

Appendix C
**Municipality of Grey Highlands
Accessibility Plan**

Introduction

The Municipality of Grey Highlands is primarily a rural municipality. With a population approaching 10,000, it is not required by the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act 2005 (AODA) to form an Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC). However, the AODA requires all municipalities to implement an Accessibility Plan. This is a public document and under the terms of the AODA, organizations are accountable to their communities for accessibility improvements. The Grey Highlands Council determined that participating in a joint AAC and plan would provide an opportunity to consult with persons with disabilities and to coordinate a plan with neighbouring municipalities. It is the intent of Council to work towards removing the identified barriers over time and to revise this plan as necessary.

1.1 Plan

This Plan provides a clear policy so that the Municipality integrates accessibility into its planning for corporate, strategic and financial resources, basically budgeting resources and staff time. The AODA defines disability.

The Grey Highlands Council passed a resolution and provided written documentation dated February 14, 2003 to authorize its participation on the joint committee and to contribute to a joint plan. Council retains the authority to approve any changes to this appendix and the plan, in co-operation with other parties to this plan.

1.2 Committee

The County of Grey Joint Accessibility Advisory Committee enables consultation with people with disabilities when new or expanded municipal facilities are planned. Assistance from community stakeholders and the perspective of persons with disabilities are needed to identify and implement policy to remove barriers.

The Joint AAC enables consultation with people with disabilities when renovations to existing facilities are planned. Assistance from community stakeholders and the expertise of persons with disabilities are needed to identify and assist in the implementation of work to remove barriers.

The Council may request that the joint AAC review and provide advice on other proposed institutional, industrial or commercial development, through the planning process, as deemed necessary.

1.3 Goals and Objectives

To comply with the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005.

To identify barriers currently in the community and measures taken to date to address these constraints.

To identify means of removing barriers and include them within future documents and planned community improvements.

To include barrier-free criteria in assessing land use development proposals.

1.4 Barriers Identified and Projects Complete

The Grey Highlands Council facilitated the creation of an accessibility inventory of all municipal facilities. A preliminary review of these facilities occurred in early 2010 with the inclusion of several facilities to the list that had not been reviewed in previous reports. A more intensive review of all municipally owned and operated facilities is scheduled for the fall of 2010.

During the past 12 months a number of barrier items have been addressed. Additionally, a number of plans have been started in order to complete.

The Kimberley Hall Complex had a barrier free entrance installed in the 2006 calendar year. This made the facility accessible. Access to the Washrooms and Kitchens remains an issue that the Community is working to develop a plan to address.

The Maxwell Seniors Centre and its members completed a Trillium Grant Application and were successful in retaining a grant. Fully accessible washroom facilities and entrance have been constructed in the 2007 calendar year.

The Markdale Recreation Complex has been upgraded due to a Community Adjustment Fund grant and is now considered to be barrier-free in the majority of the facility. The upstairs Hall washrooms remain an issue to be considered going forward.

The Flesherton Community Centre (Kinxplex) is undergoing renovations in the summer of 2010 due to funding from the Infrastructure Stimulus Fund to provide an accessible entryway and washroom at the hall.

The South Grey Museum is working towards barrier-free washroom facilities.

The Flesherton branch of the Grey Highlands Library will be built in the summer/fall of 2010 due to funding from the Build Canada Fund – Communities Component.

The table listing all barriers to Municipal Facilities is a living document and continues to be updated annually.

1.5 Policies Affecting New Development Proposals

The Zoning Bylaw contains provisions regarding handicap parking and accessibility of structures. All other municipal bylaws and policies will comply with the requirements of the AODA as the standards are released.

Responsibilities that include enforcing the barrier-free access requirements of the Ontario Building Code and implementing key accessibility considerations under the AODA are crucial roles for local municipalities involved with development and building approvals.

The Site Plan Control review process may be amended to include the AAC in an advisory capacity, recognizing the insight it provides when meeting AODA requirements.

1.6 Annual Review Program

The Municipality of Grey Highlands undertakes an ongoing assessment of its community facilities to identify barriers and to monitor these facilities. Subsequent to the assessment, the Municipality will re-establish priorities and include work in the budget to address barriers. A full review of all municipally owned and operated facilities will be completed by the end of 2010.

**Municipality of Grey Highlands
Inventory of Municipal Facilities**

Location/ Facility	Barrier Type - Description	Strategy for Removal	Status/ Actions
Municipal Office	No automatic door.	-push button access and reduce door sill	2010 budget consideration
Euphrasia Arena - Rocklyn	No automatic doors. No curb cuts. No accessible drinking fountains. No wheelchair accessible washroom facilities or kitchen. No upper level access. No stage access.	-push button access and reduce door sill - add curb cuts - uncertain - renovation of existing facilities - due to construction of building this is not feasible - uncertain due to construction	Major budget consideration required.
Flesherton Arena	-	-	Considered barrier-free in 2010
Flesherton Library	Stairs at front entrance, library collection not accessible. No automatic door, no handicapped parking spaces. Lower meeting room partially accessible.		Replacement of building in summer/fall 2010.
Kimberley Library	No automatic door No accessible washrooms.	- push button entry - not possible due to construction of building	Major budget consideration required.

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Inventory of Municipal Facilities**

Location/ Facility	Barrier Type - Description	Strategy for Removal	Status/ Actions
Kinplex Hall - Flesherton	No automatic door openers. No accessible washrooms.	- new entryway required - new facilities or renovation of existing	Hall undergoing renovations in 2010.
Markdale Complex	No accessible washroom in Upper Hall	- renovation of existing washroom facilities	Budget consideration in 2011.
Markdale Library	-	-	Barrier-free
Maxwell Hall	No automatic door openers. No handicap parking spaces. No wheelchair accessible washroom facilities or kitchen. No lower level access. No stage access.	- push button - Handicap parking spaces to be considered - - not possible given construction - uncertain	Hall board is considering grant application for accessible washroom facilities and entrance.
Osprey Arena	No automatic door openers. No accessible drinking fountain. No accessible washroom facilities or kitchen. No stage access.	- push button and curb cut - uncertain - renovation of washroom facilities, kitchen accessible with main door - uncertain	Major budget consideration required. With automatic door openers the kitchen will be accessible.
South Grey Museum	No handicapped parking spaces. No accessible washroom facilities.	- push button - Handicap parking spaces to be considered in 2010.	Major budget consideration required.
Stothart Hall	No wheelchair	- exterior elevator	Major budget

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Location/ Facility	Barrier Type - Description	Strategy for Removal	Status/ Actions
- Priceville	accessible entrance including automatic door openers. No handicap parking spaces. No wheelchair accessible washroom facilities. No upper/lower level access. No stage access.	or ramp – very difficult given original construction - Handicap parking spaces to be considered in 2010. - renovation of existing facilities - exterior ramp or elevator - uncertain	consideration required.
Markdale Clinic	No accessible entry	- push button and door sill	Budget consideration required
Olde Markdale Firehall	No upper level access No accessible entry	- elevator & interior improvements - new entry way	Major budget consideration required.
Old Osprey Town Hall (Farmstead)	No accessible entry	- Ramp to porch level and push button	Budget consideration required
Old Artemesia Town Hall (The Lube Centre)	No upper level access No accessible entry	- exterior elevator - new entry way (major construction)	Budget consideration required
Markdale Fire Station (Station #2)	No accessible entry	- push button and door sill	Budget consideration required
Flesherton Fire Station (Station #1)	No accessible entry	- push button and door sill	Budget consideration required
Old Euphrasia Town Hall	No accessible entry	- push button	Building not currently occupied by public
Duncan Community Center	No accessible entryway	- push button and ramp	Major budget consideration required.