



TOWNSHIP OF NORTH HURON

REPORT

Item No. 2022-02

REPORT TO: Reeve Bailey and Members of Council
PREPARED BY: Carson Lamb, Clerk
DATE: 17/01/2022
SUBJECT: CL-2022-02 Multi-Year Accessibility Plan (2022 Update) and 2021 Status Report
ATTACHMENTS: Multi-Year Accessibility Plan (2022 Update), 2021 Status Report

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Council of the Township of North Huron hereby receives the report of the Clerk, dated January 17, 2022 regarding the Multi-Year Accessibility Plan (2022 Update) and the 2021 Annual Status Report for information purposes;

AND FURTHER, THAT Council approves and adopts the Multi-Year Accessibility Plan (2022 Update) and the 2021 Annual Status Report as required under the AODA;

AND FURTHER, THAT Council authorizes staff to post the Multi-Year Accessibility Plan (2022 Update) and the 2021 Annual Status Report on the Township of North Huron website as directed in the Integrated Accessibility Standards under the AODA.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Under the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA), Section 4 of Ontario Regulation 191/11: Integrated Accessibility Standards, municipalities are required to:

- establish, implement, maintain and document a multi-year accessibility plan which outlines the organization's strategy to prevent and remove barriers and meet its requirements under the Act and regulations;
- review and update the multi-year accessibility plan at least once every five years in consultation with (1) persons with disabilities and (2) an accessibility advisory committee, where one has been established;
- prepare an annual status report on the progress measures taken to implement the multi-year accessibility plan; and
- post the multi-year accessibility plan and annual status report updates on their website.

Ontario Regulation 191/11 authorizes for an upper-tier municipality and any lower-tier municipalities that form part of it to prepare a joint accessibility plan and a joint annual status report. This joint accessibility plan and joint annual status report are then deemed to be the accessibility plan and annual status report of each municipality. As Council is aware, this is the approach utilized by the County of Huron and the nine lower-tier municipalities.

DISCUSSION

To fulfill the legislatively mandated accessibility requirements outlined above, the Huron County Accessibility Advisory Committee (HCACC) was established in 2005. North Huron participates in the HCAAC through the Huron County Accessibility Advisory Committee - Working Group and assists the Committee in identifying issues, policies, and practices that need review. The Working Group also reviews and makes recommendations on updates to the multi-year accessibility plan and annual

status report updates. The HCAAC - Working Group is made up of one staff member from each lower-tier municipality within Huron County, as well as the Huron County Accessibility Coordinator. For North Huron, the Clerk has been the staff representative.

The Multi-Year Accessibility Plan (2022 Update) and the 2021 Annual Status Report are attached to this staff report. Both of these documents are reviewed annually and were circulated to HCAAC Legislative Review Subcommittee and the HCAAC – Working Group for comment. All feedback and recommendations were incorporated into the documents and the Huron County Accessibility Advisory Committee approved both plans at their November 22, 2021 meeting. The plans were then approved by the County of Huron Council at their December 1, 2021 meeting.

As Council will see in the attached Multi-Year Accessibility Plan, new to the 2022 update is the addition of “Appendix 3: Municipal Summary.” The purpose of this addition is to provide an opportunity for each lower-tier municipality to outline local accessibility projects, achievements and proposed activities to ensure the plan is relevant locally. Appendix 3 has been developed by North Huron staff based on completed projects, ongoing projects, and proposed projects.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There are no financial implications as a result of the actions outlined in this report.

FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS

None at this time.

RELATIONSHIP TO STRATEGIC PLAN

The proposed actions of this report satisfy action item No. 3.2 – Implement Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) requirements and Ontarians with Disabilities Act (ODA) requirements.



Carson Lamb, Clerk



Dwayne Evans, CAO