

Project: Annual Accessibility Award

Project Summary:

Creation of an annual award to be presented during National Access Awareness Week each year.

Deliverables:

- Development of award criteria;
- Development of an application form/handout and awareness plan;
- Review of nominees and determine the winner; and
- Award at National Access Awareness Week event.

Deadline: June, 2016

Updates: November 19, 2015

The Chair advised that he is in receipt of correspondence from a group recommending that Upper Canada Mall be recognized for their efforts to promote accessibility. The Committee discussed possible inclusions for a media release and/or application form and whether two awards; one for a business and one for an individual.

January 21, 2016

The Committee determined that the award would be open to Newmarket residents and Newmarket based businesses only. Criteria and form to be simple and easy to complete and distributed to schools, the Chamber of Commerce and any other community organization that may be able to spread word of the award. Guidelines and form to be created by the Council/Committee Coordinator and distributed to the Committee for review prior to circulation in the community.

March 10, 2016

The Award form and information has been posted on the Town's website. To be distributed to the Chamber of Commerce as soon as possible. Deadline for submissions has been set as April 1, 2016, with the option to extend, if required.

May 16, 2016

No applications received to date.

Project: Development of an approved Town Accessibility logo

Project Summary:

Create an approved corporate logo for the Accessibility Advisory Committee that can be used for accessibility related initiatives in the Town. The intent is that this would be a corporate approved logo, with a contest sent to schools inviting students to prepare logo submissions.

Deliverables:

- Development of logo criteria and formal contest guidelines;
- Review submissions, in consultation with Corporate Communications and determine the winner; and
- Unveil logo at National Access Awareness Week event.

Deadline: June, 2016

Updates: November 19, 2015  
The Council/Committee Coordinator to contact Corporate Communications with respect to corporate logo standards and report back to the Committee.

January 21, 2016

The Committee determined that the contest would be circulated through the school system for submissions by students, in an effort to encourage awareness of accessibility related issues. The logo criteria shall reference inclusion of all disabilities, not include text and should be simple and creative. Guidelines and form to be created by the Council/Committee Coordinator and distributed to the Committee for review prior to circulation in the community.

March 10, 2016

The logo contest form and information have been posted on the Town's website and distributed to all Newmarket based private and public schools by e-mail. Circulation to Catholic schools in Newmarket has not occurred as it has been challenging to obtain email addresses. Deadline for submissions has been set as April 1, 2016, with the option to extend, if required.

May 16, 2016

No logo submissions have been submitted to date. Potential to revisit award in the Fall when school resumes. Discussion ensued at the meeting regarding discussions at the provincial level with respect to a new accessibility logo.

Project: Accessibility Audit of Town facilities

Project Summary:

Physical audit of Town facilities in order to review existing features and recommend accessibility upgrades for immediate and future consideration.

Deliverables:

- Physically attend each identified facility and complete audit;
- Staff to compile audit results for distribution to facilities staff.

Deadline: Ongoing, with facilities to be determined at the beginning of each year.

Updates: September 17, 2015  
Facilities identified for audit in 2016 are Newmarket Theatre, Newmarket Old Town Hall and the Newmarket Public Library.

November 19, 2015  
Audit Schedule to be determined at the January AAC meeting, with the first audit to be conducted early in Q2, 2016.

January 21, 2016  
Schedule for audits in 2016 shall be the following:

- March 10, 2016 – Ray Twinney Complex
- June 16, 2016 – Magna Centre
- September 15, 2016 – Community Centre & Lions Hall

Audit to be conducted at Old Town Hall as soon as access can be accommodated by staff.