

TOWNSHIP OF SMITH-ENNISMORE-LAKEFIELD

DATE: October 27, 2009
TO: Reeve Millen and Members of Council
FROM: Angela Chittick, Clerk
RE: Year 7 – Joint Township and County Accessibility Plan
STATUS: For Direction

RECOMMENDATION:

That the report of the Clerk regarding the Year 7 Objectives/Work Plan – Joint Township of Smith-Ennismore-Lakefield and County of Peterborough Accessibility Plan be received for information; and that the Council of the Township of Smith-Ennismore-Lakefield adopt the Year 7 Objectives/Work Plan into the Joint County/Township Accessibility Plan (2004) as required by the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act for submission to the Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Costs related to the Committee and its initiatives are included in the approved budget. Any future capital items or other initiatives would be considered by Council during the budget process.

BACKGROUND:

The Ontarians with Disabilities Act 2001 and Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) 2005 require that Council update its accessibility plan on an annual basis. As Council is aware, the Township and the County of Peterborough have a joint Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC). The ACC is responsible for reporting to Council on the preparation, implementation and effectiveness of its accessibility plan. Annually, the Committee reviews the Accessibility Plan (updated in 2004) and develops a list of objectives for the coming year to ensure that the plan is being implemented and is effective. Last year, the Committee adopted a new format, similar to the Township's Strategic Work Plan, to identify and track its objectives. The attached work plan sets out the Committee's Year 7 objectives.

Below, please find a list of the Committee's Year 6 completed objectives:

- Site Plan/Project Review for upcoming County/Township Projects (*Plan Reference Section 6.2: Review Methodologies*)
 - Proposed expansion of the Township's Administrative Office - **complete**
 - Township/County – Applicable site plan reviews under the Planning Act – **completed 5 reviews**
 - County – Lang Pioneer Village proposed accessibility upgrades under Build Canada Grant application - **complete**

- Participation in the Holnbeck Award Selection Process (*Plan Reference Section 10.3 - Bridging the Gap – Enhancing Communications/Public Relations*)
 - AAC Chair to represented the Committee to select a recipient for the Holnbeck Award - **complete**
- Continue Outreach Efforts to Community groups/stakeholders by providing information and feedback on how to improve accessibility. (*Plan Reference Section 10.3 - Bridging the Gap – Enhancing Communications/Public Relations*)
 - Participate in the Annual Accessibility Awareness Activities held in Peterborough by the Council for Persons with Disabilities - **complete.**
 - Initiated development a pilot program to work with Warsaw Public School to deliver a “Time in My Shoes” – **in progress.**
- Review and consider impacts of future Accessibility Standards imposed under the AODA 2005 (*Plan Reference Section 7: Decisions-Making Review*)
 - Reviewed Customer Service Standard, Transportation Standard, Employment Standard, Information and Communications Standard and Built Environment Standard having regard for the impacts from these standards on County and Township policies, procedures and operations – **ongoing.**
- Work with Community Stakeholders to Understand and Promote Accessibility in Recreational Activities (*Plan Reference Section 10.3 - Bridging the Gap – Enhancing Communications/Public Relations*)
 - Curling Clubs, Sledge Hockey, Sailing etc... - **in progress**
- Townships new web site upgrade (*Plan Reference Section 10.3 - Bridging the Gap – Enhancing Communications/Public Relations*)
 - Incorporate accessible features into the Township’s new website - **complete**

Thanks are extended to the Committee members who have shown commitment and dedication in making suggestions to improve accessibility in the Township and the County. Committee members include: Michael Townsend, Thomas Campbell, Alec Denys, Councillor Karl Moher (County representative), and Anita Locke (Township representative).

The Committee looks forward to a number of County and Township initiatives planned for 2010 that will improve accessibility that include:

- lifts at the Lakefield and Ennismore Community Centres
- accessible ice surface viewing area at the Ennismore Community Centre
- expanded Municipal office with a lift to access both floors and improved accessible customer service counters
- accessible improvements at Lang Pioneer Village.

The Committee identified all of these items during site visits conducted in 2004 and 2005 and is very pleased that accessibility will be improved at these locations that are regularly used by the public.

STRATEGIC PLAN REFERENCE

Improving the accessibility of the Township's services and facilities aligns with the Strategic Plan's Quality of Life, Infrastructure Support and Organizational Excellence goals.

Angela Chittick

Prepared By: Angela Chittick
Clerk

Janice Lavalley

Reviewed By: Janice Lavalley, C.A.O.

Endorsed

Not Endorsed

**Accessibility Work Plan 2009/2010
Year 7**

Updated: October, 2009

Item	Details	Who	Timeframe/ Status
1) Site Plan/Project Review for upcoming County/ Township Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Township's Administrative Office – tour of completed structure 	AAC	Fall 2010
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bridgenorth Trail 	AAC	Oct. 2010
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accessibility Improvements – Lakefield and Ennismore Community Centres 	AAC	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development Proposals 	AAC	As required
2) Invitation to Local Businesses to Provide Feedback to Improve Accessibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On-site feedback to local businesses on practical ways a business can improve the accessibility of its services and facilities. 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Develop information piece - invitation 	Anita AAC	Q 1 2010
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Consult with Chamber to determine distribution method 	Anita	Q 2 2010
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Develop process to manage the requests – bookings, who will attend, follow-up/checklist 	Staff	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Seek support from Township and County Council on Plan 	Staff	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work in cooperation with the local Chamber of Commerce to promote information on accessibility related regulations and standards. 		
3) Participation in the Holnbeck Award Selection Process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee to participate in selection a recipient for the Holnbeck Award 	AAC Chair	April/May 2010
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Submit a nomination 	AAC	Q 1 2010

4) Continue Outreach Efforts to Community groups/stakeholders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Groups who may request assistance/resources 	AAC	On request
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Accessibility Awareness Activities held in Peterborough by the Council for Persons with Disabilities. 	AAC	May 2010
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disabled Parking Review <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review existing By-law - Consult with Police - Bring Forward recommendation to Council 	Staff AAC	Q4 2009 and Q1 2010
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a pilot program to work with local schools to deliver a "Time in My Shoes" program in the spring of 2010 with the goal of implementing in other local schools. 	Alec – lead	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Consult with Council for Persons with Disabilities 	Alec	Q4 - 2009
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Invite Warsaw Public School Principal to meeting to learn about Time in My Shoes 	Alec	Q1 – 2010
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Develop in-school program – consider grades, activities, timing, promotion 	AAC	Q1 – Q2 - 2010
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Seek support from Township and County Council on Plan 	Staff	Q2 – 2010
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Prepare, implement and deliver program 		May 2010
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Explore Partnership with the Peterborough Paraplegic Association 	Alec	
5) Review and consider impacts of future Accessibility Standards imposed under the AODA 2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accessible Communications and Information Standard • Employment Standard • Built Environment Standard 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Monitor development of the standards 	Staff AAC	Ongoing
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Develop Policies as Required 	Staff	Dependent on Enactment
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Implement Training Program as Required 	AAC	Dependent on

			Enactment
6) Work with Community Stakeholders to Understand and Promote Accessibility in Recreational Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifying Services, Curling Clubs, Sledge Hockey, Sailing etc... 	Alec	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify listing agencies – Golden Pages, Welcome Wagon, Real Estate Board 	Alec	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CHEX News at 5:30 PM 	AAC	
7) Bridging the Gap – Enhancing Communications /Public Relations Communications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> County Township web site – continue to provide feedback on information/resources that can be posted on the County and Township web sites 	AAC Staff	Ongoing
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Launch AAC Brochure 	Thomas AAC	Q1 2010
