

TO: COUNCIL OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF WEST ELGIN  
FROM: NORMA BRYANT, CLERK  
DATE: APRIL 12, 2007  
RE: ONTARIO DISABILITIES ACT

### **INTRODUCTION:**

On September 25, 2003 Council approved the Municipal Accessibility Plan. The purpose of this report is to satisfy the requirement for an annual report to be submitted to Council.

### **DISCUSSION:**

The Accessibility Committee consisting of the Road Superintendent, Recreation Superintendent, Water Superintendent and Clerk.

#### **PAST ACTIVITIES**

In February of 2006 a fire destroyed a major part of the West Lorne Complex. The building is in the process of being rebuilt and brought up to current requirements of the Building Code. A redesign of the interior layout including the basement has been undertaken. Council has authorized the installation of a lift to the basement, thereby providing access for disabled users of the building. Further, an automatic door opener will be installed at the main entrance to the building.

#### **2007 INITIATIVES**

##### **1. West Lorne Complex**

The Accessibility Committee was asked to provide input to Council on automatic door openers for the interior doors in the West Lorne Complex. It is noted that all the doors, except entrance doors to the washrooms are fire-rated doors with automatic closures. These doors should remain closed at all times. Under the Building Code, due to size of the building, the municipality is not required to have automatic door openers for interior doors.

As the fire-rated doors are heavy and close automatically, the Committee felt that automatic door openers were desirable. The Committee discussed four interior access points that the public would use: library, Elgin Support Services area, community hall, and downstairs offices. It was felt that automatic openers for the doors to the washrooms was not necessary.

At the Council meeting on March 8, 2007 Council accepted the recommendation of the Committee to install four automatic door openers at the West Lorne Complex.

2. Installation of Exterior Automatic Door Openers

The Committee supports the installation of exterior automatic door openers at all municipal buildings. It is recommended that this program be continued and that these openers be installed at the West Elgin Recreation Centre in 2007.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. That Council accept the report of the Accessibility Committee dated April 12, 2007 and that this report be attached to the Municipal Accessibility Plan.
2. That four automatic door openers at the interior doors at the West Lorne Complex be installed as follows:
  - a) Library
  - b) Elgin Support Services
  - c) One door at community hall
  - d) Downstairs office (main entrance)
3. That Council consider the following project for 2007:
  - a) Installation of automatic door openers at the West Elgin Recreation Centre.

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Norma I. Bryant,  
on behalf of Accessibility Committee