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**MULTI-YEAR ACCESSIBILITY UPDATE**  
**Huron County Accessibility Advisory Committee's**  
**2019 Accomplishments**

The Huron County Accessibility Advisory Committee has worked diligently to achieve the goals defined within the approved plan. Recognized achievements include:

**Accessibility Plans:**

The County of Huron has created an Annual Accessibility Plan under the Ontarians with Disabilities Act 2001 and a Multi-Year Accessibility Plan update under the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act 2005, with annual updates on successes. The County of Huron has completed both requirements with the documents approved by County Council at the November 2019 County Council meeting.

**Site Plan Reviews:**

The Huron County Accessibility Advisory Committee has been actively engaged with Municipal and County staff as well as private businesses and organizations in conducting Site Plan Reviews in a timely fashion. The Committee believes public awareness will continue to stimulate community participation and the subcommittee's time and commitment. The Committee reached out to each local municipalities to review facilities. Recommendations were made for each review. Examples of completed and/or current site plan reviews in process for the year of 2019:

Town of Goderich Municipal Office, Huron East- Main Street Seaforth Phase 1 road project; Kingsbridge Community Centre and a new Playground in Port Albert, Township of Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh, Vanastra Recreation Centre and Pool Complex in the Municipality of Huron East; Goderich Public Library, new Accessible Washroom in the County Court House; entryway, washroom and elevator at the County Court House; Huron County Museum and Historic Gaol; North Huron Recreation Centre and Blyth Community Centre.

**Government Directives and Regulations:**

The Accessibility Advisory Committee has provided updates and advice about new government directives and regulations to County Council and the Working Group. The Working Group is made up of one volunteer/staff member from each lower tier. Each member of the group reports back to and shares newly developed resources and material approved by County Council to their Mayor/Councillors.

## **Continued Relations with County Council, Lower Tiers and Businesses**

The Committee has reached out to the community. Aside from regular Council updates shared by County council representatives with their respective municipalities the committee has contacted local Municipalities and private business to participate in committee organized awareness events and various speaking engagements with a noticeable increase in Councillor participation in community events.

### **Continued use of Resources:**

- The Committee continues to keep Huron County Building Officials updated on new legislation with regards to DOPS (Design of Public Spaces)
- The Committee is continuing to promote and engage local businesses with the Huron County Stop Gap program, which encourages businesses to get involved in creating barrier free communities while receiving recognition for their efforts and participation.
- Members of the Committee attended workshops and Conferences offered by the AODA on Accessibility.
- Information regarding Government funding was forwarded to members of the Working Group for assistance in renovating existing buildings, or building new, for a more inclusive environment.
- Information was also shared with the working group to pass on to local municipalities.
- The HCAAC has continued to invest a lot of time and effort into the development of accessibility training to employees/staff of all kinds through continuous learnings on training requirements defined in the Integrated Accessibility Regulation. These learning opportunities were customized into six modules:
  1. Customer Service,
  2. General Requirements,
  3. Human Rights,
  4. Employment,
  5. Information & Communication, and
  6. Design of Public Spaces.
- All new County staff received all required training within an appropriate time frame. All staff are required to receive training on accessibility standards for customer service and use of assistive devices.
- Upon request, provide information in accessible formats and with communication supports at the same cost charged to other. Publicized the availability of accessible formats and communication supports on website and documents.
- Continue to work with IT and Human Resources departments to train staff on Accessibility Standards.
- A new Accessibility Coordinator Consultant was hired in September 2019