



Ontario Science Centre Multi-Year Accessibility Plan – 2021 Annual Status Report

As an Agency of the Government of Ontario, the Ontario Science Centre is committed to being an inclusive and engaging cultural attraction for all. We understand the importance of ensuring accessibility for our employees and the public we serve and are committed to ensuring our services are delivered in alignment with our [Who We Are statement](#) and the principles of the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 (AODA): dignity, independence, integration, and equal opportunity.

The Ontario Science Centre released a Multi-Year Accessibility Plan for the period of 2020-2025. This plan, aligned with commitments outlined in the previous multi-year accessibility plan, was developed in consultation with persons with disabilities and posted on our website. The Science Centre has maintained compliance with all legislated standards under AODA and the Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation (IASR) on-site at our physical location and online through our virtual experiences. We continue to commit to:

- Ensuring all hosted documents and videos on our WCAG 2.0 compliant website are accessible.
- Designing marketing materials that meet AODA standards.
- Prioritizing AODA considerations when consulting with external clients on the development of new exhibits and programs.
- Fabricating new exhibitions that are fully accessible.
- Reviewing admission booking processes to ensure they meet accessibility standards.
- When necessary, posting public notices of disruption regarding facilities accessed by persons with disabilities.
- Ensuring the spacing, signage, and number of AODA parking spots in the parking lots comply with current regulations.
- Maintaining sidewalk ramps to allow for wheelchair access. Specifically, the ramps leading from the north lot adjacent to vehicle exit lanes, a ramp near AODA spots in the south lot leading to the sidewalk, and a ramp to the workshop area.
- Improving access with automatic door openers installed at multiple entrances.



In furthering our commitment to accessibility, we also undertook the following activities in 2021:

- Ensured new virtual school programs, family workshops, and home curriculum resources provided closed captioning for live and recorded videos. Instructional documents were produced in accessible formats. American Sign Language (ASL) services were also offered upon request for our virtual live stream events.
- Added large overhead monitors and close-up cameras in two demo spaces to facilitate viewing of props and specimens for all visitors.
- Modified exhibits to improve wheelchair accessibility in the demo spaces.
- Enlisted accessibility experts to provide input on website content, identify potential accessibility issues, and advise on solutions.
- Ongoing conversion of English and French PDFs on our website to HTML, offering a better user experience for individuals using screen readers.
- Hired an AODA consultant to ensure that our 3D virtual tours are accessible.

For a list of our accessibility policies and practices, please visit our [Accessibility Page](#).

For general inquiries or to request an alternate format of this plan, please email accessibility@ontariosciencecentre.ca or call 416-696-1000 (toll free 1-888-696-1110).