

JOINT ACCESSIBILITY PLAN: 2023-2027

2025 Accomplishments



The Council of the County of Haliburton is committed and guided by the four core principles of Accessibility - Dignity, Independence, Integration and Equal Opportunity - and supports the full inclusion of persons with disabilities as set out in the *Ontario Human Rights Code* and the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005* and its Standards.

All persons deserve the right to perform the tasks of daily living within their communities while utilizing County and Municipal buildings, properties or events. The County of Haliburton and the Municipalities it includes works toward a barrier-free community with assistance and guidance from a Joint Accessibility Committee.

With the passing of the Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation (IASR) under *the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA)*, the County and its member municipalities have created a multi-year plan to assist in implementing policies, practices, procedures and training, and to identify and evaluate projects to remove barriers.

Below is a summary of some of the 2025 successes as a result of the 2023-2027 plan.

County of Haliburton:

- ✓ Created a public education campaign around National AccessAbility Week (May 25 – 31), sharing accessibility improvements and projects designed to remove barriers and create a fair and welcoming society for everyone in the County of Haliburton.
- ✓ Recognized National Accessibility Week and Red Shirt Day of Action for AccessAbility and Inclusion at a meeting of County Council.
- ✓ Proclaimed Dec. 3 to be International Day of Persons with Disabilities at a meeting of County Council.
- ✓ Underwent an AODA desktop audit with the Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility.

Township of Algonquin Highlands:

- ✓ Existing Public Works garage was renovated and made AODA compliant. Updates included an accessible washroom and office spaces.
- ✓ A new Public Works garage was constructed in compliance with AODA requirements and is fully accessible.
- ✓ Pathway installed in compliance with AODA requirements in the new natural burial section of the St. Stephen's Cemetery.
- ✓ Swing set and pathways at Oxtongue Lake Community Centre were completed in a 2025 installation.

Municipality of Dysart et al:

- ✓ Two new accessible parking spots were designated in front of the Haliburton Legion.
- ✓ A new accessible privy was constructed at Sand Point Beach at Drag Lake.
- ✓ A new accessible picnic table is on order for Glebe Park.
- ✓ A new accessible beach mat was put in place at Rotary Beach to enable people to get onto the docks. Transition plates will be placed over the gaps in the dock so wheels can easily glide from one section to the next.
- ✓ A new kayak arm has been installed on the dock at Rotary Beach which provides greater stability to individuals boarding kayaks on the water.

Municipality of Highlands East:

- ✓ Underwent an AODA desktop audit with the Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility, resulting in the inclusion of procedures for preventative and emergency maintenance of the accessible elements in public spaces within the joint accessibility plan and on the municipality's website to ensure compliance.
- ✓ Accessible trails and pathways created in Herlihey Park.
- ✓ Poured a concrete ramp and installed a low-barrier service counter at the Lloyd Watson Centre.

Township of Minden Hills:

- ✓ Sought engineering drawings and scope of improvements for municipal building accessible ramp.
- ✓ Applied for a grant opportunity for S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena accessible buttons and washroom accessible door systems.
- ✓ Investigating 2026 capital project to review municipal Water Street dock.
- ✓ Sought engineering drawings and scope of improvements for library accessible ramp.

To view the Multi-Year Joint Accessibility Plan, 2023-2027, visit [the County of Haliburton's Accessibility Page](#).

For more information, contact:

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