

Hamilton Accessibility Award Summary

WHY?

- Not finding progress in accessibility
- Highlight who is making the effort, champions

February 2022

The Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities requested Council to consider the establishment of an Accessibility Award Program for City of Hamilton individuals, businesses, community organizations and groups that have made a significant contribution beyond legislative requirements, towards improving access for persons with disabilities in Hamilton.

WHAT?

Draft Statement

"This Award celebrates the outstanding achievements by individuals, businesses, community organizations and groups to improving awareness and understanding of accessibility and inclusion throughout the City of Hamilton. We highlight and recognize the significant contributions in making Hamilton the best place to live, work and play together and encourage others to try new ideas".

- Type: Certificate
- Design: RFP to community for design
- Budget: Honorarium to be paid for winning design

WHO?

Four Categories:

- ✓ Community Member
- ✓ Youth Community Member (29 years of age or less)
- ✓ Local Business
- ✓ Community Organization and/or group

Eligibility

Resident, community organization / group, or business based in the City of Hamilton

The achievement should reflect the nominee's positive impact on accessibility in the City of Hamilton

The selection will be based on the information submitted with the nomination form. Additional information, such as testimonials, videos, pictures, list of additional nominators will be considered

The nominee must provide their express consent to the nominator as part nomination submission

HOW?

Selection Criteria (Contributions Made in the Following Areas)

The selection committee will consider the degree to which an individual, business or community organization / group:

- Demonstrates innovation and creativity in preventing, identifying and/or removing barriers to accessibility
- Enhances / improves the quality of life for persons with disabilities
- Develops or delivers effective awareness about disability and accessibility barriers
- Provides exemplary accessible customer or client service or support
- Demonstrates a commitment to ensuring an inclusive and accessible environment for persons with disabilities
- Demonstrates a commitment to supporting, accommodating, and retaining persons with disabilities in employment and volunteer opportunities

WHEN?

- Award will be presented annual at the Accessibility Fair
- Committee will work towards growing celebration, similar to the annual Seniors Year Award
- Annual Budget: \$9,000
 - Budget will be used to support:
 - design, advertising, promotion of the awards program
 - the award presentation, including food and beverages
 - accessibility needs, which may include American Sign Language, captioning or providing alternate formats of print materials

NEXT STEPS

- General Issues Committee: June 14, 2023
 - Outreach Working Group will work on presentation to General Issues Committee
 - Draft the Staff Report to bring forward recommendations for Accessibility Award Program, beginning 2024