

## Briefing Note – ACPD Accessibility Awards

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT DIVISION



Hamilton

### Overview: Accessibility Awards

2024 marks the first year for Hamilton’s new Accessibility Awards! The awards will recognize achievements that an individual, group, or organization has made or is making towards improving access for persons with disabilities. Hamilton has a large community of people living with disabilities, and our commitment to being “the best place to live, work, and age successfully” means it is important to support and recognise this community and their achievements. Join us as we present the award winners and learn more about accessibility and accommodation:

**Accessibility Awards at the Accessibility Fair  
September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024 – 11:00am – 3:00pm  
City Hall Forecourt**

### Strategic Background

Hamilton established the Accessibility Awards and will be awarding our first awards at this year’s Accessibility Fair to honour, celebrate, and recognise achievements made by those furthering the cause of accessibility in the City.

In February of 2022, the Accessibility Committee for Persons with Disabilities (ACPD) requested Council to consider the establishment of an Accessibility Award Program for individuals, businesses, community organizations and groups in Hamilton that have made a significant contribution beyond legislative requirements, towards improving access for persons with disabilities. In June of 2023 Council approved an Awards program to be conferred annually at the Accessibility Fair.

### Key Facts and Stats

- Hamilton has a disproportionately large community of people living with disabilities – 27.7% when compared to an Ontario average of 24% and a national average of 22%.
- ACPD will be involved in the selection and adjudication of Awards.
- It remains important to raise awareness of accessibility and universal design.

### Conclusion

It is important to meaningfully demonstrate the commitment of Award recipients to the cause of accessibility and to highlight their achievements to the broader community. We will be awarding the Accessibility Trailblazer award and framed certificate in a ceremony to be held at the Accessibility Fair on September 26th.

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