

MEMORANDUM

TO: York Region AAC

FROM: Joann Simmons, Commissioner of Community Services and Housing

DATE: March 18, 2005

RE: **Item for Discussion: Establishing the York Region AAC's Priorities in the Implementation of the Region's 2005 Accessibility Plan**

As you know, *Moving Forward: York Region's 2005 Accessibility Plan* will be presented to Regional Council on March 31, 2005. Upon Council's approval of the Plan, the next important step is the implementation. As required by the Ontarians with Disabilities Act (ODA), the York Region AAC plays a critical role in advising Council on the preparation, implementation and effectiveness of its annual Accessibility Plan. Like last year, the AAC will continue to play a role in the implementation of the many initiatives in the 2005 Plan. To assist us in identifying specific areas for which to involve the AAC in the Plan's implementation, I would ask that you review the 2005 Plan and identify specific initiatives where you would like the AAC to have involvement.

As well, for the past two years many of you have worked with staff and Council in the Region's accessibility planning process and we have learned many lessons. I thought this would be a good time to regroup and get the AAC's feedback and thoughts on the Region's accessibility planning process and in particular the AAC's role and possible opportunities for improvement.

Please feel free to contact Lisa Gonsalves at (905) 830-4444, ext. 2060 or Jerry Zhang at ext. 2128, if you have any questions or require any assistance in preparing for the discussion. I look forward to your wonderful ideas and suggestions for this discussion on March 30, 2005.

Thank you.



Joann Simmons

LG/lg