



2015-2019 ACCESSIBILITY PLAN



Mississippi
Mills

INTRODUCTION

Disabilities affect people of all ages and background. Some people are born with one or more disabilities. Many others develop disabilities through illness, injury or aging. People with disabilities represent a significant and growing part of our population. Statistics Canada report that approximately 1.8 million Ontarians have disabilities - about 13.5% of the population. Because disability tends to increase with age, it is estimated that 20% of the population will have disabilities by the year 2020. Enhancing the ability of people with disabilities to live independently and contribute to the community will have positive effects on future prosperity in Ontario.

Municipal governments play an important role in the planning and development of communities: in our streets, parks, libraries, social housing, ambulance services, programs, services, public buildings and elections. The Province of Ontario recognized that accessibility is a shared responsibility and passed the *Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2001* (ODA) on December 14, 2001 to require provincial and municipal governments and key broader public sector organizations to review their policies, programs and services through the development of annual accessibility plans. In addition, municipalities with populations of 10,000 and over must have an Accessibility Advisory Committee.

In June 2005, the Province of Ontario furthered its commitment to accessibility by expanding previous legislation to include the private sector with the goal to achieve accessibility for Ontarians with disabilities by 2025. The purpose of the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005, is to achieve accessibility for Ontarians with disabilities in five important areas of their lives within specified time limits:

- customer service
- transportation
- information and communications
- built environment
- employment

The multi-year plan sets out strategies to identify and remove barriers to accessibility. It also positions the Municipality as a leader in accessibility matters in the community.

PART A – MULTI-YEAR STRATEGIES

2015 – FOCUS ON THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNICATION

Strategy 1: Promote leadership in the community with regard to accessible built environment.

Measures

- Identify and recognize community projects which have addressed and prevented barriers to accessibility.
- Communicate “good news” stories
- Update the table – where municipal buildings stand as far as accessibility upgrades – in the current year plan
- Encourage accessibility upgrades for retrofits and other building projects.
- Help forward compliance with the Built Environment Standard at municipal facilities.

2016 – FOCUS PARKS

Strategy: Identify areas of improvement at municipal parks.

Measures

- Undertake site reviews and assessments to identify, prevent and remove barriers.
- Investigate new accessible features.

2017 – FOCUS ON TRAINING AND INFORMATION

Strategy 1: Review the municipal website.

Measures

- Audit web content for accessibility.
- Add accessibility features to the website.

Strategy 2: Review training and other resources with regard to accessibility.

Measures

- Review training program provided to staff and volunteers.
- Evaluate previous training programs and make changes where appropriate.

2018 – FOCUS ON MUNICIPAL ELECTION, COMMUNICATION AND EVALUATION

Strategy: Ensure the 2018 Municipal Election is fully accessible.

Measures

- Review technology and procedures for the election.
- Identify any barriers that may exist at any facilities to be used as part of the election.

2019 – FOCUS ON BUSINESS

Strategy: Encourage accessible customer service at local businesses.

Measures

- Provide best practices to local businesses through outreach.
- Highlight achievements and commitments made by local businesses.
- Meet with the Chamber of Commerce.
- Meet with the Community & Economic Development Committee.
- Organize a forum with the above two groups

PUBLICATION OF THE ACCESSIBILITY PLAN

The 2015-2019 Accessibility Plan will be available on the municipal website. Paper copies of the plan are available in regular font size and large print at the Municipal Office and the Almonte and Pakenham branches of the Mississippi Mills Public Library and the Carleton Place Library.

SUMMARY

Council is committed to ensure that persons with disabilities share the same rights, freedoms and obligations so that they may live as independently as possible and able to participate in all that the Municipality of Mississippi Mills has to offer. The annual accessibility plan represents and plays an important role in recognizing the needs of persons with disabilities that reside in Mississippi Mills.

CONTACT/INQUIRIES

All inquiries with respect to this plan can be directed to:

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APPENDIX A

A.1 Municipal Facilities

A.2 Municipal Infrastructure

A.3 Recreational Grounds/Open Spaces

A.1 MUNICIPAL FACILITIES

Ramsay Ward

- Municipal Office 3131 Old Perth Road
- Municipal Garage 3167 Old Perth Road
- Water and wastewater treatment building – not this anymore: Concession 8, Part Lot 16, 17, Concession 8, West Part Lot 16, 110.88 acres

Almonte Ward

- Almonte & District Community Centre 182 Bridge Street
- Old Almonte Town Hall – 14 Bridge Street
- Mississippi Mills Public Library – Almonte Branch – 155 High Street
- Almonte Day Care Centre – 208 State Street
- Old Registry Office – 125 Brougham Street
- Almonte/Ramsay Fire Station – 478 Almonte Street
- Almonte Water Tower – Paterson Street
- Old Almonte Municipal Garage – 482 Almonte Street
- Well Pump Houses numbers 3,5,6,7 & 8
- Beach Hut – NLAS Fairgrounds on Water Street
- Lawn Bowling Clubhouse – Robert Street
- Kirkland Park Gazebo – Mill Street
- Hydro Generating Station – Almonte Street
- Lagoon Pumphouse – Metcalfe Park – Almonte Street
- Washroom Facilities – Metcalfe Park – Almonte Street
- Canteen and Washrooms – Gemmill Park, Bridge Street

Pakenham Ward

- Mississippi Mills Public Library – Pakenham Branch – 128 MacFarlane Street
- Pakenham Garage – 175 Five Arches Drive
- Pakenham Fire Station – 106 Jeanie Street
- Stewart Community Centre – 112 MacFarlane Street
- Cedar Hill School House - 270 Cedar Hill Road
- Recycling Depot - 580 Barr Side Road

LEASED PROPERTY

The Municipality does not lease any buildings for its own use but does provide leased office space at the Almonte Old Town Hall. Ottawa River Power Corporation leases a garage from the municipality located at 482 Almonte Street.

A.2 MUNICIPAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Roads

There are approximately 356 kms of roads in Mississippi Mills; this includes 180 kms of loose top (gravel roads), 82 kms of paved and 96 kms of surface treated roads.

Water & Sewer

The Almonte Ward and the White Tail Ridge Subdivision (Ramsay Ward) all have water and sewer services. All remaining areas of Ramsay and Pakenham Wards are on private services.

Wastewater Treatment Plant

Concession 8, Part Lot 16, 17, Concession 8, West Part Lot 16, 110.88 acres.

Sidewalks

The Municipality has about 32 km of sidewalks. A majority of Almonte Ward streets have sidewalks, whereas in the hamlets of Pakenham and Clayton only the main roads have sidewalks. All other roads in the municipality do not have sidewalks.

Streetlights

Street lighting exists on most streets in urban areas and at some high volume intersections in the rural areas. As well, street lighting is provided in the hamlets of Pakenham, Clayton, Blakeney and Appleton. Street lighting in some of the older subdivisions is provided through lawn lamps.

Wells

Almonte Ward water is supplied by 5 groundwater wells located throughout the ward.

Landfills

- Pakenham Landfill – Closed except for brush, scrap metal and white appliances purposes Barr Side Road
- Ramsay Landfill, Quarry Road - Closed
- Howie Road Landfill Site (Located within the Boundaries of the City of Ottawa)

Cemeteries

The municipality is responsible for the maintenance of five (5) cemeteries. Two cemeteries are inactive and while no burials occur in the remaining cemeteries, they are considered “active”.

MacDonald Clan Cemetery	Lot 22, Conc 10 Ramsay (inactive)
Clayton Methodist Cemetery	Lot 21, Conc 1 Ramsay
Houston Cemetery	Lot 6, Conc 7 Ramsay
Old Pioneer Methodist Cemetery	Lot 13, Conc 9 Ramsay
Clayton Catholic Cemetery	Lot 25, Conc 1 Ramsay (inactive)

A.3 RECREATIONAL GROUNDS/OPEN SPACES

Ramsay Ward

- R.W. McGregor Ball Diamond – softball/soccer - Old Perth Road
- Appleton Bay Park - boat launch, play structure, green space - River Road, Appleton
- Jake Lubber’s Field –River Road, Appleton
- Eleanor Wright Park – cross country skiing and hiking trails – River Road, Appleton
- Clayton/Taylor Lake Access Point - dam, boat launch, picnic area, BBQ pits, trail and cenotaph – Clayton
- Munroe Meadows Park- Munro Meadows Subdivision – two lots left in a natural state
- Greystone Estates Park – not developed

Almonte Ward

- Gemmill Park – track, baseball diamond, soccer fields, play structure, tennis courts, green space, short trails – Bridge Street
- Knob Hill – green space and Veteran’s walkway - Bridge Street across from Gemmill Park
- Augusta Street Park – play structure, BMX track, small basketball court, green space – Augusta Street
- Metcalfe Park – canoe launch, benches, green space - Almonte Street
- Meadowglen Park –basketball court, play structure, green space – Spring Street
- Casey-Snedden Ballfield – ball diamond - Country Street
- Almonte Cenotaph, Corner of Little Bridge Street/Bridge Street
- Almonte Train Wreck Memorial - Corner of Mill Street/Bridge Street
- Coleman Island Park – green space – Esplanade Street
- Don Maynard Park – green space - Gale Street
- Wylie Street Park – play structure, swings, green space – Wylie Street
- James Street Park – basketball court, play structure, green space, benches – James Street
- Almonte Lawn Bowling Greens – lawn bowling greens and club house - Robert Street
- Triangular-shaped green space at the convergence of Perth and Bridge Streets
- Martin Street Open Space – not developed – Martin Street along the boundary between the Ramsay Ward and Almonte Ward
- Kirkland Park – green space - Mill Street
- Riverwalk – board walk and lookouts located along the Mississippi River in downtown Almonte Ward
- McIntosh Park – accessible play structure

Pakenham Ward

- 5-Span Bridge Park- green space - County Road 29
- Fred Millar Park – beach, baseball diamonds, soccer, horse shoe pit, skateboard park, green space – behind and adjacent to the Stewart Community Centre on MacFarlane Street