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A Dufferin-Peel ACCESS

Newsletter Fall 2013

UPDATE: Accessibility Standards Training

The Ministry of Community and Social Services has legislated a training requirement for all employees on Integrated Accessibility in the workplace. The Accessibility Standard for Customer Service was the first standard to become law. The next four standards – Information and Communications, Employment, Transportation and Built Environment – have been combined under one regulation, the Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation. This regulation is now law and the requirements are being phased in between 2011 and 2025.

All organizations are required to train employees, volunteers, all those who participate in developing the organization's policies, and all others who provide goods or services on behalf of the organization by January 1, 2014. The training will be provided by Principals, Managers, and Supervisors and/or at Professional Development training sessions in the form of a PowerPoint presentation. The presentation is approximately 15 minutes in length. The information and instruction is mandatory and training will be tracked and maintained centrally at the board level. For more information about this training, please contact your Principal, Manager, or direct Supervisor.

Board website redesigned with accessibility in mind!

This year, the board has been working with a web developer to design a new board website with a fresh look, updated content and user-friendly navigation. The new site is designed to be compliant with the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines required by the Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation (IASR). The IASR requires designated public sector organizations, including school boards, to make their websites and web content accessible within given timelines. All new sites and content must be compliant as of January 1, 2014. All existing sites and content must be compliant by January 1, 2021.



See Website on Page 2

Website continued from Page 1

The Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (Level “A”) requires sites to be compliant in four areas:

- Perceivable (Graphics, Colours/Contrast, Text Size, Text Transcript/Captions)
- Operable (Functionality, Navigation)
- Understandable (Consistent Language and Labelling)
- Robust (Web Publishing Standards)

The new board website will launch in the coming weeks. For more information about Web Content Accessibility Guidelines, visit www.w3.org.

UPDATE: Evacuation Chairs Trainee List



As outlined in previous newsletters, the Board has installed Stryker Evacuation Chairs in schools with two stories or greater and provided Train the Trainer sessions for Principals/Vice Principals. The administrators subsequently provided training for volunteer staff at their schools, as well as reviewed the location and plan for the chairs with all school staff. The names of the volunteer staff that will be assisting in an evacuation are to be included in the site’s Fire Safety and Emergency Plans and as well as posted with the names of First Aid staff. These plans are reviewed with staff annually.

Customer Service Feedback Process

In accordance with the AODA (Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act), the Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board has established a customer feedback process for receiving and responding to customer concerns and inquiries about the way the board provides services to people with disabilities. The process is available to anyone who accesses board/school facilities, products or services, including parents, guardians, ratepayers, permit holders, suppliers, vendors and the general public. For information about the process and direction for inquiry, visit www.dpcdsb.org/CEC/About+Us/ACCESS+Dufferin-Peel.

For any questions related to this process, please contact Michelle Coutinho, Principal of Equity, Diversity & Inclusive Education at 905-890-0708 ext. 24405 or michelle.coutinho@dpcdsb.org.