

Ability First Accessibility Fair 2023

September 5th Update

We are now 23 days out and there is still much to do, but we are getting there. We currently have 26 organizations registered and have seven activity stations. The Mayor and Councillor Tadeson will be speaking at the opening of the event at 12:00pm. I have yet to hear back from an indigenous representative so we will probably ask Mayor Horwath to provide the Land Acknowledgment before we begin.

I am still unsure if all the work on the Forecourt will be done in time and am trying to prepare for the worst. I will be reserving the parking spaces within the week.

Paula has sent out the initial media push. She has arranged an interview with Tim Bolen at 7:50am on September 26th for Paula and myself. We are on the City's events page. Social media is up and running, I am making periodic posts, but I am hoping to hear from the HDEN or IMPACT regarding handing this task to them this week. Posters have been printed in two versions, one more basic and one more explanatory. There are 200 in total. If anyone would like to take some and distribute them personally they are welcome to do so. I am also disseminating it throughout the Hamilton Service Centres,

Rec Centres, HSR terminals and Libraries. The 4' x 40' banner is being printed now and should look great. It was designed in separate sections to make it easy and cheaper to update from year to year. It will be ready to hang on the 18th of September.

I have sent out requests for volunteers from various organizations and the HDEN is also compiling a list of volunteers so fingers crossed. I hope not to repeat last year's issues. If any member would like to volunteer in any way or perhaps supervise an activity station, please let me know. Currently Lance has volunteered to manage the ACPD table.

Reminder invitations will also be going out this week to those groups that haven't replied to the initial invite. A lot of groups need permission to participate and have to wait until they return from summer so we should still get many more signing up.

Haptic Book project is having many technical difficulties in the 3D printing department, but the book will be ready for publishing by next week, I was just sent the graphics files required to do so by the publisher. There are a few models that are being very troublesome to print well enough for these purposes, but I am confident I will have it worked out I time in collaboration with the original designers from Czechia.