

The Corporation Of The Town Of Thessalon

ACCESSIBILITY PLAN

to be used as an addendum to the  
Accessibility Plan dated September 15, 2003

November 17, 2014

Submitted to:

Mayor and Council

Submitted by:

Robert P. MacLean  
Clerk Treasurer  
Co-ordinator of the Accessibility Working Group

## **Barriers Addressed/To Be Addressed in 2014 - 2015**

### **Health Centre**

- The Town has submitted applications for funding three times through the Enabling Accessibility Fund for the replacement/relocation of the existing ramp and replacement of the stairs. The request has been unsuccessful each time.
- Also included in the application was the replacement of the doors for the doctor's office to wider doors with automatic openers to enable better accessibility into that office.
- The staff will continue to submit applications through the Enabling Accessibility Fund while staff will continue to monitor funding options to determine if alternate funding may be available to complete these upgrades.
- Other options, such as construction of a new building or relocation, are being considered.

### **Municipal Office**

- The application for the Health Centre also included a request to add automatic door openers to the two entrance doors at the Lorne Street entrance of the municipal office to enable better accessibility to the W. J. Barrett Chambers.
- The staff will continue to submit applications through the Enabling Accessibility Fund while staff will continue to monitor funding options to determine if alternate funding may be available to complete this upgrade.

### **Website Upgrades**

- The Request for Proposal for a new website design has included the requirements for the Accessible Information and Communications standard for website content WCAG 2.0 Level A. The new website is expected to be operational in the fall of 2014.

### **Accessibility Policies**

- Policies will be developed to meet the requirements of the Integrated Accessibility Standards as each of the following sections are implemented: General Requirements, Information and Communications, Employment and Transportation according to their required deadlines. Policies have been developed for Customer Service; Emergency Procedures, Plans or Public Information; Workplace Emergency Response Information; Duties of Municipalities-Taxicabs and Procurement of Goods and Services.

### **Review and Monitoring of the Process**

Council continues its commitment to ensure that existing barriers are removed and steps are taken to prevent future barriers.

Monitoring will continue to ensure that all applicable Integrated Accessibility Standards are being met by the required deadlines.

Council members and other staff have been trained in order to fulfill our obligations with regard to the Accessibility Standards for Customer Service. A training plan will be developed as each new standard is implemented to ensure that all staff are trained in the standards that are applicable to their respective jobs.

Election training provided to the area municipalities for the 2014 Municipal Election included an accessibility video. The voting for the election was held in accessible locations at the Municipal Office and Algoma Manor.

### **Communication of the Plan**

This plan will be reviewed at least once every five years. It is available at the Thessalon Municipal Office and on the Town's web site. It is available in an alternate format upon request.