

October 2006- September 2007

CORPORATION
OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF PERRY

Perry Township Accessibility Plan



October 2006

Submitted to:
Mayor and Council
Township of Perry

Submitted by:
Will Jaques
Clerk-Administrator

THIS PLAN CAN BE MADE AVAILABLE IN ALTERNATIVE FORMATS, AS REQUESTED

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PURPOSE

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 mandates that each municipality prepare an annual accessibility plan.

This is the fourth year of the plan (2006-2007) prepared by the Township of Perry. This report describes the measures that the Township has taken in the past year and the measures that the Township will take during the current year to identify, remove and prevent barriers to people with disabilities who use the facilities and services of the Township. This includes both staff and members of the community at large.

AIM

This report describes measures that the Township of Perry has taken, and will take, to identify, remove and prevent barriers to people with disabilities who utilize the facilities and services of the Township.

OBJECTIVES

This report:

1. Describes the efforts made by the Township in identifying and removing any obstacles to people with disabilities.
2. Describes the measures the Township has taken to remove barriers to people with disabilities.
3. Describes the barriers that the Township will attempt to remedy in the coming year for people with disabilities.
4. Describes how the Township will continue to make this accessibility plan available to the public.

DESCRIPTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PERRY

The Township of Perry is located in Northeastern Ontario. The Township is bordered on the North by the Township of Armour, the Northwest by the Township of Ryerson and to the west by the Township of McMurrich/Monteith. As well, the Township is bordered to the South and Southwest by the former municipalities of Stisted and Chaffey (now the Town of Huntsville), to the East by the Town of Kearney and to the Southeast by the Township of Lake of Bays.

The Township has a population of approximately 1929 persons (Source: 2003 MPAC Population Report). There is one English Public School operating within the Township, which has an estimated enrollment of 320 students. The Township is serviced by two publicly owned and one privately owned Community Centres. The publicly owned Centres are located at the North and South ends of the Township (Emsdale and Novar, respectively). The Community Centre in Emsdale shares the property with the Township's library, a park, outdoor rink and ball field. Parks and an outdoor rink are in close proximity to the community centre in Novar, as well.

The Township has operational control of the Almaguin Highlands Information Centre (AHIC), located on Highway #11, just North of Novar. The Centre is a stopping point for many people from outside of the Township, but it is also the location of the Township's Council Chambers, making it an integral facility for the people who live within the Township.

The Recycling Centre/Transfer Station is located North of Novar, on Highway #592. This facility is no longer in operation as a landfill site, but it serves as a collection site for household refuse. There are two fire halls within the Township. One is located in Novar and the other is located in Emsdale. The Emsdale fire hall is also the location of the office of the Fire Chief for the Township. The Township's office and garage, which houses the administrative personnel and public works department, respectively, continues to be located in Emsdale.

COUNCIL COMMITMENT TO ACCESSABILITY PLANNING

The Council of the Corporation of Perry is committed to the continual improvement of access to all municipally owned facilities, premises and services for those with disabilities.

The Council has authorized the Clerk-Administrator to prepare and make an accessibility plan that will meet these commitments.

RECENT BARRIER REMOVAL INITIATIVES

While many of the barriers to accessibility have been rectified at the Township's buildings and sites in 2006.

More audio books with Braille title pages have been ordered for the Perry Township library, as well as CD audio books.

The Township has entered into agreement for the sorting and handling of its household recyclable materials, including various plastic products, at its Recycling and Transfer Station. This continues to make for easier sorting practices for residents, especially those with visual impairments. Assistance will continue to be provided for ALL customers, as required.

BARRIER IDENTIFACATION AND BARRIERS TO REMOVE

One barrier that seems to be continually be difficult to remedy is a lack of public transportation for residents who cannot operate a motor vehicle. This identified barrier is keeping residents of Perry Township from attaining their daily needs, getting to Council meetings, taking their garbage to the Recycling Centre/Transfer Station, attending reading sessions at the library and attending functions at the Emsdale and Novar Community Centres. The Township is too rural and sparsely populated for any sort of public transportation to be supported, but efforts will continue to be made in the coming year to formulate a list of driver organizations.

REVIEW AND MONITORING OF THE PROCESS

Council will be monitoring this plan annually to identify any obstacles or barriers under the Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2001 (ODA).

COMMUNICATION OF THE PLAN

This plan will be made available on the website and at the Township office. The Township will make every reasonable attempt to make it available to those with disabilities for their perusal and review. Copies of the plan will be available in large print.

Questions and Correspondence related to this plan should be directed to:

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