

# THE JOINT ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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PRESENTATION TO COUNCILS 2021

# HISTORY OF JAAC

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- In 2003, six municipalities came together to create the Joint Accessibility Advisory Committee. The committee includes:
  - The Town of Lincoln
  - The Township of West Lincoln
  - The Town of Pelham
  - The City of Thorold
  - The Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake and
  - The Town of Grimsby

# COMMITTEE EXPANSION

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- In 2021, the committee expanded
- We are now joined by the City of Port Colborne
- We welcome Port Colborne and will assist the City to ensure compliance with the AODA. We will work to develop positive relationships within the local community

# COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

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- Audits of municipal facilities
- Training modules for staff to ensure AODA compliance
- Committee branding: we have a new logo, a community flag and a Facebook page



# **JOINT ACCESSIBILITY** **ADVISORY** **COMMITTEE**

**LINCOLN, WEST LINCOLN, PELHAM, THOROLD, NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE  
GRIMSBY & PORT COLBORNE**

# ACTIVITIES CONTINUED

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- We continue to promote our Accessibility Award
- We use an audit checklist in each business
- If the business scores 80% or higher they receive the We Are Accessible Award
- To date, 10 businesses have received the award throughout our catchment area



# 2025

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- Currently 22% of the Canadian population has a disability
- The deadline for full accessibility in the municipality is fast approaching. This means goods and services will need to be accessible (customer service, information and communications, new facilities and services).

## 2025 CONT'D

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- We will continue to work with staff and council to ensure compliance with the AODA and are available to answer questions or concerns and to review site plans.



# WE ASK

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- We ask Council to assist us in ensuring the municipality meets the 2025 deadlines
- We ask Council to promote our We Are Accessible Award to local businesses
- We ask Council to continue to communicate with us about their accessibility concerns and decisions
- We thank you for the opportunity to present to Council