



Public Input – ‘Accessibility Plan’



Carbonear is doing well...

Compared with other municipalities, Carbonear appears to be doing pretty well in terms of improving accessibility, overall.



Sidewalks

**THEY'RE AFRAID TO
ASK THEM. OR
AFRAID OF THE
ANSWERS.**

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Frances Bischoff

- ▶ Improvements have been made to the town's sidewalks to make them more accessible.

Stairs replaced

- ▶ There was a set of stairs on the sidewalk (Water Street) that have been removed to make the sidewalk much easier to manoeuver for people with mobility challenges.



Accessible Parking

- ▶ Accessible parking along Water Street has been added to make it more accessible and inclusive for everyone



'Pool' renovations

- ▶ There have been renovations to the change room at the town's indoor pool (to eliminate the 'barriers' that existed there)



Automatic Door Opener at Pool

- ▶ As part of the pool upgrades an automatic door opener has been installed.



Accessible Parking

- ▶ The town's Recreation Complex has installed more 'accessible parking' at the complex to include everyone; this is a new feature that has been added



Additional Lighting

- ▶ The town has added additional lighting to the 'track and field' complex for everyone's enjoyment – including wheelchair athletes and special olympians



Theater is accessible

- ▶ The extension to the theater in Carbonear is now fully accessible; this was a new undertaking that was recently completed

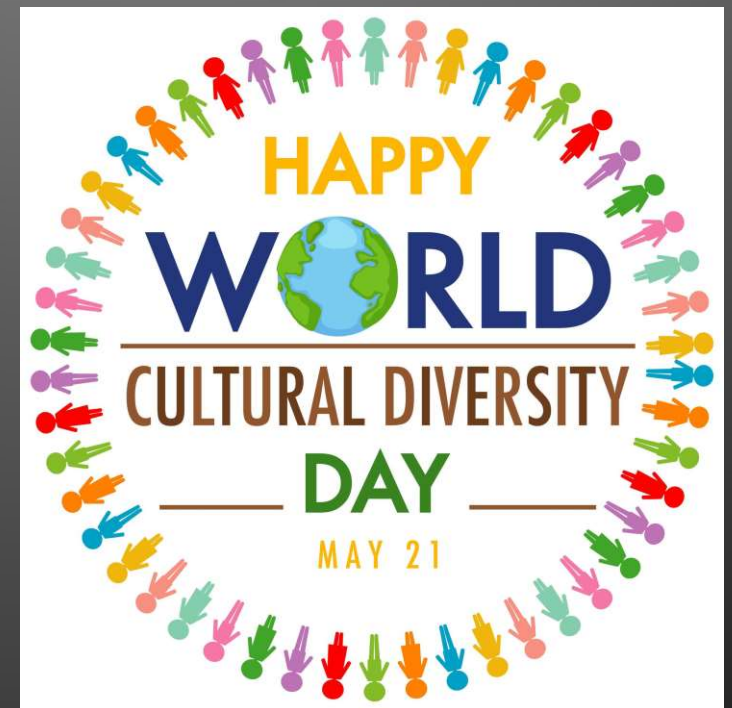


Support for Pride Week

- ▶ The town does raise a flag during Pride Week to show its support for the LBGTQ+ community; this has been done for several years now

Multi-culturalism

- ▶ In Carbonear, multi-culturalism is thriving; each year the town sponsors a 'multi-cultural' event, but the multi-cultural community is invited to all 'town sponsored' events



“Cooking” class

- ▶ To demonstrate its support for the multi-cultural community, the town also sponsors a ‘cooking’ event (with a multi-cultural host) so that different cultures can show how their food is prepared and to share this with others



'Aging' adults (seniors)



- ▶ Seniors events as well as events for the young adult (youth) population are sponsored by the town on a regular basis; these are normally recreational or special events to recognize these groups (and are 'age' appropriate)

New Initiatives:

- ▶ Council is generally more aware of issues of accessibility and inclusion
- ▶ The real challenge is to make the 'residents' more aware



New Projects

- ▶ Going forward, all new projects (whether its indoor or outdoor facilities) or any other projects will be fully accessible



Paved walkway



- ▶ In 2024 the town plans to build a ‘paved walkway’ at the town’s recreation complex as well as install a ‘rubberized’ floor surface at the complex to make the playground more accessible for everyone

Benches

- ▶ The plan is to add benches to the 'track and field' complex for anyone requiring rest periods; this will be particularly helpful to our aging adult population in Carbonear (and others as well)



Conception Bay Regional Community Center



- ▶ The Conception Bay Regional Community Center has plans to upgrade the washrooms at the facility in 2024 to make the building more accessible

Information is 'Awareness'

- ▶ Help the PUBLIC in Carbonear be more aware of issues of accessibility and inclusion
- ▶ Share information
- ▶ Build awareness
- ▶ Identify, remove, and prevent barriers
- ▶ The 'public' have an important role to play



Consider for the ‘*Advisory Committee on Accessibility*’

“Abled” does not mean enabled.
“Disabled” does not mean less abled.

Besides a staff person and a councillor (which are mandatory), consider adding

- ▶ People with physical disabilities
- ▶ Those with visual impairments
- ▶ Those with hearing impairments
- ▶ Members of the LBGTQ+ community
- ▶ Representation from ‘indigenous’ groups
- ▶ People with emotional or mental health issues
- ▶ A person who is ‘homeless’
- ▶ A representative from our “aging adults” (seniors)

Also consider adding to the

‘Advisory Committee on Accessibility’

- ▶ Those with intellectual impairments
- ▶ Special interest groups, professionals, and advocates that have an established focus and agenda (they have a lot to share)

Advisory Committee

- ▶ Local representation
- ▶ Staff (compulsory)
- ▶ Council (compulsory)

- ▶ *“Hard things are put in our way – not to stop us – but to call on our courage and strength.”*

Professional Development & Learning

- ▶ *“I may be ‘different’ from you – but not ‘less’ than you.”*

Commit to ongoing learning activities for members of council and the *Advisory Committee on Accessibility*, and offer ‘opportunities to learn’ more about accessibility issues to the public, as well

These may include:

- ▶ Guest speakers
- ▶ Webinars, courses, and other ‘on-line’ learning tools
- ▶ An introduction and overview of the province’s *Accessibility Act*

Review programs, operations, & services in the town

- ▶ Review of existing (and new) programs, operations, & services in the town of Carbonear to improve accessibility and inclusion
- ▶ “Hands On” learning
 - professionals who work in the field
 - examine the ‘barriers’ that exist



**ALL INFORMATION IS
GOOD, EVEN WHEN IT
IS BAD**

NEIL DEGRASSE TYSON
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PICTUREQUOTES

Facilities

- ▶ Ensure all future recreational facilities built in Carbonear are accessible
- ▶ Review existing:
 - recreational facilities
 - recreational programs
 - playgrounds
 - apparatus & equipment

Consider “removing and preventing” barriers to participation

▶ *‘Attitude is a small thing that makes a BIG difference.’*

Building Regulations



- ▶ Review & revise Carbonear's commercial *Building Regulations*
- ▶ Set standards to improve accessibility
- ▶ Existing properties would be "grandfathered" by these regulations
- ▶ Make the public aware of council's 'commitment' to accessibility through its approval of the town's revised Building Regulations

New initiatives & funding

- ▶ Identify new initiatives and facilities which demonstrate councils' commitment to accessibility & inclusion (where feasible)
- ▶ Make application for funding for apparatus and equipment designed to improve accessibility in Carbonear



Communication

- ▶ Share the town's 'Accessibility Plan' with taxpayers/public
- ▶ Take every opportunity to boast of council's commitment to accessibility & inclusion when talking to the public or speaking to various community groups and/or at functions
- ▶ Use social media platforms



Discuss Barriers:

- ▶ Physical
- ▶ Financial
- ▶ Human Resources
- ▶ Public Engagement
- ▶ Communication
- ▶ Other...



Thoughts on *‘What’s Been Done’*

“Building
minds.
Building
futures.”

Thoughts on 'New Goals or Initiatives'



New Ideas/Input:

- ▶ YOUR input is important. This is “YOUR” plan.
- ▶ If you have specific ideas – this is your opportunity to bring them forth

“Disability isn’t contagious – ignorance is.”

