



TOWN OF SWAN RIVER – ACCESSIBILITY PLAN

Accessibility Plan

Date of Approval: February 21, 2024

Date Updated: February 21, 2024

Years Applicable: 2024 – 2025

Statement of Commitment

The Town of Swan River is committed to ensuring equal access and participation for all people, regardless of their abilities. We are committed to treating all people in a way that allows them to maintain their dignity and independence. We believe in inclusion. We are committed to meeting the needs of people who face accessibility barriers by identifying, removing and preventing these barriers and by meeting requirements of The Accessibility of Manitobans Act and relevant accessibility standards.

Overview of Programs and Services

Provide municipal services to residents and others:

- Utility
- Public Works
- Building Services
- By-Law Enforcement
- Fire Protection Services
- Recreation Services
- Community Hall
- Handi Transit Van Services

Policies

Upon request, the Town of Swan River will gather and provide information in an accessible format or with communication supports that consider a person's specific needs.

Accessibility Achievements

- Town improved processes and job roles to ensure snow and ice removal (salting) is appropriate and promptly completed in parking lot and sidewalk.
- Successful Handi-Transit program.

Barriers to Accessibility

As determined by meeting with Town managers, survey released to all Town employees, and survey released to citizens:

Administration/ Process	Website and Facebook posts as graphics may not be translated by screen readers for the visually impaired.
Administration/ Process	Not all staff/managers are fully trained for all regulations (Customer Service & Employment); upcoming Information and Communication Standard
Arena	Lack Zero-step entry into building
Pool	Handicap Parking at Pool – needs to be closer
Public works	Barrier-free access at all sidewalks
Recreation	Accessibility of playgrounds (wheelchairs, strollers, walkers)
Town Office	No Handicap Parking at Town Office
Town Office	Improve front pad: -Gravel Pad - Ramp up east side
Veterans Hall	Veterans Hall wheel chair access – automatic doors

Actions

Action 1 - Ongoing Training

Initiatives/Actions

Ongoing - Ensure all employees as they are hired/promoted/etc. receive training on accessibility according to their job responsibilities.

Expected Outcomes

An accessible municipal service with professional staff who know their responsibilities and duties.

Action 2 - Compliance with Accessibility Regulation 47/2022

Initiatives/Actions

Annual - Audit website/social media for segments, entries, and photos which are inaccessible for people using site readers.

Protocol – Ensure uploaded PDFs of Bylaws are run with OCR program to ensure can be read with a Screen Reader.

Protocol – Release Memo - staff when making Notices/Social Media Posts to ensure compatible with site readers. Ensure ALT text is used or post as plain text.

Expected Outcomes

Ensures all residents can access all information posted on our website/social media.

Action 3 – Arena – Lacks Zero-step entry through Main Doors

Initiatives/Actions

Review access to rink and look for solutions.

Expected Outcomes

Potential solutions will improve access to our rink for residents wishing to watch Stampeder Games or to participate in activities at the rink.

Action 4 – Handicap Parking at Pool and Town Office

Initiatives/Actions

Pool - Install new parking pad on southside of building by the walkway; potentially encroaching over the community garden plots.

Town Office – New parking spot in rear of building close to sidewalk.

Expected Outcomes

Residents with mobility impairments will have:

- less distance to cover for entering the pool;
- dedicated parking spots with sufficient room for loading/unloading.

Action 5 – Curb/Ramp Review

Initiatives/Actions

Review sidewalk crosswalks in Swan River to create a list of curbs that need to be repoured as barrier free.

Expected Outcomes

This will make the Town of Swan River a more accessible Community.

Action 6 – Town Office – Front Pad Improvements

Initiatives/Actions

East Side Gravel Pad – Construct stairs or an accessible ramp over gravel pad.

Expected Outcomes

Ease of access for our residents into our main office.

Will address safety concerns for residents with mobility impairments.

Action 7 – Town Playgrounds – Accessibility Mats

Initiatives/Actions

Apply for accessibility grants for this capital project.

Install Accessibility Mats at Town Playgrounds.

Expected Outcomes

This will make the Town of Swan River a more accessible Community.

Action 8 – Veterans Hall wheelchair access – Automatic Doors

Initiatives/Actions

Apply for accessibility grants for this capital project.

Install automatic doors at Veteran Hall's main entry and Legion Meeting Room door.

Expected Outcomes

The Veterans Hall and the many events hosted here for our community will be more accessible for residents.

Contact Person: Derek Poole C.E.T., Chief Administrative Officer

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Passed by Town of Swan River Council on February 21, 2024 Resolution No. 2024-0063

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20 February, 2024

RESOLUTION

Resolution # 2024-0063

Moved by: Duane Whyte

Seconded by: Tanya Powell

Resolved the Town of Swan River 2024-2025 Accessibility Plan be approved.

Carried

I, Derek Poole, CAO of the Town of Swan River, hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy.

