

Overview of York Region Fire and Life Safety Programs

Presentation to the
York Region Accessibility Advisory
Committee

Corporate Services Department
(Property Services)
November 20, 2013

Presentation Overview

- Summary of York Region fire and life safety programs, signage and equipment
- Future life safety initiatives

Fire and Life Safety Programs

Property Services:

- ❑ Conducts annual fire drills at all major locations
- ❑ Offers Fire and Life Safety Course as a regular training program:
 - ❑ Teaches fundamental fire prevention and emergency response techniques
 - ❑ Participants practice putting out fire using an electronic fire simulator and extinguisher
 - ❑ Half day course available to all York Region Staff and Long Term Contractors

Individualized Programs

Individualized fire and life safety programs are developed for staff with disabilities:

- ❑ AODA requirement to provide individualized emergency response information for employees with disabilities upon request
- ❑ Customized program to establish and accommodate evacuation procedures
- ❑ Programs are coordinated with local Fire Departments and Fire Safety Plans are updated to reflect accommodation procedures

Custom Training

- ❑ Individualized training available to all staff with permanent or temporary disability
- ❑ May include installation of additional life safety devices to accommodate evacuation
- ❑ Mandatory revision of Fire Safety Plan after each customized training session
- ❑ Includes full review of evacuation route and feasibility of post-evacuation staff assembly location
- ❑ Additional staff/management training where applicable
- ❑ Mandatory procedure review after every construction and major renovation project

Facility Standards and Guidelines

Property Services Branch has established Facility Standards and Guidelines including:

- ❑ Accessibility Design
- ❑ Parking
- ❑ Accessible Washrooms
- ❑ Emergency Equipment
- ❑ Signage

Signage

York Region signage standards mandated for all new construction and renovation projects:

- General and directional signage for both interior and exterior
- Security related signage (arming instruction, Privacy Act signage, parking signage)
- Emergency Procedures Quick Reference Guides

Emergency Equipment

- Various security equipment
 - height and access to arming stations
 - panic buttons
 - duress strips

- Location and access to fire extinguishers and fire pull stations

Future Life Safety Initiatives

Develop single use washroom standard:

- ❑ Horizontal duress strip
- ❑ Off-site ULC* certified monitoring for all washroom duress alarms
- ❑ Accessible door locking mechanism with remote access and door release feature
- ❑ Establish response procedures

Future Life Safety Initiatives

Develop wireless duress alarms standard:

- Ability to summon help anywhere within the facility
- Available to all staff
- Off-site ULC certified monitoring

Questions?
