

REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF PEEL ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE AGENDA

Meeting #:	AAC-1/2020
Date:	Thursday, September 17, 2020
Time:	1:30 PM - 3:30 PM
Location:	Council Chamber, 5th Floor
	Regional Administrative Headquarters
	10 Peel Centre Drive, Suite A
	Brampton, Ontario
Members:	C.Belleth, C. Chafe, R. Chopra (Chair), P. Crawford-Dickinson, M. Daniel (Vice-Chair), P. Fortini, A. Groves, N. Husain, N. Iannicca, A. Karim, M. Mahoney, A. Misar, I. Sinclair

Due to the efforts to contain the spread of COVID-19 there will be no public access to the Council Chamber. The meeting will be live streamed on http://www.peelregion.ca/.

1. CALL TO ORDER

- 2. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST
- 3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
- 4. DELEGATIONS
- 5. REPORTS
 - 5.1 TransHelp Update (Oral)

Presentation by Mark Castro, Director, TransHelp

- 5.2 Ensuring Accessibility During COVID-19 (For information)
- 5.3 Accessibility Planning Program Update September 17, 2020 (For information)

5.4 Update on the Use of the Dynamic Symbol of Access (For information) (Related to 6.1)

6. COMMUNICATIONS

- 6.1 Chandra Urquhart, Legislative Coordinator, City of Brampton
 Letter dated June 25, 2020, Regarding Accessible Parking Space Identification Dynamic
 Symbol of Access at the City of Brampton (Receipt recommended) (Related to 5.4)
- 6.2 Julia Opie, Accessibility Coordinator, Corporation of the County of Perth Email dated January 23, 2020, Providing a Summary of the Changes to the Barrier-Free Design Section of the Ontario Building Code (Receipt recommended)

7. OTHER BUSINESS

8. NEXT MEETING

Thursday, November 19, 2020 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. Council Chamber, 5th Floor Regional Administrative Headquarters 10 Peel Centre Drive, Suite A Brampton, Ontario

9. ADJOURNMENT



TransHelp Update

Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting September 17, 2020

COVID-19 response, recovery and project update 5.1-1



COVID-19 Response

- Mandatory face masks or coverings
- Operators wearing PPE
- Screening for COVID-19 symptoms
- Suspension of subscription trips
- Daily cleaning with hospital grade disinfectant
- Wall-mounted hand sanitizer dispensers on buses
- Compliance with public health recommendations



Wear a mask or face covering on TransHelp Let's keep each other safe



Stay home if you're not feeling well

Protect yourself and others

TransHelp Region of P working with

COVID-19 Transportation Service



- Need identified for residents suspected or confirmed as having COVID-19
- Dedicated buses and operators
- Operators wearing full PPE
- Decontamination after each trip
- 200+ residents used service to date

Road to Recovery

- Transit usage is beginning to pick up but still significantly down from normal levels
- TransHelp is on track to provide 50% less trips this year due to COVID-19
- Masks/Face coverings and active screening will remain for the foreseeable future
- Changes to the Eligibility Application process

Update on 2020 Priorities

- On-Line Booking
- ✓ On-board Cameras
- ✓ Enhancing our Same Day Booking process
- ✓ Improved Communication with Passengers
- Providing Travel Training and Orientation to increase independence and travel options
- Update our Cross-Boundary Policy
- Continuing our focus on the quality of service delivery

Thank you

Any questions?



REPORT Meeting Date: 2020-09-17 Region of Peel Accessibility Advisory Committee

For Information

REPORT TITLE: Ensuring Accessibility During COVID-19

FROM: Kathryn Lockyer, Interim Commissioner of Corporate Services

OBJECTIVE

To provide an update on the Region of Peel's actions to ensure accessibility while responding to and recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic.

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

- The COVID-19 Pandemic prompted organizations to quickly adapt to new methods of service delivery.
- Many Regional services transitioned online in response to the crisis, while continuing to
 ensure that essential needs of the community were met in an accessible and inclusive
 manner.
- The Region of Peel moved quickly to respond to the needs of staff by ensuring that digital requirements and mental health supports were in place to assist them in carrying out their daily duties.
- This report highlights some of the accessible initiatives undertaken by the Region in response to COVID-19.

DISCUSSION

1. Background

On March 17, 2020, the Ontario government declared a state of emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic. On March 18, 2020, the Region of Peel declared a state of emergency. This prompted the closure of many establishments including daycare centres, recreational programs, restaurants, churches, theatres, etc. Working from home guidelines were put in place and social gatherings were limited.

The Region of Peel needed to quickly adapt to the changing environment while responding to the crisis. This included supporting staff to work from home when possible and continuing to carry out essential services in the community such as health care, housing and social services.

Ensuring Accessibility During COVID-19

2. Responding with Accessibility in Mind

The COVID-19 Pandemic has impacted the lives of all Canadians. However, certain populations have been at increased risk of infection and of being affected by isolation measures. The measures brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic have had an increased impact on the overall well-being of persons with disabilities. As we respond to the pandemic and plan for recovery, we must ensure that the rights and well-being of persons with disabilities are being taken into consideration.

It is said that innovation is born out of crisis and this has not been more evident than in the Region's response during the pandemic. Some of the ways the Region adapted while ensuring that essential programs and services continued to be accessible and inclusive, include:

- **Region of Peel website.** Translation capabilities were added to the Region of Peel website which allow residents to translate web content into 10 different languages. A COVID-19 Virtual Assistant was also introduced to help users get COVID-19 information quickly, improving the service delivery experience and providing more options for members of the public to obtain information in an accessible manner.
- Supporting staff during the transition to work remotely. Ensuring staff had the tools and resources, including equipment, technology and meeting software, to carry out their role while working from home.
- Mental health and wellness supports for staff. Response to the pandemic was fast paced and continuously evolving. With this came added pressures and demands, especially for frontline and health care workers. It was critical that staff had the resources and supports to help them navigate and cope with these changes and added pressures. This included 24/7 access to the Employee and Family Assistance Program (EFAP). A COVID-19 online employee portal was also launched to provide staff with timely information, resources and a means to keep engaged.
- The use of technology and meeting software. Microsoft Teams was launched across the organization. This application provides a safe and secure option for remote meetings and includes note-taking capabilities and accessibility features such as closed captioning.
- Remote Council meetings. Cisco WebEx Meeting technology was leveraged to enable live and interactive virtual Council meetings. WebEx can accommodate small or large group meetings, as well as internal or external participants. WebEx was chosen over other meeting applications for its proven stability at the peak of the Pandemic and added functionality. WebEx accessibility features include:
 - Ability to enable closed captioning.
 - 'Pin' feature allows you to pin anyone's video regardless of who is speaking. This is very useful when using sign language interpreters.
 - Ability to access recordings and transcripts.
 - Ease to change layout so end user decides what is placed front and centre
 - In addition, meetings are live streamed on the Region of Peel website and include the option of viewing them on YouTube following the meeting.

Ensuring Accessibility During COVID-19

• **PAMA Online.** In an effort to keep the community engaged, PAMA released its first virtual exhibition, Morphology. It also launched PAMA@Home which offers easy, fun filled online activities and educational resources for all ages and includes specialized programs for people of all abilities.

3. Preparing for Recovery

As the Region of Peel moves into the Province's stage three of re-opening, we must ensure that our programs and services are accessible and inclusive and that we continue to look for opportunities for improvement. Areas of discussion as we move forward have included:

- Consulting with the Region's AAC regarding pedestrian flow and signage at our facility located at 10 Peel Centre Dr. to ensure safety and physical distancing. Suggestions included using a simple, clear and inclusive approach in the signage. Committee members also reiterated the importance of addressing the needs of those that may require assistance when navigating the ramp.
- The use of different types of protective equipment such as masks, face shields, plexi-glass barriers, etc., and their accessibility implications while ensuring a safe customer service experience. All staff working on site will be wearing non-surgical face masks. glass and plexiglass barriers are being installed at all client facing counters including Council Chambers, Access Peel, Human Services receptions, Clerk's counter, Public Works counters and Health Clinics.
- Mitigating health and safety protocols during visits at Long-Term Care settings. For example what are the rights of a visitor that has a disability and requires their support person with them when Provincial guidelines only allow for one visitor at a time?

CONCLUSION

The COVID-19 pandemic has presented additional challenges and barriers to the rights and well being of persons with disabilities. The Region of Peel continues to look for opportunities to address such barriers and ensure that our programs and services are accessible and inclusive to persons of all abilities. We must ensure that even in a global pandemic, accessibility continues to be embedded into key strategies and planning to create a community where everyone has a sense of belonging and achieves the Region's vision of Community for Life.

For further information regarding this report, please Juliet Jackson, Director, Culture & Inclusion, Ext. 6741, juliet.jackson@peelregion.ca.

Authored By: Veronica Montesdeoca, Accessibility Planning Specialist

Ensuring Accessibility During COVID-19

Reviewed and/or approved in workflow by:

Department Commissioner and Division Director.

Final approval is by the Chief Administrative Officer.

N. Polsinelli, Interim Chief Administrative Officer



For Information

REPORT TITLE:	Accessibility Planning Program Update – September 17, 2020
FROM:	Kathryn Lockyer, Interim Commissioner of Corporate Services

OBJECTIVE

To provide an update of the activities undertaken by the Region of Peel Accessibility Planning Program and the Accessibility Advisory Committee since its last meeting on September 19, 2019.

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

- The Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC) last met on September 19, 2019.
- The AAC came together on December 3, 2020 to host "Inclusion by Design" as part of the United Nation's International Day of Persons with Disabilities celebration.
- Due to the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, the AAC meetings were placed on hold to enable the Region's emergency response to the crisis.
- This report outlines the various activities that the Accessibility Advisory Committee and Accessibility Planning Program have been involved in since the last meeting in the fall of 2019, which are categorized as follows:
- Consultation and compliance support provided to Regional Programs;
- Participation in community events.
- This report also highlights upcoming events and observances.

DISCUSSION

1. Background

The main objective of the Region of Peel's Accessibility Planning Program (the Program) is to ensure that Regional programs, services and facilities continue to be inclusive and accessible for persons with disabilities. In order to accomplish this objective, the Program works collaboratively with all Regional departments and the Region of Peel Accessibility Advisory Committee (the Committee).

2. Activity List

a) Consultation and Compliance Support

- i) Changes to Barrier-Free Design Section of Ontario Building Code
 - Effective January 1, 2020 changes were introduced in Section 3.8, Barrier-Free Design, of the *Ontario Building Code*.

Accessibility Planning Program Update – September 17, 2020

- These changes provide clarification and enhance accessibility and safety.
- Changes include revisions to design specifications for bathroom fixtures, including water closet stalls, urinals, lavatories, showers and bathtubs.
- A summary of the changes to this section of the Building Code is provided under Communications listed on the September 17, 2020 AAC agenda.

ii) Annual Accessibility Status Report 2019

- In accordance with the Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation (IASR), the Region of Peel must prepare an annual status report that outlines the actions taken by the Region of Peel in the previous year (2019) to comply with the requirements of the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) to improve accessibility and remove barriers for persons with disabilities.
- The Region's Annual Accessibility Status Report for 2019 was endorsed by Council at its meeting on April 23, 2020.
- A copy of the report which details the Region's accessibility accomplishments for 2019 can be found on the Region of Peel website.

iii) Office 365 Accessibility Training

- In an effort to enhance document accessibility, the Region of Peel will be refreshing its minimum standards for the creation and sharing of documents.
- The intent is to use available built-in accessibility features in Microsoft applications to make documents accessible from the onset and minimize the need for extensive reformatting post document creation.
- Staff met with representatives from Microsoft, attended a training session to review the built-in accessibility features offered by Office 365 and were provided an overview of various Microsoft applications and tools to improve accessibility and promote inclusion.
- Some of the built-in accessibility features offered in Office 365 include:
 - Accessibility Checker
 - Accessible Templates
 - Autogenerated Alt-Text for images
 - Captions for audio
- Some of the applications and tools highlighted include:
 - Immersive Reader techniques to improve reading and writing for people, regardless of their age or ability.
 - Microsoft Teams a shared workspace where you can chat, meet, share files, and work with business apps; online meetings, calling, and web conferencing.
 - Microsoft Translator translates text, voice, conversations, camera photos and screenshots in over 60 languages.
 - Eye Control Option can be used with eye mobility devices.
 - Seeing AI designed for the blind and low vision community, uses the power of artificial intelligence to describe nearby people, text and objects.
 - Office Lens take pictures of whiteboards or printed documents and enhances the photo to look like a scanned image and can be manipulated to improve accessibility.
- Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, this work was paused and will resume in the fall of 2020.

iv) Corporate Accessibility Training

- The revised Region of Peel accessibility training for employees and volunteers was launched in April 2020.
- Four training modules have been incorporated into one comprehensive module which addresses the training requirements under the AODA including the Integrated Accessibility Standards and the Human Rights Code as it pertains to persons with disabilities.
- The module provides ease for auditing and reporting to ensure that the Region is compliant with the Provincial training requirements.
- A campaign will be launched in early 2021 for the training of all Region of Peel staff and volunteers.

v) Ensuring Accessible Council/Committee Documents

- The Region is reviewing its Council/Committee documents to ensure they are fully accessible and can be accessed by screen readers.
- Staff from Digital and Information Services consulted with AAC members who have a vision disability and use a screen reader, to assist with trouble shooting.
- A review of the source document was undertaken. Recommendations for improvement were provided and best practices for the creation of accessible documents were shared.
- Staff will meet with the vendor to incorporate suggested revisions and update templates.
- The Region will continue to look for opportunities to ensure document accessibility.

vi) Recruitment - Town of Caledon AAC Representative

- Recruitment to seek Town of Caledon representation on the Region of Peel AAC will be held in the fall of 2020.
- In order to ensure that there is representation from all municipalities at the Regional AAC table, active recruitment will be undertaken to engage Caledon residents in the Region's AAC.
- Advertising will include the Town's newspapers and the Regional website.

b) <u>Participation in Community Events</u>

i) Inclusion by Design – 2019 International Day of Persons with Disabilities

- On December 3, 2019 the AAC and Region of Peel hosted "Inclusion by Design" in commemoration of International Day of Persons with Disabilities (IDPD).
- The event brought together staff and community agency partners with an objective to collaborate to establish a shared vision of an accessible Peel by highlighting the importance of incorporating inclusive design principles in our products, programs and services.
- The full day event included keynote speakers, a panel session and exhibitor booths from local community agencies that provide services for persons with disabilities.

Accessibility Planning Program Update – September 17, 2020

- The 140 attendees developed an increased understanding of the importance of inclusion by design and a greater appreciation for the contributions people with disabilities make to the community.
- Special thanks to the AAC Event Planning working group for their assistance with planning the event.

ii) National AccessAbility Week (NAAW) – May 31-June 6, 2020

- The Region of Peel acknowledged National AccessAbility Week (NAAW) the week of May 31st, 2020.
- Due to heightened focus on the pandemic, NAAW was observed through a virtual internal campaign that raised awareness on the importance of accessibility during the Covid-19 response.
- A story was shared on the Region of Peel's intranet site which highlighted some examples of enhanced accessibility while responding to the pandemic. Staff was reminded about the importance of applying an accessibility lens to ensure that the needs of the most vulnerable in the community are being met.

c) Upcoming Events and Observances

i) World Alzheimer's Day

- On September 21, 2020 the Region of Peel will be observing World Alzheimer's Day.
- This international campaign aims at raising awareness and challenging the common stigma that surrounds Alzheimer-related dementia.
- The Region of Peel will commemorate this day through an on-line campaign to educate and raise awareness about the stigma and discrimination that surrounds this disease.

ii) 2020 International Day of Persons with Disabilities (IDPD)

- As is customary, the Region of Peel will be once again be commemorating International Day of Persons with Disabilities.
- The Region has set aside December 2, 2020 as a tentative date to commemorate this day.
- Due to the pandemic restrictions, a virtual approach will be taken to observe the day.
- We will be working with the AAC Event Planning Working group to assist with planning this observance.

CONCLUSION

This report summarizes the activities and consultations that the Accessibility Planning Program (the Program) has been involved in, together with participation of members of the Accessibility Advisory Committee (the Committee) since September 19, 2020. The Committee and the Program continue to engage in activities that support the Region of Peel's primary accessibility objective of ensuring Regional programs, services and facilities

Accessibility Planning Program Update – September 17, 2020

are inclusive and accessible for all persons with disabilities and respond to the evolving community needs, including during times of a pandemic.

For further information regarding this report, please contact Juliet Jackson, Director, Culture & Inclusion, Ext. 6741, juliet.jackson@peelregion.ca.

Authored By: Veronica Montesdeoca, Accessibility Planning Specialist

Reviewed and/or approved in workflow by:

Department Commissioner and Division Director.

Final approval is by the Chief Administrative Officer.

N. Polsinelli, Interim Chief Administrative Officer



REPORT Meeting Date: 2020-09-17 Region of Peel Accessibility Advisory Committee

For Information

REPORT TITLE: Update on the Use of the Dynamic Symbol of Access

FROM: Kathryn Lockyer, Interim Commissioner of Corporate Services

OBJECTIVE

To provide an update on the Region's use of the Dynamic Symbol of Access.

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

- On July 11, 2019, Regional Council endorsed the implementation of the Dynamic Symbol of Access (DSA) at Region of Peel facilities.
- The DSA is an improvement to the current International Symbol of Access (ISA) as the image is more defined and depicts a person in movement.
- As legislation does not mandate the use of the current ISA on pavement markings for accessible parking spaces, all existing symbols of access on Regional facilities were to be replaced with the DSA over a period of two years.
- The Region of Peel was informed by the City of Brampton that the use of the DSA on pavement markings within Brampton is prohibited due to a City by-law that specifically governs ground symbol guidelines. The City of Brampton adheres to the use of the ISA in this area.
- Regional staff met with City of Brampton staff to advocate for the use of the Dynamic Symbol of Access and discussed options moving forward, including an exemption to the City by-law for Regional facilities.
- On May 13, 2020 City of Brampton Council approved the use of the Dynamic Symbol of Access on Region of Peel facilities located in Brampton.

DISCUSSION

1. Background

At its meeting on June 20, 2019, the Region of Peel Accessibility Advisory Committee (the Committee) received a delegation and accompanying report recommending that the Region of Peel adopt the use of the Dynamic Symbol of Access (DSA) as an alternative to the currently used International Symbol of Access (ISA). The DSA is an improvement to the current ISA as the image conveys movement and action and places more emphasis on a person's ability (attached as Appendix I). However, there is certain legislation such as the *Highway Traffic Act* that requires the use of the ISA, therefore the Committee recommended that the use of the DSA be adopted in areas where the ISA is not mandated, including on pavement markings. On July 11, 2019, Regional Council approved the use of the Dynamic Symbol of Access (DSA) at Regional facilities, where the ISA is not mandated.

Update on the Use of the Dynamic Symbol of Access

2. City of Brampton Use of the Dynamic Symbol

In the fall of 2019, the Region of Peel was informed by the City of Brampton indicating that the Region could not use the DSA on pavement markings for Regional facilities located within the City of Brampton. The City of Brampton's Traffic By-Law specifically governs ground symbol guidelines, including the use of the International Symbol of Access for pavement markings. This matter needs to be further reviewed by City of Brampton staff and their AAC before any changes are made.

On November 8, 2019, Region of Peel staff met with City of Brampton staff to discuss the use of the DSA at Regional facilities within the City of Brampton, including the possibility of an exemption to the City by-law for Regional facilities as an interim solution until such time that decisions can be made by the City of Brampton regarding their current by-law.

On March 10, 2020, City of Brampton Accessibility Advisory Committee considered a report regarding the use of the DSA. Raj Chopra, Region of Peel AAC Chair and Juliet Jackson, Director of Culture and Inclusion for the Region of Peel delegated at this meeting to advocate for the use of the Dynamic Symbol of Access and requested an exemption to the City of Brampton Traffic By-Law for the use of the DSA at Regional facilities located in the City of Brampton, as an interim solution. City of Brampton Accessibility Advisory Committee voted in favour of the exemption to allow the use of the DSA on pavement markings for Region of Peel properties located within the City of Brampton.

In June 2020, the City of Brampton formally communicated their Council's decision to permit the Region of Peel to use the DSA on Regional facilities. A related communication from the City of Brampton is included on the agenda.

Thus far the Region of Peel has used the new Dynamic Symbol on 74 of the 146 parking spaces located in the city of Mississauga and the Town of Caledon. The remaining symbols, including within the city of Brampton, will be completed before the end of 2020, weather permitting.

The Region of Peel continues to look for opportunities to leverage the use of the new DSA and recently incorporated it into accessible seating signage within the cafeteria located at 10 Peel Centre Drive as well as in various print materials.

CONCLUSION

The Dynamic Symbol of Access is an improvement to the current International Symbol as the image shows movement and places emphasis on a person's ability versus the disability. It is a visual representation of the Region's commitment to accessibility and inclusion by reframing the way people with disabilities are viewed. The Region of Peel will continue to implement the Dynamic Symbol of Access in areas where the International Symbol is not mandated, including on pavement markings at Regional facilities located in Brampton, Mississauga and Caledon.

APPENDICES

Appendix I - Dynamic Symbol of Access (DSA)

Update on the Use of the Dynamic Symbol of Access

For further information regarding this report, please contact Juliet Jackson, Director, Culture & Inclusion, Ext. 6741, juliet.jackson@peelregion.ca.

Authored By: Veronica Montesdeoca, Accessibility Planning Specialist

Reviewed and/or approved in workflow by:

Department Commissioner and Division Director.

Final approval is by the Chief Administrative Officer.

N. Polsinelli, Interim Chief Administrative Officer

Appendix I Update on the Use of the Dynamic Symbol of Access

International Symbol of Access (ISA) vs Dynamic Symbol of Access (DSA)





Legislative Services City Clerk's Office RECEIVED

June 25, 2020

June 25, 2020 REGION OF PEEL OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL CLERK

Juliet Jackson, Director, Culture and Inclusion, Region of Peel OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL C Raj Chopra, Region of Peel and Chair, Regional Accessibility Advisory Committee Teresa Olsen, Deputy Clerk, Administrative Services and Elections

Re: Accessible Parking Space Identification - Dynamic Symbol of Access

The following recommendation of the Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting of March 10, 2020 was approved by Council on May 13, 2020:

- AAC003-2020 1. That the delegation by Juliet Jackson, Director, Culture and Inclusion, Region of Peel, and Raj Chopra, Region of Peel & Chair, Regional Accessibility Advisory Committee, to the Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting of March 10, 2020, re: **Dynamic Symbol of Access** be received; and,
 - That the report to the Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting of March 10, 2020, re: Accessible Parking Space Identification – Dynamic Symbol of Access be received;
 - 3. That the original International Symbol of Access, as set out in Schedule XXXIX of Traffic By-law 93-93, be confirmed as the sole symbol to be used to indicate accessible parking, barrier-free facilities and amenities for all properties in the City Brampton until provincial legislation provides otherwise; and
 - 4. That the City allow the use of the Dynamic Symbol of Access on one or more Region of Peel properties in Brampton.

Yours truly

Chandra Urquhart Chandra Urquhart Legislative Coordinator, City Clerk's Office <u>chandra.urquhart@brampton.ca</u> (SC-6.1)

- cc: P. Bryson, Supervisor, Enforcement and By-law Services
 - R. Maiss, Accessible Enforcement Officer
 - S. Goswami, Accessibility Coordinator
 - S. Ingham, Access, Inclusion and Diversity Clerk

REFERRAL TO
RECOMMENDED
DIRECTION REQUIRED

For information or municipal services, please call 3-1-1 in Brampton. We're available 24/7 to serve you.



From: Julia Opie <<u>jopie@perthcounty.ca</u>> Sent: January 23, 2020 10:55 AM To: Subject: RE: ONAP REQUEST: Summary of Changes to OBC

CAUTION: EXTERNAL MAIL. DO NOT CLICK ON LINKS OR OPEN ATTACHMENTS YOU DO NOT TRUST.

Hi Folks,

Thank you to Michele Cotton and Winona McMorrow who sent me a link to the Summary of the Changes to the OBC.

I have attached what I am going to be sharing with our AACs, which includes a link to the Summary as well as the current version of the OBC.

Feel free to tweak and make your own!

Have a good day!

Warm regards, Julia

Julia Opie

Accessibility Coordinator Corporation of the County of Perth | 1 Huron Street, Stratford, ON, N5A 5S4 T. 519-271-0531 x141 | C. 519-301-1979 | F. 519-271-6265 | Web: www.perthcounty.ca

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REFERRAL TO
RECOMMENDED
DIRECTION REQUIRED

Changes to Barrier-Free Design Section of Ontario Building Code

Effective January 1, 2020.

Section 3.8. – Accessibility

There have been several changes within Section 3.8. of the Building Code that provide clarification and enhance accessibility and safety. These include the following:

Article 3.8.1.5.(1) - Controls

New

This Sentence has been amended regarding location and operation of accessible controls related to building services and safety devices.

Article 3.8.3.3. - Doorways and Doors

Reorganization

Requirements related to power door operators in Sentence (16) and (17) have been clarified and integrated into one sentence.

Article 3.8.3.8. - Water Closet Stall

Clarification

Design requirements for water closet stalls have been revised for clarification.

Article 3.8.3.9. - Water Closets

New

This Article has been revised for clarification and updated to add location and operational criteria for flush controls where there is no automatic flush.

Article 3.8.3.10. - Urinals

Clarification

This Article has been revised for clarification and some duplications related to controls have been removed.

Article 3.8.3.11. - Lavatories

Clarification

This Article has been revised to provide additional clarification on accessibility requirements for lavatories, mirrors and washroom accessories.

Article 3.8.3.12. - Universal Washrooms

Clarification

A change has been made to clarify the requirement for power door operators and selfclosing devices in universal washrooms.

Article 3.8.3.13. - Showers and Bathtubs

New

This Article was revised to clarify and enhance accessibility and safety for showers and bathtubs including requirements for grab bars, clear floor spaces, shower heads and faucets, and individual bathtub requirements in some institutional occupancies.

Source: Ontario Building Code Changes 2020 Summary ¹

Link: Ontario Building Code ON Reg. 332/12² (See Section 3.8 for Barrier-Free Design)

¹ https://www.ontario.ca/document/changes-2012-building-code/part-3-fire-protection-occupant-safetyand-accessibility#section-27

² https://www.ontario.ca/laws/regulation/120332