



York Region
Multiple Sclerosis
Community

C1
Communication
Accessibility Advisory
Committee – May 13, 2024
Item No. 1



THE RIGHT TO ACCESSIBILITY

A PRESENTATION BY MY MS FAMILY

DEFINITION OF DISABILITY

A disability is a physical or mental condition that limits a person's movements, senses, or activities. The Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities (AODA) uses the same definition of disability as the [Ontario Human Rights Code](#).



DEFINITION OF ACCESSIBILITY

The quality of being easily reached, entered, or used by people who have a disability. Many architects believe that accommodating wheelchairs is all there is to providing accessibility. Those of us living with a disability would disagree!



OUR RIGHT TO ACCESSIBILITY

All Canadians have the right to fully take part in society. Advancing accessibility is about creating barrier-free communities, workplaces and services for all Canadians. This is especially important to the more than 6 million Canadians, aged 15 and over, who have a disability.



ACCESSIBILITY ACTS AND LEGISLATIONS

Accessible Canada Act (ACA)

**Accessibility for
Ontarians with
Disabilities Act (AODA)**

**Integrated Accessibility Standards
Regulations**

Accessibility Standards

Ontario Building Code

PROVINCIAL Legislation

ACCESSIBILITY SHORTCOMINGS

- 7 CASES TO
REMEMBER

CASE #1 - PARKING ISSUE



This design of the ramp adjacent to the accessibility parking space is a dangerous design.

As you can see, any person using a wheelchair or walker will need to travel into traffic to access the ramp.

There is a ramp in front of the space, but it will be blocked by the vehicle.

CASE #2 - PARKING ISSUE

Here are more dangerous and illegal parking issues.

You can see the accessible parking spot beside the fire hydrant, but the ramp is around the other side of the sidewalk.

When a vehicle parks in that vacant spot there will be no access to the ramp.

Furthermore, there is no accessible parking spot where the ramp IS located.



CASE #3 - PARKING ISSUE



In this slide you see what looks like the most reasonably designed accessibility parking spot.

The problem is the narrow sidewalk that could cause issues with powered wheelchairs and walkers.

CASE #4 - PARKING ISSUE



Here is another dangerous situation.

This picture was taken next to an accessible parking spot, but the ramp is a distance away into traffic.

One ramp at the Stop sign and the other ramp next to Allstate office. As you can see travelling into traffic!

Why can there not be a ramp system along that entire side?

CASE #5 - PARKING ISSUE



As you see the pick-up is parked in a parking spot and the accessibility parking spot is next to it.

How does one in a wheelchair or walker able to access the ramp to get onto the sidewalk?

The other issue is the sidewalk brick format that is uneven and bumpy for people using walkers, canes or having balance issues to travel over.

CASE #6 – ACCESSIBLE WALKWAY DISASTER



One accesses the ramp to get onto the sidewalk? What Sidewalk? Let's travel on a busy road!



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CASE #6 - DEAD END SIDEWALK



“Sidewalk Ends?”

This is a common daily occurrence for most living with a disability!

Barriers are everywhere. Most are just not anywhere near this obvious.

Learn to recognize barriers to accessibility and you will be part of the solution.

CASE #7 - UNCONDUCTIVE PUSH BUTTON



Push-button door openers are not beneficial for those with dexterity issues.

The best design is the hands free, wave-type design.

VAN EXIT CONFIGURATION

Two types of accessibility vans, each with different exit points...



OTHER ACCESSIBILITY SHORTCOMINGS

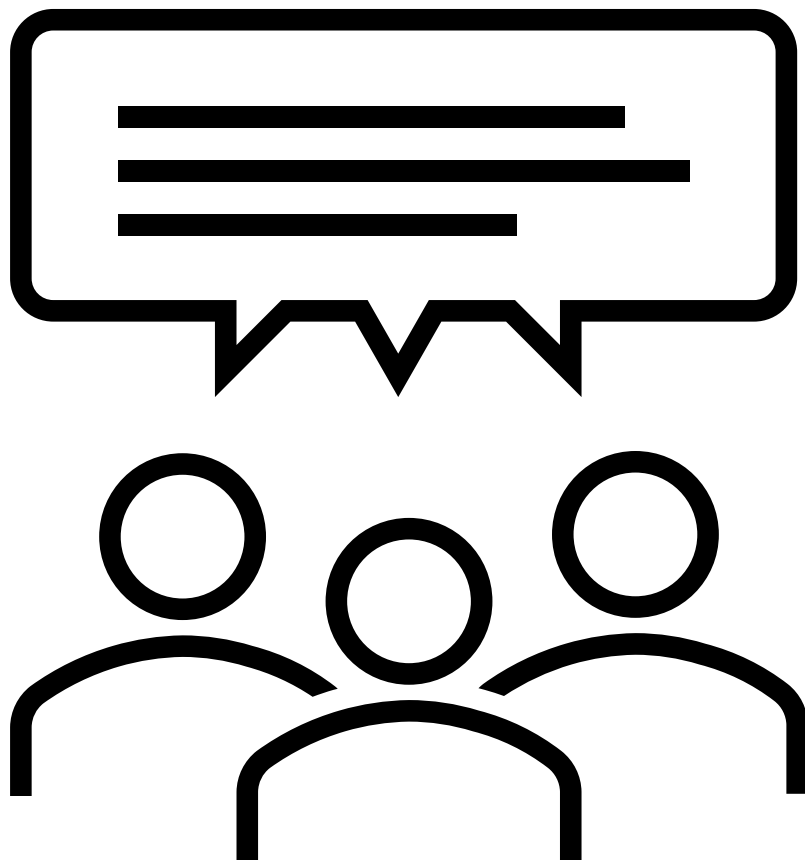
There are many, many other types of accessibility barriers, such as:

- Powered doors opening towards the push button openers
- The short length of time doors remain open as someone passes through using a wheelchair, walker or cane
- Cross walk lights that don't provide enough time to cross multi-lane roads
- Ramps that are too steep for manual wheelchairs
- Uneven sidewalks, and at times a lack of sidewalks along busy streets
- Mobility Transportation scheduling and availability and eligibility criteria
- Washroom without power doors, inaccessible stalls and wash basins

RESOURCES AND CREDITS

- [Towards an Accessible Canada - Canada.ca](#)
- [Accessibility in Ontario | ontario.ca](#)
- [Accessibility in the public service - Canada.ca](#)
- All photos taken by MY MS FAMILY members
- Authored by Peter Busciglio, Peter De Campos
MY MS FAMILY Directors
- PowerPoint production by MY MS FAMILY





QUESTIONS?



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Thank You

info@mymssfamly.com | 416-816-4787 | MyMSFamily.com