



*The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa  
Staff Report*

*Clerk*

<b>Prepared For: CAO</b>	<b>Report No.: CC-2021-11</b>
<b>Date: December 8, 2021</b>	<b>File No.: BL 3241-09</b>

**Subject**

The Municipality of Wawa adopted its Multi-Year Accessibility Plan for the period 2019 to 2024. The Accessibility Status Report is the annual update on the progress of measures taken within the Municipality of Wawa to improve accessibility and implement the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 (AODA) and the Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation (Ontario Regulation 191/11). This Status Report includes the accessibility initiatives that were completed in 2021 to implement the strategies outlined in the Wawa Multi-Year Accessibility Plan. The purpose of this Status Report is to make the public aware of the progress with regards to the Multi-Year Accessibility Plan.

**List of Stakeholders**

The list of Stakeholders includes:

- The Municipality of Wawa
- All Departments within the Municipality of Wawa
- Mayor and Council

**Summary of Recommendation**

**RESOLVED THAT** Council of the Municipality of Wawa hereby:

1. Receive the Clerk's Report on the 2020 Accessibility Status Report.
2. Accept the 2020 Accessibility Report for the Municipality of Wawa at the next Regular meeting of Council.

<b>Respectfully Submitted By:</b> Cathy Cyr Clerk	<b>Reviewed By:</b> Maury O'Neill CAO-Treasurer
Name/Signature/Title 	Supervisor's Name/Signature/Title 

## Background

The Municipality of Wawa is committed to eliminating barriers and improving access for persons with disabilities by providing its citizens with an inclusive accessible community through its passage and adoption of strategies and policies that promote dignity, independence, integration and equal opportunity for all citizens.

The Municipality of Wawa will continue to work under the legislative frameworks of the AODA, the Ontario Human Rights Code, 1990, and other associated pieces of legislation to ensure that compliance with accessibility standards are achieved.

## Achievements and Successes

Over the past year, the Municipality of Wawa has accomplished the following:

### **1. Legislative Compliance:**

- The Municipality of Wawa commenced the process for a municipal-wide Strategic Plan, which will include strategies to ensure sustainable accessibility in future development and re-development;
- Providing employees with Individual Accommodation Plans where needed and consulted on during the year and performance reviews;
- Posting all available job opportunities in accessible formats, and offering alternative formats for potential interviews.

### **2. Community Mobility**

- Installed accessible sidewalks and curb cuts along Mission Road;
- Conducted a roads and sidewalk conditions audit to determine the needs and upgrades required for municipal infrastructure. Any upgrades would provide accessible sidewalks and curb-cuts;
- Undertook building review of the Town Hall to ensure upgrades may be made to the building to make the building accessible.

### **3. Accessible Recreation**

- Installed accessible washrooms Dr. Rose's Beach;
- Installed new playground equipment at the Wawa Beachfront that includes accessible features.

### **4. Meeting and Event Accessibility**

- Improved technology in the Council Chambers by purchasing a Meeting Owl and live-streaming all Council and Committee Meetings via Zoom. Members of the public are able to participate in meetings remotely through

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Zoom or view the meetings through the Municipality of Wawa's YouTube Channel.

**5. *Additional Achievements***

- Updated the Wawa Municipal Website to WCAG Level AA;
- Installed additional handicap parking in the downtown core to that individuals would have access to various businesses;
- Installed numerous benches in the downtown core to provide a resting area for persons requiring places to rest;

**6. *Goals and Next Steps for Accessibility***

- Ensure the Municipality of Wawa continues to meet compliance with the AODA, its regulations and all other legislation;
- Continue to review Municipality of Wawa policies and procedures to ensure accessibility compliance;
- Strive to ensure that new facilities, programs, and services are designed and created with accessibility features incorporated;
- Continue to provide resources and training materials to staff and volunteers to promote awareness and education regarding accessibility requirements and obligations throughout the organization;
- Work with all municipal departments to explore new and innovative methods to remove and prevent barriers to access;
- New audio system to be installed in the Council Chambers to ensure all may participate and hear meetings;

**Financial Impact**

No financial impact.

**Attachments**

None.