



2024 Annual Accessibility Report

In 2005, the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 (AODA), was passed by the Provincial Government with the goal of achieving full accessibility with respect to goods, services, facilities, employment, buildings, structures, and premises by January 1, 2025. The AODA is supported by the Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation (IASR) O. Reg. 191/11, which establishes accessibility requirements in the areas of:

1. Customer Services
2. Information and Communication
3. Employment
4. Design of Public Spaces
5. Transportation

As per Section 4 of the IASR, the Town of Smooth Rock Falls must prepare an annual status report on progress and make it publicly available.

2024 Accomplishments

Over the past year, the municipality has continued to initiate and enhance accessibility within the community, including:

- **Continued AODA Training:** Provided accessibility training to new hires, including students and volunteers, to ensure ongoing compliance with AODA standards.
- **Accessible Job Posting:** Ensured that municipal job postings included a provision stating that interview accommodations are provided for applicants as needed.
- **Digital Accessibility Enhancements:** Increased the availability of online fillable forms, making it easier for residents to access and submit municipal applications and requests.
- **Live-Streaming Council Meetings:** Continued the practice of broadcasting council meetings online to ensure public participation and engagement for all community members.



- **Public Space Enhancements:** Installed new picnic tables in various locations around town to provide additional resting areas for residents and visitors.

Plans for 2025

Looking ahead to 2025, the municipality plans to implement the following accessibility initiatives:

- **Town Hall Reception Renovations:** Upgrade the reception area at the Town Hall to ensure it meets accessibility standards, improving service access for residents.
- **Infrastructure & Facilities Accessibility Review:** Continue assessing and ensuring that new services, facility modifications, and renovations integrate accessibility considerations.
- **Staff Training & Awareness:** Maintain ongoing accessibility training for all new municipal hires to enhance awareness and compliance.
- **Expanded Digital Accessibility:** Further increase the availability of online fillable forms and digital municipal services to improve accessibility and efficiency.