

**Summary of Consultation Feedback
List of Items Outside the Region's Scope and Mandate**

Jurisdiction Responsible

1. Province of Ontario

- The need for public school curriculum to educate children at an early age about disabilities and barriers
- The need for a directory of all accessible restaurants, recreation areas and offices in York Region
- Clear criteria for who can display the “wheelchair” symbol
- The need for planning and building by-laws that ensure accessibility -- committees should examine plans for new developments to ensure they reflect accessibility standards – and meet the maximum as opposed to the minimum standard
- Consider adjusting property taxes for people who are Deaf, deafened and hard of hearing (and possibly for people with other disabilities) to reflect the extra costs they face to use public services (e.g. TTYs, flashing lights, higher electricity bills, other devices)
- Stores should be more accessible (i.e., the cement “lip” in the door ways to stores is inaccessible for wheelchairs and scooters)
- Address the need for more support services (e.g. home making) for elderly disabled people who are living in their own homes
- Address the lack of accessibility (captioning) in movie theatres

2. Local Municipalities

- Identify barriers/develop plans to make sport, recreation and leisure programs more accessible. Most recreation and leisure programs are not accessible to people with disabilities but should be (e.g., “Recreation and leisure is essential to one’s well-being. Recreation and leisure provide opportunities for family outings; (to forge friendships, encourage socialization, (and) is something that is done for the sheer pleasure of doing it. (E)specially for those who are not able to pursue post-secondary education or employment (because of their disability), it is imperative that leisure and recreation be an

option to enable them to be productive and valued members of their community. Suggestions for ways to make recreation programs more accessible include:

- Having an adult-sized change table in washrooms for parents with older children with multiple disabilities
 - Zero entry levels or lifts/commodore for pools
 - Rubberized surfaces in children's play areas in parks
 - Paved pathways in parks to accommodate wheelchairs
 - Accessible outdoor amphitheatres
 - Specialized recreation services in a public recreation centre (e.g., a sensory or Snoezelan room, an open-ended, drop-in activity centre)
 - Ground level entry to bowling alleys and portable lap ramps that people in wheelchairs can use to bowl
 - Hours at public pools for disabled children to swim when more supervision/monitoring is available to ensure their safety
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- Review fare structure so that privately operated taxis do not charge more than regular fares to people with disabilities

3. School Boards

- School buildings (e.g., lack of ramps and elevators) and teaching practices (e.g., having children sit on the floor) are not always accessible for children

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