



Exhibition Place

August 28, 2014

To: The Board of Governors of Exhibition Place

FOR INFORMATION

From: Dianne Young
Chief Executive Officer

Subject: **Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005**

Summary:

This report provides a framework that outlines Exhibition Place's strategies to meet its legislative obligations under the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 (AODA) and the Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulations which came into force on July 1, 2011. The AODA's Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation (IASR) establishes accessibility standards in the four key areas of Employment, Information and Communications, Transportation, and Public Spaces. The requirements currently in regulation are phased in between 2011 and 2021.

The newly legislated multi-year plan (the Plan) outlines a phased-in strategy to prevent and remove barriers and addresses the current and future requirements of the AODA and how Exhibition Place will meet accessibility standards in two of the four key areas. The Plan will be posted on Exhibition Place's website in September 2014 and made available in accessible formats upon request. Staff will report annually on the progress and implementation of the Plan.

Financial Impact:

There is no financial implication arising from this report, however future financial impacts resulting from AODA compliance requirements will be addressed and considered within the capital and operating budget process.

Decision History:

The Exhibition Place 2014 – 2016 Strategic Plan had a Safety & Security Goal to *develop and implement the next phase of the Accessibility Plan for the grounds* and as a Strategy to support this Goal *we will update the AODA Policy and plan with timelines*.

At its meeting of April 23, 2010, the Board approved a policy entitled Accessibility.

Issue Background:

The IASR brings together accessible standards for Employment, Information and Communications, Transportation, and Public Spaces under one regulation and harmonizes requirements common to each standard. An additional requirement for Exhibition Place is to incorporate accessibility criteria and features when purchasing goods, services and facilities. The IASR was preceded by the Accessible Customer Service Standard, which has been in effect since January 2010. The IASR does not replace or affect existing legal obligations under the *Ontario Human Rights Code* and other existing laws with respect to the accommodation of persons with disabilities. Each of the accessibility standards articulates specific requirements and compliance deadlines which will be phased in across the Province between 2011 and 2021. The IASR is enforceable and applies to public, private and non-profit sectors. Contraventions of major impact can be assessed at \$100,000 per day for a corporation, and \$50,000 per day for an individual or unincorporated association.

Comments:

Exhibition Place's multi-year plan covers the period from 2013 to 2018 and addresses Employment, Information and Communication and Incorporation of accessibility requirements when acquiring good, services or facilities. The Plan does not address the Transportation because Exhibition Place does not offer any form of transportation service (i.e. TTC etc.) and the plan for Public Space is a preliminary approach to build form at this time as Exhibition Place is working with City staff on this criteria and once the City has standardized guidelines, Exhibition Place will flow.

Consistent with its legislative obligations and policy commitments, Exhibition Place strives to provide its services, programs and facilities in a way that provides equal treatment and equitable benefits, and, in a manner which respects the dignity and independence of people of all abilities.

Contact

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