
**Charting a Path Forward:
Report of the Independent Review
of the *Accessibility for Ontarians with
Disabilities Act, 2005 (AODA)***

Presentation to the
York Region Accessibility Advisory Committee

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Overview

- ❑ Mandate
- ❑ Common Issues
- ❑ Recommendations
- ❑ Association of Municipalities of Ontario's (AMO) Response

Mandate of the Independent Review

- ❑ To ensure that the legislation is effective for people with disabilities, businesses and organizations
- ❑ The review focused on the following areas:
 - ❑ The standards development committee process
 - ❑ The role of the Municipal Advisory Committees
 - ❑ The functions of the Accessibility Directorate of Ontario, including public education
 - ❑ Recommendations for a repeal strategy for the *Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2001* (ODA)
- ❑ The review recommended amendments to the AODA



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Common Issues

The review identified common issues under four themes:

- ❑ Leadership;
- ❑ Harmonization and Costs;
- ❑ Integration of the AODA; and
- ❑ Standard development process.



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Recommendations

The Review made the following recommendations:

- ❑ Harmonize the accessibility standards
- ❑ Designate Minister of Community and Social Services as Minister Responsible for Accessibility



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Recommendations cont'd

- ❑ Strengthen the Accessibility Directorate of Ontario (ADO)
- ❑ Establish an arm's-length advisory board to replace Standard Development Committees



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Recommendations cont'd

- ❑ Strategy to repeal the ODA in whole and not in parts after all AODA regulations are released
- ❑ The role of the Municipal Accessibility Advisory Committees (MAAC) be continued
- ❑ No funding recommendations



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AMO's Response

- ❑ Captures AMO's concerns raised previously except for funding.
- ❑ Flexible timelines for implementing standards not addressed.
- ❑ AMO will continue to monitor.



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What Does This Mean?

- ❑ This report is a recommendation document. Does not provide provincial direction.
- ❑ Recommends ODA remain an active legislation.
- ❑ No funding to implement the AODA.



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Questions



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