

TOWN OF THESSALON

Annual Status Report 2023

The Town of Thessalon strives to ensure a fully accessible environment for all persons with disabilities, and will continue to build upon and improve its practices in addition to ensuring that it meets the accessibility needs of persons with disabilities in a timely manner, consistent with the specific requirements of the AODA and its regulations.

Roadway Improvements

- Lakeside Drive Paving and pedestrian walkway with rest areas - completed.
- River St. East entrance repaving with new section of sidewalks - completed
- Huron Street Paving and pedestrian walkway (pending contractor)

Buildings

- New Marina Building (pending contractor)
- Lakeside Park Washroom Upgrades (pending contractor)
- Accessible washroom/changeroom at Lakeside Beach - completed
- Accessible washroom/changeroom at Peace Park Beach - completed

Trails

- Refurbished boardwalk at Thessalon Marina (pending contractor)
- Installation of accessible walkway and accessible viewing platform is underway at the Thessalon Coastal Trail, the installation of this walkway and platform will allow those with disabilities the opportunity to use portions of the trail to walk or wheel; this project is not yet complete – currently signage, and a parking area is underway for this trail.

Digital

- Documents are reviewed using an accessibility checker through Microsoft and Adobe Pro before placing documents on the Town website
- A website accessibility audit was included in the 2023 Budget and is underway by the Town's website administrator Kapptive Studios
- In March 2023, the Activities Facilitator Office Assistant completed the Accessible Graphic Design Tips and Best Practices online course offered by Accessibility Services Canada

- In March 2023, the Deputy Clerk completed the Auditing your Website for Accessibility online course offered by Accessibility Services Canada

Other

- Accessible Mat (Mobi-Mat) purchased and installed at Lakeside Beach

Pending grant application approval as of June 2023:

- Kayak Launch at Marina
- Accessible beach access mats (Mobi-Mats), and wheelchairs at Peace Park and Lakeside Beach
- Expansion of trail into Lakeside Park from adjacent Algoma Manor Nursing Home
- Council has approved an application to be submitted through the Northern Ontario Heritage – application to be completed/pending for accessible and inclusive playground rehabilitation at Lakeside Park

As indicated in our Accessibility Plan, monitoring continues on an on-going basis to ensure that existing barriers are removed and steps taken to prevent future barriers.