

ACCESSIBILITY PLAN 2010-2011



Municipalité de
RUSSELL
Township

SUBMITTED TO:

Mayor and council members of the
Township of Russell.

SUBMITTED BY:

Accessibility Advisory Committee

June 21, 2010

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EXECUTIVE 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 their full participation in the life of the province. To this end, the ODA requires each municipality to prepare an annual accessibility plan; to consult with people with disabilities in the preparation of this plan; and to make the plan public.

The purpose of the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005* (AODA) is to benefit all Ontarians by achieving accessibility for people with disabilities. This will be done by developing, implementing and enforcing accessibility standards concerning goods, services, accommodation, facilities, buildings and employment. Improvements will be phased in, in stages of 5 years or less, moving towards an accessible Ontario in 20 years. Standards will address the full range of disabilities including physical, sensory, hearing, mental health, developmental and learning. That is, both visible and invisible disabilities will be included. This legislation covers both the public and private sectors. As of this year, the *Customer Service Standards policy* has been presented and is, as of January 2010, been approved by council.

This is the updated 2010-2011 annual plan prepared by the Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC) of the Township of Russell. It is the third year that this plan has been prepared by the AAC. The report describes the measures that will be taken during the next year to identify, remove and prevent barriers to people with disabilities who use the facilities and services in the Township of Russell, including staff and members of the community at large.

AIM

This plan describes the measures that Township of Russell has taken, based on the 2009-2010 plan and identifies measures that will be taken during the next year to remove and prevent barriers for people with disabilities who utilize the Township of Russell' facilities and services.

OBJECTIVES

The main objectives of this report are as follows:

1. Describes the process by which the Township of Russell will identify, remove, and prevent barriers to people with disabilities.
2. Reviews earlier efforts to remove and prevent barriers to people with disabilities.
3. Lists the facilities, policies, practices and services that the Township of Russell will review in the coming year to identify barriers to people with disabilities.
4. Describes the measures the Township of Russell will take in the coming year to identify, remove and prevent barriers to people with disabilities.
5. Describes how the Township of Russell will make this Accessibility Plan available to the public.

COUNCIL COMMITMENT TO ACCESSIBILITY

The council of the corporation of the Township of Russell is committed to:

1. The continual improvement of access to all municipal buildings, premises and services for all those with a disability.
2. The provision of quality services to all members of the community with disabilities
3. Proclaims, every year, the National Access Week in order to create awareness for people with disabilities.

ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The members of the AAC for 2010 are:

Ken Hill	Mayor of the Township of Russell
Jean-Paul St-Pierre	Chair of the committee and Councillor
Jean Leduc	Chief Administrative Officer
Martin Larocque	Resident
Patrice Dagenais	Resident
Gregg Ball	Resident
Nathalie Bertrand	Resident
Melany Chretien	Staff representative

BARRIER-IDENTIFICATION METHODOLOGIES

The AAC uses the following barrier identification methodologies:

1. Hiring of Le Phénix who produced a complete report of possible barriers in and around the Township of Russell (2005); report remains useful although items have been modified over the years.
2. Regular meetings of the AAC to determine, review and set different approaches to a barrier free Township;
3. Visits of the main municipal buildings with disabled residents in order to periodically identify the improvements to be done in order to make the Township of Russell barrier free;
4. All identified barriers to be remove will be done in conjunction with the standards currently planned under the AODA that addresses accessibility in five different areas: customer service, transportation, the built environment, information and communications, and employment.
5. The AAC is continuously studying different opportunities for accessibility trainings and seminars.
6. The administration welcomes and opens discussions with residents with a disability in order to better understand the different disabilities and other handicaps and improve the municipal buildings in a way that targets directly these barriers.

7. The members of the AAC is available to the Township staff to review and comment the design built and blue print whenever a new municipal building is being built or improved.

BARRIERS ADDRESSED AND TO BE ADDRESSED

The Township of Russell is continually trying to improve its municipal buildings and tools to become more accessible. The creation of this committee, the Phenix accessible report produced in 2005 and other improvements with regards to some of our municipal buildings over the last few years are just a few examples of our commitment to becoming barrier free.

Furthermore, after being presented with the 2009-2010 Accessibility Plan, the administration in tied partnership with the council members, have budgeted funds in order to progress with some major repairs and improvements that would assist in the efforts towards making the Township of Russell barrier free. A list of enhancements was produced by the AAC in order to identified and manage the improvements.

Many improvements and repairs were made by the administration in 2009 such as:

- ⇒ Automatic doors were installed in both arenas and community Centre in Russell and Embrun.
- ⇒ Bathroom were upgraded
- ⇒ Taps were changed,
- ⇒ Tension on doors was modified, etc.

Beyond the initiatives that were conducted following the adoption of the 2009-2010 Accessibility Plan, Council and the Administration brought forth additional initiatives in 2010 which met the new Customer Service Standards for Ontario municipalities.

- ⇒ The adoption of the Customer Service Standard policy reference Resolution (104-2009);
- ⇒ The 2009 Proclamation for the National Access week, reference Resolution (136.2009);
- ⇒ The 2010 Proclamation for the National Access week, reference Resolution (102-2010)
- ⇒ Training of all municipal employees and council members in reference to the Customer Service Standards policy's requirements.

The Accessibility Committee continues to identify barriers. This committee will focus on the following newly found barriers over the next years. In Annexe A you will find an up-to-date list of barriers identified along with a status of completion scheduled.

COMMUNICATION PLAN

The Township of Russell accessibility plan will be posted on the Township's website. Hard copies will be distributed to local newspapers. In addition, exterior sign will be put in front of the municipal building that will undergo renovation and improvements for the purpose of making it more accessible.

ADDITIONAL RESSOURCES RELATED TO ACCESSIBILITY

1. Accessibility Ontario – Guide to Annual Accessibility Planning
www.gov.on.ca/citizenship/accessibility/english/accessibleplanningguide.htm
2. The Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2001
www.gov.on.ca/citizenship/accessibility/english/act2001.htm
3. Government of Ontario – Paths to Equal Opportunity A-Z index – Accessibility in Educational Environments
www.equalopportunity.on.ca/eng_g/subject/index.asp?action=search_4&dir_id=1071
4. Ontario Human Rights Commission Policy and Guidelines on Disability and the Duty to Accommodate
www.ohrc.on.ca/english/publications/disability-policy.shtml
5. Enablelink (Canadian Abilities Foundation) Directory of Canadian Disability Links
www.enablelink.org/resources/links_to.html
6. Directory for Accessibility
www.accessibilitydirectory.ca
7. Adaptive Technology Resource Centre
www.utoronto.ca/atrc
8. Ontario Interpreter Services (OIS)
www.chs.ca/services/ois.html
9. Canadian Standards Association: B6521-95 Barrier-Free Design B480-02-Customer Service Standard for People with Disabilities
www.csa.ca
10. Playability Tool Kit: Building Accessible Playspaces
www.opassoc.on.ca/toolkit.asp
11. A Few Key Ontario Disability Organizations: Canadian National Institute for the Blind (CNIB)
www.cnib.ca
12. Canadian Hearing Society
www.chs.ca
13. Canadian Mental Health Association – Ontario
14. Community Living Ontario
www.oacl.on.ca
15. Multiple Sclerosis Society of Canada – Ontario Division
www.mssociety.ca/ontario
16. Learning Disabilities Association of Ontario
www.ldao.on.ca
17. Little People of Ontario
www.lpo.on.ca
18. Ontario Brain Injury Association
www.obia.on.ca
19. Canadian Paraplegic Association – Ontario
www.canparaplegic.org/on
20. Le Phenix
www.lephenix.on.ca
21. Ontario March of Dimes
www.dimes.on.ca
22. The Easter Seal Society – Ontario
www.easterseals.org
23. AboutFace International
www.aboutfaceinternational.org

ANNEXE A ---- ANNUAL VISIT OF THE MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS WITH THE AAC

<i>Status</i>	SITE	Comments	
	OVERALL	IMPROVEMENTS TO BE CONSIDERED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Create a fully accessible restroom. ⇒ Add flashing light (stroboscope) to fire alarm bells ⇒ Add accessible parking space(s) ⇒ Add ramp or improve access to main doors ⇒ Level doorstep to main entrance ⇒ Public phone / Teletypewriter TTS (when possible)
	HÔTEL DE VILLE / TOWN HALL		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Add fire alarm with visual enhancement for the visually impaired in strategic locations in town hall. ⇒ Level doorstep to Front main entrance (back entrance is Employee only entrance)
		Adjustments and repairs to main entrance and front parking	Enlarge the disabled parking spaces; adjust concrete sidewalk and access to front door
<i>Redirect funds to more pressing improvements</i>		Adjustments to secondary entrance <i>Employee entrance only. Not priority</i>	Adjust concrete sidewalk to parking; level access door step
		Installation of disabled accessories in public washrooms	Install new grab bars; install paper and soap dispensers, mirrors and change taps
		Installation of a new reception counter in foyer at main entrance	Design built and installation of a full accessible reception counter

<p>2010-2011</p>	<p>CENTRE COMMUNAUTAIRE DE MARIONVILLE (4629, RUE GRÉGOIRE). COMMUNITY CENTRE</p>	<p>MAIN ENTRANCE ⇒ Automatic door RESTROOM (NEAR MAIN ENTRANCE) ⇒ Add handicap sign ⇒ lock of stall to be replaced ⇒ Door should open to exterior ⇒ Change taps ⇒ Door tension too tight, to be loosen ⇒ Remove/modify front panel so create leg room under the sink LADIES ROOM ⇒ Towel Lower unit ⇒ Change Taps ⇒ Remove/modify front panel so create leg room under the sink ⇒ Add signage - Handicap washroom BACK DOORS ⇒ Add automatic door ⇒ Add ramp SECOND SET OF RESTROOMS ⇒ 3X - Doors should open to exterior ⇒ Modify counter / Remove/modify front panel so create leg room under the sink</p>
	<p>ARÉNA DE RUSSELL/FRANK KINNAIRD HALL RUSSELL ARENA</p>	<p>⇒ Add signage restroom per gender ⇒ Add flashing light (stroboscope) to fire alarm bells ⇒</p>
<p>Done 2009</p>	<p>Install on main entrance automatic door opener</p>	<p>Provide electricity and door automatic opener</p>

<i>Done 2009</i>		Replace first lobby entrance door	Replace door and modify existing wall
<i>2010-2011</i>	CENTRE COMMUNAUTAIRE D'EMBRUN (8 RUE BLAIS) COMMUNITY CENTRE	⇒	⇒ Add Braille sign for restrooms ⇒ Add flashing light (stroboscope) to fire alarm bells ⇒ Add ramp or improve access to main doors ⇒ Level doorstep to main entrance ⇒
<i>2010</i>		Modify the main access ramp and main entrance door	Resurface and level main entrance ramp
<i>Done 2009</i>			Replace main front entrance doors equipped with automatic door opener
			Install handrails
<i>2009</i>		Modify men's washroom	Change sink, taps and partition's door handles
<i>2009</i>			Install paper and soap dispensers
<i>2009</i>			Add grab pole handle
<i>2010</i>			Add accessible signage
<i>2009</i>		Modify women's washroom	Change sink, taps and partition's door handles
<i>2010</i>			Install paper and soap dispensers
<i>2010</i>			Add grab pole handle
<i>2010</i>			Add accessible signage
	ARÉNA D'EMBRUN - palais des Sports (6 RUE BLAIS)		⇒ Major infrastructures improvements in 2010.
<i>Done 2009</i>		Improve main entrance access ramp	Repairs to asphalt ramp

<i>Nov 2009</i>	Install on main entrance an automatic door opener	Provide electricity and door automatic opener
<i>2009</i>	Modify accessible washroom facilities	Change the door closer in order to reduce tension
<i>2009</i>		Change sink and taps handles
<i>2009</i>		Install paper and soap dispensers
<i>2009</i>		Add grab pole handle
<i>2010</i>	Modify men's bathroom on main floor	Change sink, taps and partition's door handles
<i>2010</i>		Install paper and soap dispensers
<i>2010</i>		Add grab pole handle
<i>2010</i>		Add accessible signage
<i>2009</i>	Modify women's bathroom on main floor	Change the door closer in order to reduce tension
<i>2009</i>		Change sink, taps and partition's door handles
		Modify one stall to meet access needs
<i>2009</i>		Install paper and soap dispensers
		Add grab pole handle
<i>2009</i>	Modify men's washroom in main hall 2 nd floor	Change the door closer in order to reduce tension
<i>2009</i>		Change sink, taps and partition's door handles
<i>Not possible – building code.</i>		Modify one stall to meet access needs
<i>2009</i>		Install paper and soap dispensers

2009			Add grab pole handle
2009		Modify women's washroom in main hall 2 nd floor	Change the door closer in order to reduce tension
2009			Change sink, taps and partition's door handles
2009			Modify one stall to meet access needs
2009			Install paper and soap dispensers
2009			Add grab pole handle
<i>Not possible - Fire access ramp- security issue</i>		Arena ice rink ramp	Install an accessible ramp in spectators space
2010-2011	MUNICIPAL PARKS		Pave the access paths to the following parks 1. Embrun Lafortune ball park 2. Yahoo 3. Camelot 4. Mélanie 5. Omer Lamadeleine 6. Lapointe-Patenaude 7. Bourdeau 8. MacDougall 9 Stiver 10. Boyd 11. Pool
2011	PUBLIC UTILITIES BUILDING	⇒	⇒ To be addressed in 2011
2010-2014	MUNICIPAL SIDEWALKS	⇒	In need of immediate attention: In Russell ⇒ along Castor near first and second streets ⇒ the sidewalks and curbs from the fair grounds to the bridge ⇒ the corners of Castor Street, Mill

- Street,
- ⇒ North Russell and Concession,
 - ⇒ Craig, Legion Street and Concession
 - ⇒ Maple street and Concession,
 - ⇒ First Street and Castor
 - ⇒ Second Street and Castor
 - ⇒ in front of Mother Theresa Catholic School, broken sidewalk and no curb cut

In Embrun:

- ⇒ Corner of Notre-Dame and Jeanne d'Arc
- ⇒ Corner of St-Augustin and Forget
- ⇒ Corner Forget and ST-Jean Baptiste
- ⇒ Corner of Forget and Jeanne d-Arc
- ⇒ Corner of St-Augustin and Notre-Dame also require attention but the urgency is less than the ones listed above.

It is important to state that it is the second time that the AAC visits the ARENA in RUSSELL and EMBRUN as well as both Community Centers. It is, however, the first time it visits the Marionville Community Centre.