



Georgian College 2015/2016 Annual Status Report

December 2016

Alternate formats of this report are available upon request.

2015/2016 Annual Status Report

Georgian College's Commitment to Accessibility

As a College and public sector organization we are committed to creating an accessible organization by removing and preventing barriers for people with disabilities.

Georgian College makes every effort to demonstrate leadership for accessibility in the College sector and in Ontario. Our goal is to ensure accessibility for all of our employees, our students and our community members who access services, products or any of our facilities operated by the College.

Introduction

Georgian College has established a multi-year accessibility plan in accordance with our obligation under the AODA, Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation (IASR). The timelines within the three/five year plan adhere to the compliance timelines set out by the IASR and identifies how each section of the regulation will be addressed. The purpose of the Plan is to educate and assist Georgian College staff in the identification, removal and prevention of barriers, both physical and attitudinal, to facilities, programs, information resources, goods and services, and employment. Implementation of these initiatives will ensure universal accessibility to Georgian's facilities, programs, information resources, goods and services, and employment.

Georgian will prepare an annual status report on the progress of measures taken to implement the Plan, post the status report on Georgian's website and will make the status report available in an accessible format upon request.

The Plan will be made available on the intranet, public website or upon request from Campus Safety and Security, and Student Services. The Plan will be made available in alternative formats, such as: CD, tapes, in large print, or in Braille, upon request.

AODA Achievements for 2015/2016

- The Georgian College AODA Committee has been meeting quarterly to set goals and implement action plans to maintain legislative compliance.
- Barrie campus: audit done by Physical Resources to progressively change out knob door handles to lever handles on interior doors at Barrie campus.
- Barrie campus: universal washroom B113 made fully accessible with automatic door opener, door lock, and emergency call system.
- Barrie campus: The Automotive Business School of Canada (H Building) lobby renovation, includes accessible washrooms.
- Owen Sound campus: Marine Emergency Duties addition, includes accessible elevator, washrooms and shower rooms.

- Owen Sound campus: major Fitness Center renovations includes accessible washrooms and shower rooms.
- Muskoka campus: new student pavilion with an accessible concrete sidewalk.
- Marketing and Communications is utilizing webpage audit software to prioritize and manage Georgian's external web content accessibility.
- Georgian's Customer Service Procedure and Accessibility Procedure have been updated and consolidated to reflect amendments made to the Customer Service Standard under the AODA as of July 1, 2016.
- Occupational Health & Safety in partnership with Conference and Events Services has created a guideline/checklist on event accessibility.
- In 2015, Student Success Services received over 200 requests from students for alternate formats, and over 600 book requests. In 2016, over 90 book requests have been made.
- Student Success Services has also provided over 1100 student accommodations for the Fall 2015/Winter 2016 semesters.
- Human Resource Services offered Mental Health First Aid Certification training to staff and faculty at the Barrie, Owen Sound, and Orillia campuses in Fall/Winter 2016.
- Physical Resources has implemented an updated Wayfinding Signage Program which includes braille elements.
- Overall mandatory AODA training compliance is currently at 91%, an improvement from past completion rates due to increased attention by managers and completion tied to mandatory employee health and safety training.

Georgian College strives to be recognized provincially, nationally and internationally as a leader in postsecondary education. Georgian will continue to be responsive to the needs of all students, staff and visitors.

Moving Forward

Georgian College is committed to continuing to meet the forthcoming AODA, IASR obligations. In 2017 the College is focusing on the creation of resources on how to create accessible documents.

We will continue to address action plans in all accessibility areas (i.e., physical, architectural, communication, information, attitudinal, technological, policy and practice) through a needs analysis.

In addition, our Library is also maintaining its focus on our obligations under the ADOA. Georgian College has representation on the OCLS/provincial library committees.

Efforts will be made to ensure the College's websites and web content are accessible to all users, meeting the WCAG Level A requirements. The College is investigating several options to provide resources and detailed training on creating accessible Microsoft Office documents.

