
AODA Update

New Amendments to Ontario's Building Code

**Presentation to the York Region
Accessibility Advisory
Committee**

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Purpose

- How did we get here?
- The Accessibility Amendments
- Next Steps

A bit of history...

2009

- Proposed Accessible Built Environment Standard released for public review and comment

2012

- Proposed Standards for the Design of Public Spaces
 - Outdoor elements that fall outside the Building Code
 - Became law January 1, 2013
- Proposed Amendments to Ontario's Building Code
 - Enhanced accessibility requirements within the Code

Accessibility amendments to Building Code

- ❑ Accessibility amendments to Ontario's Building Code filed on December 27, 2013
- ❑ Requirements for new construction and extensive renovations apply as of January 1, 2015
- ❑ Amendments work together with the Design of Public Spaces Standard

Accessibility amendments cont'd

❑ Barrier-free path of travel

- ❑ Building entrances
- ❑ Minimum doorway and corridor widths
- ❑ Ramp dimensions
- ❑ Passing and rest spaces
- ❑ Turning spaces



❑ Access to all storeys within a building

- ❑ Barrier-free elevator access between floors
- ❑ Includes assembly buildings, care buildings and commercial/retail buildings and some residential/office buildings



Accessibility amendments cont'd

- ❑ Visitable suites in apartment buildings



- ❑ Multi-unit residential buildings must ensure 15% of total suites are designed with basic accessibility features

- ❑ Visual fire safety devices
 - ❑ Public corridors
 - ❑ Multi-unit residential suites
 - ❑ Barrier free/universal washrooms



Accessibility amendments cont'd

- ❑ Washrooms
 - ❑ Public areas of most buildings
 - ❑ Barrier-free path of travel location
 - ❑ Addresses turning space, doorway widths, grab bars, counter heights and signage

- ❑ Access to pools and spas
 - ❑ Jurisdiction of municipalities
 - ❑ Ramps, transfer walls and lifts



Accessibility amendments cont'd

□ Accessible and adaptable seating spaces

- Public assembly buildings such as theatres, community centres and places of worship

- Adaptable spaces for side transfer and mobility device storage



□ Renovations

- Basic accessibility features must be included in all extensive renovations



Next steps

Community and Health Services will consult with staff to:

- ❑ Assess York Region specific implications

- ❑ Keep Management and Council informed

Questions

