

City of Greater Sudbury 2019 Annual Accessibility Status Report

This Accessibility Status Report is the annual update on the progress of the measures taken to improve accessibility and implement the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 (AODA) and the Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation (Ontario Regulation 191/11).

This Status Report includes the accessibility initiatives that were completed in 2018 to implement the strategies outlined in the City of Greater Sudbury's Strategic Multi-Year Accessibility Plan.

The purpose of this Status Report is to make the public aware of the City of Greater Sudbury's progress with regards to the 2017-2021 Strategic Multi-Year Accessibility Plan.

Commitment to Accessibility

The City of Greater Sudbury is committed to eliminating barriers and improving access for persons with disabilities by providing its citizens with an inclusive accessible community through its passage and adoption of strategies and policies that promote dignity, independence, integration and equal opportunity for all citizens.

The City of Greater Sudbury will continue to work under the legislative frameworks of the AODA, the Ontario Human Rights Code, 1990 and other associated pieces of legislation to ensure that compliance with accessibility standards is achieved.

Through the development of the City of Greater Sudbury's 2017-2021 Strategic Multi-Year Accessibility Plan the Accessibility Advisory Panel identified five key priorities which align with the Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulations as found in Regulation 191/11 of the AODA:

1. Legislative Compliance
2. Community Mobility
3. Access to Recreation
4. Education and Awareness
5. Community and Event Accessibility

These five priorities included strategic recommendations from the Panel and provide a roadmap for the City of Greater Sudbury as it continues to plan for future accessibility initiatives.

Achievements and Successes

Legislative Compliance

- Passage and adoption of the City of Greater Sudbury Strategic Multi-Year Accessibility Plan.

Community Mobility

- Development and implementation of Transit Action Plan for both conventional and specialized transit services.
- Continued installation of accessible sidewalks and curb cuts.
- Opening of new parking lot and switchback path to provide accessible access and parking at Bell Park.
- Continued accessibility audit of municipal buildings and facilities.

Access to Recreation

- Development of accessible trails and walking paths.
- Closed captioned movie night at Bell Park.
- Free Accessible Swims at local pools.
- Installation of new accessible equipment at municipal playgrounds.
- New accessible washroom at the Sudbury Community Arena.
- Adoption of Recreation Accommodation Policy.

Education and Awareness

- Inclusion of accessibility information in community newsletter.
- Hosting of series of events during National AccessAbility Week with community partners to celebrate achievements in becoming a more inclusive community, educate and raise awareness about accessibility in the hopes of furthering the goal of improving access and removing barriers to municipal programs, services and facilities.
- Continued work with City of Greater Sudbury Departments to ensure understanding of and compliance with legislative obligations.
- Work with community partners to raise the profile of the importance of becoming an inclusive, barrier free and accessible city.

Meeting and Event Accessibility

- Development of event accessibility checklist and guide for community event organizers.
- Installation of new amplification system in Tom Davies Square Council Chamber and meeting rooms including the purchase of a portable amplification system that can be used for offsite, tours or events.
- Push to include information regarding the availability of accessibility supports, accessible formats and assistive devices for community events and meetings.
- Use of hybrid (paper ballot/internet vote) voting system for the 2022 Municipal and School Board Elections.

Additional Achievements

- The City of Greater Sudbury continues to comply with the requirements of the Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation and the plans laid out in the Strategic Multi-Year Accessibility Plan.
- Continued focus on removing barriers which may exist in City of Greater Sudbury buildings and facilities while ensuring that all new buildings, leases and renovations do not create any new barriers and comply with the Built Environment Standards.
- The continued quarterly meetings of the Accessibility Advisory Panel to provide insight to municipal staff on matters related to the accessibility of municipal services, programs and facilities as required under the Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2001 and the AODA.
- Annual release of Accessibility Consultation Survey and continued review of feedback and results.
- Hosting of National AccessAbility Week events with series of community partners to celebrate the City of Greater Sudbury's achievements in becoming a more inclusive community, and raise the profile and awareness about accessibility in the hopes of furthering the goal of improving access and removing barriers to municipal programs, services and facilities.

Goals and Next Steps for Accessibility

- Ensure the City of Greater Sudbury continues to meet compliance with the AODA, its regulations and all other related pieces of legislation.
- Continue with organizations commitment to accessibility.
- Review City of Greater Sudbury policies and practices to ensure accessibility compliance.
- Strive to ensure that new facilities, programs and services are designed and created with accessibility features incorporated.

- Continue to develop resources and training materials for staff. Volunteers and contractors and promote awareness and education regarding accessibility requirements and obligations throughout the corporation.
- Continue to consult the public, persons with disabilities and Accessibility Advisory Panel.
- Work with corporate departments to explore new and innovative ways to remove and prevent barriers to access.
- Continue to monitor accessibility issues, trends and legislative changes.

Communication

Information regarding accessibility at the City of Greater Sudbury, including the Strategic Multi-Year Accessibility Plan, and Annual Status Report can be found on the City of Greater Sudbury's website: <https://www.greatersudbury.ca/city-hall/accessibility/>

This information is also available in hard-copy and accessible formats upon request.

Contact Information

For more information, comments, questions or concerns relating to accessibility please contact:

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Feedback

The City of Greater Sudbury welcomes public input and feedback to assist the corporation in improving access to municipal programs, services and facilities.