

- ✓ Additional training for staff on accessible document software for the remediation and creation of accessible documents
- ✓ Implementation of new Corporate website which enhanced accessibility

- ✓ Continued accessible customer service training for new employees and volunteers
- ✓ Installation of a new accessible door, lift and accessible walkway at the Stanhope library
- ✓ Job recruitment ads continue to contain information regarding the opportunity for accessible accommodation during the recruitment process
- ✓ Offers of Employment include information on accessible accommodation

Municipality of Dysart et al:

- ✓ Construction and installation of new playground featuring accessible equipment (Head Lake Park)
- ✓ Implemented online interactive mapping tools for the Dysart et al Zoning By-Law maps and the status of local planning applications
- ✓ Implemented online payments by debit card or credit card option for various municipal services and property taxation
- ✓ Provided 3,000 reusable recycling bags featuring multiple handles to residents
- ✓ Installed accessible privy (Harcourt Community Centre)

Municipality of Highlands East:

- ✓ Constructed a barrier-free washroom/shower (Cardiff Pool Change House)

Township of Minden Hills:

- ✓ Installed landing area on front entrance ramp (Minden Hills municipal office)
- ✓ Created accessible parking spaces (Minden Hills municipal office)
- ✓ Installed accessibility signage (Minden Hills municipal office)

To view the Multi-Year Joint Accessibility Plan, 2023-2027, visit [the County of Haliburton's Accessibility Page](#).

For more information, contact:

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