

The Accessibility Advisory Committee (ACCAC) for the City of London was established in compliance with the Ontarians with Disabilities Act (ODA 2001). In June 2005, the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) became law. The purpose of the AODA is “to develop, implement and enforce mandatory accessibility standards in key areas of daily living”.

In 2001, the FADS (Facilities Accessibility Design Standard) document was created in London, Ontario. This document is one of a kind, with respect to other municipalities in Ontario. FADS “addresses accessibility requirements for the design and construction of new facilities, as well as the retrofit, alteration or addition to existing facilities, owned, leased or operated by the City of London.” This standard particularly addresses the needs of persons with disabilities. The FADS document was updated in 2007.

ACCAC relies on the ODA, the AODA, and FADS amongst other accessibility and human rights laws and standards to develop recommendations and advise the city on opportunities to improve accessibility, remove barriers and increase inclusion for all Londoners. The term “barriers” is considered to include physical, informational, communication-related, attitudinal and technological barriers, policies, and practices.

Committee’s Mandate & Duties

Our Committee’s mandate is to advise City Council on all matters pertaining to the inclusion of persons with disabilities in the services provided by the City of London.

The City held public consultation sessions which resulted in the identification of various duties to be undertaken by the Accessibility Advisory Committee. They include:

Participating in the development, refinement, implementation and effectiveness of the City's Accessibility Plan

Reviewing accessibility features of new and existing facilities owned, operated or leased by the City

Commenting and providing recommendations on site plans

Advising Council on issues faced by persons with disabilities

Reviewing the City's Facilities Accessibility Design Standards (FADS) and accessibility standards developed under the AODA (Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act).

Being a resource on disability issues to Council, individuals, agencies and the business community

Reviewing City by-laws for accessibility related considerations

Building public awareness and knowledge on accessibility issues by organizing various accessibility awareness activities and developing resource material

Maintaining the committees website:
www.london.ca/city-hall/accessibility/

Member Composition

The Committee has thirteen voting members; the majority of whom are persons with disabilities. There is at least one voting member who is a parent with a child with a disability.

The Committee also has a number of non-voting resource members representing community sectors such as health care, employment, education, housing and seniors.

If you are interested in volunteering for the committee you may complete an application via the city’s website (www.london.ca)

Meetings

The public is invited to attend meetings of the Accessibility Advisory Committee, held at City Hall. Those interested should check the City of London Calendar at <https://www.london.ca/Calendar/>. These meetings usually last two hours. As the meeting dates may sometimes change, please call City Hall at 519 661-4500 or 519 661-4889 (TTY) to confirm the date and time.

For more information and helpful resources visit us at:
www.london.ca/city-hall/accessibility/