



## **The Corporation of the Town of LaSalle**

**To:** Members of the LaSalle Accessibility Advisory Committee

**Prepared by:** Linda Jean, Deputy Clerk

**Department:** Council Services

**Date of Report:** November 15, 2019

**Report Number:** CL-25-19

**Subject:** 2019 Annual Year End Accessibility Status Report

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### **Recommendation**

That the report of the Deputy Clerk dated November 15, 2019 (CL-25-19) regarding the 2019 annual year end Accessibility Status Report BE RECEIVED.

### **Report**

The 2019 year-end Accessibility Status Report is an annual update that outlines completed and ongoing initiatives to improve accessibility implemented by the Accessibility for Ontarians Disability Act (AODA). The purpose of the status report is to make the public aware of the progress of the Municipality to prevent and remove barriers and to meet requirements under the AODA.

The Town of LaSalle continually strives to promote a barrier free and accessible environment and ensures compliance is met under all regulations of the Act. In addition, through the Town of LaSalle Accessible Customer Service Standards Policy, service delivery is provided in a way that preserves the dignity and independence of all persons with disabilities.

Accessibility Successes in 2019:

Accessible Customer Service

- The Accessible Customer Service Standard Policy was reviewed and updated in October, 2019

### Information and Communications

- Completed: Creating Accessible PDF documents training was provided in person to numerous staff on September 12, 2019
- Ongoing: Several forms on the Town of LaSalle website were updated to be fillable accessible PDF's
- Ongoing: Working towards compliance with the AODA focusing on requirements set out in the World Wide Web Consortium. Visitors on our site can expect to find the use of plain language, documents offered in alternative formats, using appropriate heading tags for content and alternative text tags for images
- Completed: Adjustments can be made on our website to the way information is displayed on the computer screen such as increasing the font size or using Browsealoud and having the words on the screen read to you
- Completed in 2019: An interactive accessible map which is located on our website was designed and created to help people discover parks, trails and activities in LaSalle

### Human Resources

- Ongoing: Continue to notify the public that accommodations will be available upon request
- Ongoing: Continue to provide accommodations if required for persons who are employed with the Corporation
- Ongoing: Continue to provide accommodations for person who have submitted a resume to the Corporation or interviewing for a position with the Town
- Ongoing: Continue to educate all new hires, volunteers and contractors on Accessible Customer Service Standards

### Design of Public Spaces

- Completed: The stairs to the pool slide located at the Vollmer Complex have been painted in two tone stripes for increased visibility – completed in 2019
- Ongoing: A quote has been received to paint the stairs at the Vollmer Complex arenas two-tone stripes for increased visibility. This has been referred to 2020 Budget Deliberations
- Ongoing: A quote has been received to add a lift to the public bathroom located on the upper floor of the LaSalle Civic Center and in the main family bathroom located at the Vollmer Complex. This has been referred to 2020 Budget Deliberations
- Ongoing: A quote has been received to convert ice rink B located at the Vollmer Complex to accommodate sledge hockey. This has been referred to 2020 Budget Deliberations.

- Ongoing: Heritage Park Project – A new fully accessible playground which includes a 5000 square foot structure that will incorporate interactive panes and ramps to allow users to easily get from one level to the next, an accessible swing and a rubberized surface. All surrounding pathways and structure upgrades will be AODA compliant.
- Completed: Upgrades to the accessible base of the playground surface and upgrades of playground equipment by adding transfer stations at Seven Lakes Park, Wilkinson Park, Ojibway Oaks Park and Chappus Park.
- Ongoing: Upgrades to sidewalk approaches including tactile warning plates and proper curb cuts
- Ongoing: Malden Road Corridor - Traffic signal timings have been synced for improved traffic flow as well as review of crosswalk timings to better accommodate persons of all abilities

Access to recreation:

- Ongoing: Continued partnership with Family Respite Services to support children and teens with disabilities while participating in various programs
- Ongoing: The walking track located at the Vollmer Complex was free of charge in 2019 and many organizations that support adults with disabilities took advantage of the opportunity to bring clients to walk in a safe, climate controlled setting
- Ongoing: Continued support is offered to various agencies by providing access to programs and facilities at no charge for support workers
- Ongoing: A new partnership was established with Community Living to access Pathway to Potential Funds to support adults with disabilities in accessing the Vollmer Fitness Centre
- Ongoing: A new partnership was created with Schlegel Villages to offer the Elderwisdom Green Bench where a senior is available to speak with the public and share experiences regarding overcoming accessible obstacles
- Ongoing: A focus on seniors programs continues to ensure adults 55+ have access to programs and services that will assist in maintaining mobility and accessibility
- The annual 2019 Town of LaSalle Strawberry Festival was held in parking lots 2 and 3 at the Vollmer Recreation Complex, a change from previous years where the festival was held at Gil Maure Park which is a grassy area. Parking lot 2 is paved and parking lot 3 is gravel, which helped to improve accessibility

Grant applications:

- Successful at receiving a grant to convert 3 playground bases to engineered wood fiber

Emergency Response:

- Ongoing: Continue to provide emergency information in formats that are accessible and take into account the disabilities of members of the public requesting information
- Ongoing: Continue to ensure the Everbridge emergency notification system is accessible for the hearing impaired
- Ongoing: Continue to collect individualized emergency response information for new employees
- Ongoing: Continue to advise employees of workplace emergency response information and develop a procedure for implementation

Continuous achievements:

- Ongoing: The Accessibility Advisory Committee continues to meet every other month to review accessibility initiatives
- Ongoing: Mental Health training has been and will continue to be provided to staff
- Ongoing: The public is notified of availability of accessible formats in communication supports
- Completed: The Accessibility Coordinator filed the 2019 Accessibility Compliance Report with the Accessibility Directorate of Ontario under the Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility

## **Consultations**

Administration Department  
Corporate Communications and Promotions Officer  
Human Resources Department  
Culture & Recreation Department  
Public Works Department  
Finance Department  
Development & Strategic Initiatives Department  
LaSalle Fire Services

## **Financial Implications**

Not applicable

**Prepared By:**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Linda Jean". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letter "L" being particularly large and stylized.

Deputy Clerk

Linda Jean

## Link to Strategic Priorities

	Expanding and diversifying our assessment base
Yes	Effectively communicating the activities and interests of the Town
Yes	Managing our human and financial resources in a responsible manner
	Promoting and marketing LaSalle
Yes	Promote a healthy and environmentally conscious community

## Communications

	Not applicable
Yes	Website
	Social Media
	News Release
	Local Newspaper
	Bids & Tenders
	Notification pursuant to the Planning Act

## Notifications

Name	Address	Email

### Report Approval Details

Document Title:	2019 Year End Accessibility Report .docx
Attachments:	
Final Approval Date:	Nov 20, 2019

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

  
Director, Council Services/Clerk

Agatha Robertson