

**GRCA Accessibility Plan – 2022-2024
Annual Status Update 2024**

The information in this document identifies action items from the 2022-2024 GRCA Accessibility Plan and status updates for actions taken in 2024.

Corporate Policies, Procedures, & Processes

Action Items for 2022-2024	2024 Status Update
Continue to build elements of accessibility into all practices, procedures, and policies.	Ongoing discussion and incorporation where possible and practicable Conservation Areas Operations has developed plans for each Conservation Area to identify opportunities for increased accessibility if grants become available.
Ensure advance consultation on proposed projects by posting project details on the website and circulating to consulting partner agencies to invite feedback on accessibility. A process to solicit feedback will be developed. The corporate signage strategy will begin to be implemented in 2022 with updated, accessible signage phased-in	Consultation takes place on projects where appropriate and required. This occurred in 2024 for applicable projects. A process has been developed that includes website posting, social media promotion, media relations, and engaging with accessibility committees where applicable. This project has commenced but has not yet been completed
Accessibility page created in Sharepoint for staff will continue to be populated with additional resources, as they become available	This work will be ongoing.

Administration Centre

Action Items for 2022-2024	2024 Status Update
Main lobby – accessible layout e.g. seating, phone - Conduct an updated needs assessment and incorporate into any future renovation plans.	New furniture was purchased that is more accessible and the small meeting room has been modified to be more accessible.
Accessibility throughout building - The feasibility of installing an elevator to provide access to all levels in the building will be evaluated. Additional signage requirements and other improvements to reduce accessibility barriers will also be documented and incorporated into future capital plans.	A consultant has been engaged to review the feasibility of installing an elevator or suitable alternate option(s), and improved accessibility in employee washrooms.

Information Systems, Technology, and Communications

Action Items for 2022-2024	2024 Status Update
<p>GRCA Website</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Website updates will be done to ensure ongoing accessibility. Some additional historical content will be updated into accessible format and reposted to the website Accessibility webpage to be updated with additional content as needed 	<p>The new website has been implemented and meets accessibility requirements.</p> <p>Historical documents continue to be remediated and reposted to the website.</p> <p>The accessibility webpage is reviewed regularly and relevant content is posted as applicable.</p>

Conservation Areas and Other Recreational Properties

Action Items for 2022-2024	2024 Status Update
<p>Physical Facilities - General - Design criteria for accessible campsites will be finalized and a plan for implementation will be developed in 2022-2024, and a plan to identify barrier-free campsites will be discussed</p>	<p>Discussions continue and a plan will be developed.</p>
<p>Trails - Investigate the feasibility of a loaner program for off-road wheelchairs and accessible beach/flotation chairs at some Conservation Areas.</p>	<p>A grant was received for Shade's Mills CA for an accessible wheelchair for use in water and on trails. An additional grant has been submitted for Pinehurst CA. Grants and funding opportunities will continue to be explored</p>
<p>Programs, Policies, and Processes –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guideline for accessibility in CAs will be developed Information on accessible features at each CA will be identified on the website 	<p>Discussions have commenced and additional guidance will be developed as applicable.</p> <p>This project will be deferred to 2025.</p>

Nature Centres

Action Items for 2022-2024	2024 Status Update
<p>New Guelph Lake Nature Centre – Construction of new building is expected to commence and will be built in conformance with AODA requirements</p>	<p>The new building will be open for use in 2025 and will meet all Building Code accessibility requirements.</p>

Additional actions taken in 2024 that were not previously included in the plan include:

- Three (3) all-terrain wheelchairs were purchased for use in Nature Centre program delivery
- A ramp was installed at the entrance into Shade's Mills Nature Centre
- An internal review was conducted of GRCA-led events, e.g. water festivals, and accessibility for participants is a consideration when planning new and existing events.