



Office of the Commissioner
Corporate Services Department

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of Committee of the Whole

From: Dino Basso
Commissioner of Corporate Services

Date: November 1, 2021

Re: 17150 Yonge Street Achieves Rick Hansen Foundation Accessibility Certification, Gold Level

On September 28, 2021, York Region's facility at 17150 Yonge Street achieved Gold Certification with Rick Hansen Foundation Accessibility Certification™ (RHFAC). A copy of the Certification is enclosed with this memo.

RHFAC Recognize York Region's Achievement

In Canada, almost 50% of adults have or have experienced a permanent or temporary physical disability or live with someone who has. RHFAC is a national rating system that measures and certifies the level of meaningful access to buildings and sites. Based on the public RHFAC Registry (comprised of owners that chose to list their buildings publicly on the website), there are 684 certified buildings of which 68 achieved Gold Level. With the inclusion of 17150 Yonge Street, there are only 24 Gold Level buildings in Ontario.

Council's Leadership in Accessibility and Inclusion

Through York Region Council's leadership and York Region Accessibility Advisory Committee's guidance, the following Accessible and Inclusive designs, which enabled Gold Certification, were incorporated into the building:

1. Designated accessible parking spaces and designated crossings, where it is necessary to cross a vehicular route
2. An accessible path to leading to public transit systems nearby
3. Accessible paths of travel to the building's entrances and throughout the building
4. All trails and recreational paths on the property are accessible

5. All floors are accessible and served by elevators
6. The building has 2 universal washrooms with adult change tables
7. The fire alarm system is equipped with visual and audible signal devices mounted in both public and private areas (e.g. washrooms/changerooms)
8. Wayfinding solutions were installed to help people navigate the building and site
9. The site and building incorporate safety warning features, such as tactile attention indicators at the top of stairs, and cane-detectable features
10. Permanent room identification signage is tactile
11. Adaptive hearing technology, such as assistive listening and communication enhancement technologies, is provided (e.g. induction loops at reception counters, meeting rooms etc.)
12. Accessibility provision(s) are provided to ensure key facilities located throughout the site and building are functional for visitors and staff, regardless of physical limitations

The Award Signifies that York Region Continues to be a Champion in accessibility

Together with other participating organizations, York Region is committed to taking actions to achieve the vision of the Inclusion Charter in our organization and in the community. It is vitally important that our facilities are always accessible by all visitors and staff, regardless of physical limitation. This Gold Certification further strengthens our commitment to work together to continue building an inclusive and diverse community that is accessible to everyone.

A plaque recognizing 17150 Yonge Street's Gold Certification will be provided by the Rick Hansen Foundation and will be mounted at a prominent location in the building.



Dino Basso
Commissioner of Corporate Services



Bruce Macgregor
Chief Administrative Officer

Attachments (1)
eDOCS #13376980