

## **MEMORANDUM**

TO: Members of the York Region Accessibility Advisory Committee

FROM: Loretta Chandler, Manager York Region Emergency Management

DATE: February 17, 2009

RE: **Request from York Region Accessibility Advisory Committee**

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This memo is in response to recommendations made by the York Region Accessibility Advisory Committee (YRAAC) at its November 12 & 26, 2008 meetings.

The attached table provides some information to address the questions that were asked of York Region Emergency Management.

Emergency Management staff are available to attend the April 29, 2009 YRAAC meeting and provide an overview on Emergency Management in York Region and Personal Emergency Preparedness. If you have any questions prior to the meeting, please contact me at (905) 830-4444 extension 1229 or e-mail [loretta.chandler@york.ca](mailto:loretta.chandler@york.ca)

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Attachment York Region Emergency Plan & Annexes

Copy to: Dino Basso, Executive Director, Strategic Initiatives and Administration

<b>Requested Action – November 12, 2008 YRAAC Meeting</b>	<b>Proposed Solution</b>
<p><b>The Committee further recommended that the AAC critique and comment on all departmental Emergency Plans to ensure that the needs of persons with disabilities are addressed;</b></p>	<p>A copy of the Regional Municipality of York Emergency Plan and Annexes is attached. The Emergency Plan can also be accessed through the York Region web-site at <a href="http://www.york.ca">www.york.ca</a>. The Emergency Plan provides the framework, roles and responsibilities of York Region and York Regional Police during a response and is tested and updated annually as required under the <i>Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act</i>, Regulation 380/04. Feedback can be directed to Loretta Chandler, Manager York Region Emergency Management, at <a href="mailto:Loretta.chandler@york.ca">Loretta.chandler@york.ca</a>. Of particular interest is Annex # 7, which deals with Emergency Social Services. Your feedback is welcomed.</p>
<p><b>that future emergency management exercises at the Region also incorporate the comments and expertise of the AAC, and preferably that members of the AAC be invited to participate in these exercises;</b></p>	<p>York Region Emergency Management value's the input and feedback from all individuals regarding exercises, to this end, we will continue to include them in future reception centre exercises.</p> <p>An invitation was extended to AAC members to participate in a joint Regional/Municipal Reception Centre exercise with the City of Vaughan on September 16, 2008. The aim was to practice procedures and train staff in setting up and operating a reception centre, including assisting people with disabilities.</p>
<p><b>and that notice be sent to all Regional municipal AAC's of this action for their information, and that they also be invited to participate in the planning of such exercises.</b></p>	<p>York Region Emergency Management works closely with local municipal Community Emergency Management Coordinators throughout the year on a variety of operational issues and to foster program integration across York Region. Emergency Management begins at the local Municipal level under the direction and guidance of the Community Emergency Management Coordinator (CEMC). It is recommended that each municipal Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC) liaise with the local CEMC regarding information on their municipality's respective Emergency Management Programs.</p>

<b>Requested Action – November 26, 2008 YRAAC Meeting</b>	<b>Proposed Solution</b>
<b>The Committee requested that staff from the Emergency Management Branch be invited to attend a meeting of the AAC in early 2009 to provide an update on the Region's policies, procedures and communication strategies for dealing with the needs of persons with disabilities in emergency situations</b>	York Region Emergency Management staff are available to attend the April 29, 2009 YRAAC meeting and provide an overview on Emergency Management in York Region and personal emergency preparedness as well as answer any further questions.
<b>and that staff be requested to attend the December 3, 2008 Emergency Management of Ontario's Persons with Disabilities Forum on Emergency Preparedness and report back to this Committee.</b>	Community & Health Services staff attended the 2008 Emergency Management of Ontario's Persons with Disabilities Forum on Emergency Preparedness.