



Georgian College 2016/2017 Annual Status Report

December 2017

Alternate formats of this plan are available upon request.

2016/2017 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. The timelines within the three 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 2016/2017

- Action plan created by Physical Resources to progressively change out knob door handles to lever handles at Barrie campus.
- Automatic door opener kit installed in E building vestibule, adjacent to E121 Hospitality and Tourism.
- Construction and relocation of OneCard center to more accessible location
- Major renovation to main floor of C building to include barrier free access to the welcome center, registrars counter, and an accessible lounge a student study and lounge area.
- GCSA office to be relocated and renovated with accessible elements.
- new building - Advanced Technology, Innovation and Research Centre.
- AODA Audit Project conducted by co-op student and designed to capture the current status of GC built environments
- Remediation of stairwells to include contrasting steps and raised edge markers
- Major renovation of student common areas
- Doors painted contrasting colors
- Modification of signage to be accessible for patrons with vision disabilities
- Physical Resources has developed a Wayfinding Signage Standard that will include braille elements.
- Focus on Universal Design across the College community. This is a concept of designing all products and the built environment to be aesthetic and usable to the greatest extent possible by everyone, regardless of their age, ability, or status in life.

Moving Forward

Georgian College is committed to continuing to meet the forthcoming AODA, IASR obligations.

Library Services are maintaining focus on our obligations under the ADOA. Our Lead Reference Librarian has been chair of the AODA Committee for the Ontario College Libraries (OCL), and has been working closely with OCL members to optimize services in providing, procuring or acquiring accessible or conversion-ready format of digital based resources.

Ongoing efforts will be made to ensure the College's websites and web content are accessible to all users, meeting the WCAG Level A requirements.

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.