

The Corporation of the Township of Hornepayne 2024 Annual Accessibility Status Report

The Accessibility Status Report is an annual update on the progress of the measures taken to improve accessibility and implement the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005, (AODA) and the Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation (O. Reg. 191/11).

This Status Report includes the accessibility initiatives and improvements that were completed in 2024 to implement the strategies outlined in the Township of Hornepayne Multi-Year Accessibility Plan (2023-2027).

The Township of Hornepayne is committed to fostering an inclusive community by ensuring equal access and participation for all individuals, regardless of ability. Our initiatives are aligned with the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) goals, aiming to make our community fully accessible by 2025.

Key Accomplishments in 2024:

1. Community Safety and Well-Being (CSWB) Plan:

 The CSWB Plan was presented and approved by the Council on January 10, 2024. This plan highlights strategies to address community isolation and improve access to services.

2. Ongoing Training:

 Continued commitment to training staff and community leaders on accessibility standards, maintaining a culture of continuous improvement.

3. Policy Development:

 Ensured that accessibility principles were embedded in all new policy and plan developments to guarantee that future projects are inclusive and barrier-free.

Maintaining Accessibility:

- Regular updates were performed to ensure our website and online resources remain accessible to all users, adhering to the WCAG 2.0 Level AA standards.
- Continued offering digital accessibility features, such as online feedback forms and accessible public documents, to make information easily accessible to all residents.

Community Commitment:

Hornepayne strives to foster an inclusive environment by proactively enhancing accessibility wherever possible. We aim to strengthen our policies and practices while engaging our community in dialogues on improving accessibility year by year.

Conclusion:

The Township of Hornepayne recognizes the invaluable benefits of accessibility for enhancing community inclusion and well-being. Our ongoing initiatives demonstrate our dedication to progressively removing barriers and improving accessibility across all aspects of public life.

Progress towards an accessible Hornepayne is ongoing and steadfast. We invite community feedback and suggestions to ensure our journeys, both physical and virtual, are open and accessible to everyone.

For more details or to provide feedback on our accessibility initiatives, please visit our <u>website</u> or contact our office directly, located at 68 Front Street, Hornepayne, Ontario, P0M 1Z0, and available by phone at 807-868-2020.