

Township of Carling
Accessibility Plan
Updated 2021



Table of Contents

Contents

Table of Contents	2
Summary	3
Description of the Township of Carling	4
Council Commitment to Accessibility Planning	4
Customer Service (Regulation 429/07)	4
Integrated Accessibility (Regulation 191/11).....	4
Information and Communications.....	4
Employment.....	5
Transportation	5
Design of Public Spaces.....	5
Aim of Accessibility Plan	5
Objective of Accessibility Plan	5
Barriers Identified	6
What is a Barrier	6
Carling Township Office	6
Carling Community Centre.....	6
Carling Volunteer Fire Hall.....	6
Fitzgerald Bay Beach	7
Shebeshekong Beach	7
Snug Harbor Boat Launch	7
Dillon Boat Launch	8
Pengally Bay Boat Launch	8
Blind Bay Boat Launch.....	8
Barriers to be Addressed	8
Review and Monitoring Process	8
Communication of the Plan	8

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 identification, removal and prevention of barriers to allow for full participation in the life of the province.

Under the ODA, all municipalities have a legal obligation to prepare an accessibility plan and this document has been revised to represent such a Plan. In addition, the plan was recently updated to reflect the Ontario Resolution 191/11 “Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation Requirements.” By incorporating the information pertaining to the Integrated Accessibility Standards into this plan, it will address the current and future requirements of the ODA.

Currently, the Municipality is committing itself through continual improvements of access to municipal facilities, within budget limitations.

The working group identified a number of barriers to improve and/or eliminate. The most significant findings were that no washroom facilities outside of the Township Office and Public Works building were wheelchair accessible. Another surprising find was the lack of accessible parking at many of the Township’s facilities. The working group recommends that the Township take the appropriate steps to remove these barriers.

The Municipality is in full compliance with the Customer Service Accessibility Standard that became effective January 1, 2010. We will continue to focus on providing policy, training support and continue to improve services and programs to meet these regulations.

With this plan, the Municipality is proud to present its findings and report on the development of strategies to remove and prevent future barriers for people with disabilities

Description of the Township of Carling

The Township of Carling is home to approximately 1055 year-round residents and an estimated 3404 seasonal residents. Its location on Georgian Bay lends itself to water-based recreational pursuits by the residents, resorts and campers. This municipality provides the basic services of: roads, waste disposal and fire services through the local council and administration. It participates on a district level with the provision of police, ambulance and social services.

Council Commitment to Accessibility Planning

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

1. The continual improvement of access to all municipality owned facilities, premises and services for all those with disabilities.
2. The provision of quality services to meet these commitments.

Customer Service (Regulation 429/07)

The Customer Service Standard Regulation enacted on January 1, 2008, established standards and mandated every provider of goods and services to establish policies practices and procedures governing the position of its goods and services to persons with disabilities.

As required by the Regulation, the Township of Carling aims to ensure that services to those with disabilities are provided in a manner that promotes independence, dignity, integration and equal opportunity. Accessible customer service training will be provided to all staff members. Training is ongoing and continues to be provided to all new employees during their orientation.

The Township of Carling's Accessibility Policy is made available to the public through the Township's website, or in an accessible format upon request.

Integrated Accessibility (Regulation 191/11)

The Integrated Accessibility Standards enacted on January 1, 2011, established accessibility standards for Information and Communication, Employment, Transportation and Design of Public Place.

Some of the requirements are: developing policies to ensure that our communication is accessible to people with disabilities; ensuring we are able to provide information in a format that considers an individual's disability; ensuring that our website is compliant with applicable standards; and developing policies on ensuring potential employees with disabilities receive appropriate accommodation during the recruitment phase.

Information and Communications

The purpose of the Information and Communications Standard is to facilitate access for people with disabilities to sources of information and communications that those without disabilities depend on daily. The requirements stipulated under this standard provide the framework necessary to assist both public and private businesses in achieving full accessibility in the areas of Information and Communication.

Employment

The requirements set out under the Employment Standard apply to paid employees. Through this Standard, employers are mandated to provide for accessibility throughout the entire employment lifecycle. Incorporated accessibility into all facets of the employment process benefits everyone, broadening the talent pool and assisting employers in supporting and maintaining a skilled workforce.

Transportation

Unlike the other mandatory requirements established under the AODA, the Transportation Standard is sector specific and is applicable to transportation modes falling under the jurisdiction of local government i.e. buses and taxis.

By making public services and vehicles accessible, people with disabilities, whether a resident or a visitor, are afforded the convenience of accessible transportation, enabling them the opportunity to live, work and participate in communities throughout Ontario.

Design of Public Spaces

The goal of the Accessibility Standards for the built environment is to remove barriers in public spaces and buildings. This will make it easier for all Ontarians including people with disabilities, seniors and families –to access the places where they work, travel, shop and play.

The standards for public spaces will only apply to new conditions and planned redevelopments. Enhancements to accessibility in buildings will happen at a later date through Ontario’s Building Code, which governs new construction and renovations in buildings.

The design of Public Spaces covers:

- Recreational trails/beach access routes;
- Outdoor public-use eating areas like rest stops or picnic areas;
- Outdoor play spaces, like playgrounds in provincial parks and local communities;
- Exterior paths of travel, like sidewalks, ramps, stairs, curb ramps, rest areas and accessible pedestrian signals;
- Accessible Parking (On and off Street);
- Services-related elements like service counters, fixed queuing lines and waiting areas;
- and maintenance which includes procedures for preventive and emergency maintenance of the accessible elements in public spaces and procedures for dealing with temporary disruptions.

Aim of Accessibility Plan

The aim of this accessibility plan is to identify the specific requirements applicable to the Township of Carling, as mandated by the Province of Ontario through the integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation

Objective of Accessibility Plan

This Plan:

1. Identifies the specific regulatory accessibility standards that the Township must eliminate to achieve compliance with the Integrated Accessibility Standard Regulations.
2. Describes the process measure the Township of Carling will undertake to fulfill the requirements within the mandated timelines.
3. Highlights accomplishments.
4. Makes a commitment to review and update the accessibility plan at least once every 5 years.
5. Describes how a plan will be made available to the public.

Barriers Identified

What is a Barrier

A “Barrier” is anything that prevents a person with a disability from fully participating in all aspects of society because of his or her disability, including a physical barrier, an architectural barrier, an informational or communications barrier, an attitudinal barrier, a technological barrier, a policy or a practice.

Carling Township Office

Barrier	Type of Barrier	Strategy for Removal or Prevention
Interior Doors	Physical	-Automatic Doors
Playground -Not wheelchair Accessible	Physical	-Purchase accessible playground equipment

*Within budget limitations

Carling Community Centre

*No Barriers were identified

Carling Volunteer Fire Hall

Barrier	Type of Barrier	Strategy for Removal or Prevention
Back Door -Not Wheelchair Accessible	Physical	-Purchase/Install wheelchair ramp when funding becomes available
Washroom -No handrails	Physical	-Install handrails

*Within budget limitations

Fitzgerald Bay Beach

Barrier	Type of Barrier	Strategy for Removal or Prevention
Beach/Water Access -Beach/ Waterfront not wheelchair accessible	Physical	-Purchase /Install wheelchair ramp when funding becomes available
Parking Lot -No handicap parking	Physical	-Create accessible parking locations with clear signage or create accessible drop off zones
Change room/Washrooms - No Ramp -No wheelchair accessible stalls -Entrance not wide enough	Architectural/Physical	-Rental of wheelchair accessible toilets -Build Ramp for change room

*Within budget limitations

Shebeshekong Beach

Barrier	Type of Barrier	Strategy for Removal or Prevention
Beach/Water Access -Beach/Waterfront not wheelchair accessible	Physical	-Purchase/Install wheelchair ramp
Change room/ Washrooms -No wheelchair accessible stalls -No ramp -Entrance not wide enough	Architectural/ Physical	-When change rooms are replaced accommodate for accessible needs - Rental of wheelchair accessible toilets

*Within budget limitations

Snug Harbor Boat Launch

Barrier	Type of Barrier	Strategy for Removal or Prevention
Parking Lot -No handicap parking	Physical	-Create accessible parking space with clear signage and/or create accessible drop off zones

*Within budget limitation

Dillon Boat Launch

Barrier	Type of Barrier	Strategy for Removal or Prevention
Parking Lot -No handicap parking	Physical	-Create accessible drop off zone and/or accessible parking space with clear signage
Washroom -Not wheelchair accessible	Physical	- rental of wheel chair accessible portable toilets

*Within budget limitations

Pengally Bay Boat Launch

Barrier	Type of Barrier	Strategy for Removal or Prevention
Parking Lot -No handicap parking	Physical	-Create accessible parking space with clear signage or create accessible drop off zone

*Within budget limitations

Blind Bay Boat Launch

Barrier	Type of Barrier	Strategy for Removal or Prevention
Parking Lot -Handicap parking sign not in view	Information/Communication	-Move accessible only parking sign to make it clearly visible

*Within budget limitations

Barriers to be Addressed

The more substantial projects that have been identified for review will take more time. The items listed as barriers will be addressed during each budget review and will be prioritized accordingly. It will be the goal to remove all identified barriers and any added barriers in an effective and financially responsible manner. The Municipalities end goal is to have all the facilities located within the Township of Carling accessible in accordance to the Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation.

Review and Monitoring Process

As required by the Ontarians with Disabilities, Act, 2005, Council is required to review this plan annually and make updates as needed. Council and Township staff will continue to monitor the barriers identified and will make comments and changes to the plan as needed.

Communication of the Plan

The Accessibility Plan will be available in the Municipal Office and on the Township website at www.carling.ca . Council must take into consideration the legislative requirements of the Ontarians with

Disabilities Act , the Customer Service Standard Regulation and the Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation.