

# **THE MUNICIPALITY OF HASTINGS HIGHLANDS STRATEGIC PLAN TO ADDRESS THE NEEDS OF DISABLED PERSONS**

## **OBJECTIVE:**

1. To comply with requirements of the *Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2001*.
2. To address the needs of disabled persons within the Municipality.

## **GOALS:**

1. To make municipal services accessible for Disabled Persons
2. To determine the type of improved accessibility measures needed in order to address the needs of Disabled Persons.

## **STRATEGY:**

1. Train staff to be cognizant of special needs exhibited by the public.
2. Record requests for improvements to access – Identify the type of special needs request, document person making request, type of request, and refer the request to the Planning Committee.
3. Inventory public facilities to assess requirements
4. Determine solutions to requirements and prioritize.
5. Set aside funds to implement identified priorities.
6. Public education with respect to new initiatives.
7. Public education for local businesses with respect to the economic advantages of providing greater accessibility.

## **REVIEW:**

The Planning Committee will undertake a review of the Strategic Plan each year in order to reassess priorities and make recommendations to Council with respect to priorities and budget allocations.

1. Staff has been made aware of this Plan
2. Accessibility needs on municipality property have been assessed:
  - enlarge one disabled parking spot to accommodate a van with wheelchair access in the Municipal Parking Lot
  - The ramp at the Maynooth Community Centre has been repaired.
  - The railing at the Municipal Office has been repaired and secured.
  - The feasibility of installing a ramp from disabled access to the Public Library was address and found to be cost prohibitive

## **SUMMARY:**

The Accessibility Plan will be reviewed annually and updated as required, to enable the Municipality to continue improving access to municipal facilities. We welcome input from residents to identify specific needs and set priorities.

October 2007