



MUNICIPALITY OF CALLANDER INFORMATION REPORT TO COUNCIL

MEETING DATE: December 12, 2023
SUBJECT/REPORT NO: 2023-129 ADMIN – Annual AODA Status Update
SUBMITTED BY: Cindy Pigeau, Municipal Clerk-Treasurer
APPROVED BY: Ashley Bilodeau, Senior Municipal Director

RECOMMENDED COUNCIL MOTION

That Council acknowledge receipt of report 2023-129 ADMIN – Annual AODA Status Update for Information.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The main goal of the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 (AODA) is to make all organizations in Ontario as accessible as possible by 2025. In accordance with the AODA, the Municipality of Callander has a plan that addresses the measures it intends to take in order to make the municipal organization more accessible to persons with various types of disabilities. This plan is reviewed at least annually, and progress is reported to Council.

BACKGROUND

Regulation O. Reg. 191/11: Integrated Accessibility Standards under the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 (AODA) requires that designated public sector organizations prepare an annual status report on the progress of measures taken in that year and post the status report on their website.

INFORMATION

The following chart shows the identified barriers, desired actions and strategies to address those measures from the 2020 Update that were accomplished in 2023:

DESCRIPTION OF BARRIER, DESIRED ACTION AND STRATEGY TO ADDRESS	PROGRESS MADE IN 2023
Navigating the website. Make the website more intuitive to navigate. Improve the content organization to make it more intuitive and user friendly.	Planned reorganization of website content to make more intuitive and reorganization is in the final stages and will be completed before December 31, 2023.
An accessible ramp from the road level to the Municipal Office was to be completed in 2023.	Due to the topographical issues and design concerns associated with the budgeted accessible ramp, an alternative was proposed to Council that the Municipality purchase or lease the land beside the Municipal Office to increase not only parking (including accessible parking) but also to meet the accessibility requirement for the

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	parking lot instead of having to build a ramp. The land was leased in 2023 and the expansion of the parking lot project was started in the fall of 2023 to be completed in the spring of 2024.
Making access to Lake Nipissing more accessible at Centennial Park	Steps over the seawall were installed at Centennial Park to allow greater access to the beach and lake.
The library is not accessible to anyone in a wheelchair. To be addressed when Library moves to new premises but planned renovations to entrance in 2023 as an interim measure.	The interim renovations to include a ramp into the current location of the library were completed in the fall of 2023.
Virtual Council meetings have been noted to be hard to hear. Improve accessibility for the hearing-impaired listening to virtual council meetings.	The ability to allow closed captioning (function available through YouTube, our live streaming supplier) was also enabled in 2023.
Lack of handicap parking for disabled persons. Increase available handicap parking.	As previously mentioned, the plan for the Municipal Parking Project is for further accessible parking to be added. This project was started in the fall of 2023 and is to be completed in the spring of 2024.
Walking routes downtown Callander have too few benches, particularly on the east side of the roads. Address in Bench Master Plan as part of the overall Parks and Recreation Master Plan.	Parks and Recreation Master Plan was done in 2022 and includes a bench plan. This plan is in the process of being updated to add further benches throughout the Municipality. It is anticipated the update will be completed in 2024, with additional benches being installed as per the updated plan, specifically within the Municipal cemetery.

We also continue to make small improvements where needed and practical, that were not included in the 2020 plan update.

CONSULTATION

Tim McKenna, Manager of Operations

APPENDICES / SCHEDULES

N/A

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