**Accessibility**

**Annual Status Report**

**2020**

The **Township of Hilton** continues to make efforts to improve upon its provision of services to ensure the accessibility needs of persons with disabilities are met in a timely manner, consistent with the specific requirements of the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA 2005) and its regulations.

In 2020, we applied for funding under the Enabling Accessibility program, recognizing that our municipal building did not satisfy accessibility requirements in regard to the front entrance as well as the washroom facilities. We currently have two separate washrooms. One will be converted to a Unisex accessible washroom by utilizing part of the existing furnace/storage room. We plan on sending out tenders in the early part of 2021.

We did follow through and purchase a new burning permit computer module that allows us to email burn permits to our residents without the need for them to physically come to the office to register for one. This was especially helpful this year given the concerns around the Covid-19 pandemic.

We participated in a webinar in the summer of 2020 to better understand the new requirements effective January 2021 regarding a website compliant with WCAG 2.0 Level AA standards. Our website provider is currently assessing our website and will recommend the changes necessary to the existing content and structure as well as ensuring future postings satisfy the upgraded requirements.

December 2, 2020