



Rural Municipality of
FISHER

ACCESSIBILITY PLAN

Date of first approval:

Date updated: August 15, 2023

Years applicable: January 1, 2024 – December 31, 2025

Contact Person: Kelly Marykuca, Chief Administrative Officer

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Fisher Branch, MB R0C 0Z0

Statement of Commitment

The Rural Municipality of Fisher is committed to providing equal service to all citizens and visitors regardless of their abilities. We strive to remove and prevent barriers to accessibility and to meet the requirements of the “Accessibility for Manitobans Act”.

The following document will outline Rural Municipality of Fishers plan towards the goal of Accessibility by working toward innovative approaches and program solutions with the residents of our communities.

Achievements

- Council cell numbers and email addresses are accessible on the website.
- Service animals are permitted in our office.
- Automatic doors installed at Municipal Office.
- Our staff is empowered to accommodate all visitors, this includes writing out cheques and filling out forms on their behalf, as well as explaining processes.
- A variety of methods are used to communicate municipal services and programs to the public. This includes advertising in the local newspapers, social media, direct mail and website posts. Any documents available on the municipality’s website are also available in paper copy at our office, by request.
- Outdoor drop off box by the front door is available for depositing payments, letters, inquiries, etc.
- Payments can be made at most banks through Telepay or setup as a payee for online banking. We also accept payments by e-transfer.
- Computer and internet access are ***not*** a requirement for the public to access municipal services and programs.
- All-Net, the Municipality’s emergency notification service provides notification to citizens. Messages are recorded and sent out by office staff using text, emails and phone calls during emergency situations. Citizens can either sign-up online or they can call or visit the Municipal Office to register.
- The Municipal Office parking lot has a dedicated disabled parking space.
- Security cameras have been installed at the RM Office, Fire Hall and Public Works yard which also help alert staff visually of persons requiring assistance.

- Met with the local Seniors Resource Group about the accessibility plan. Reviewed the accessibility of the municipal office and services we provide. We discussed how the municipality can assist in things such as snow removal to municipal roads where a Senior wishes to stay at home and how we as a community can accommodate that. The new municipal website will have a space dedicated to where they can add information.
- Since 2020 we have been collecting data as part of The Accessibility Employment Standard Regulation. Current and all new hires, with consent, are to provide written accessibility information. Each person fills out the Employee Emergency Response Information Form and it is kept confidential in the office. Employees workspace or workplace is adjusted as required. Chief Administrative Officer, Kelly Marykuca is trained in Accessible Customer Service Standard Training.

Policies

- All programs, services and new initiatives will be reviewed to ensure accessibility.
- The RM of Fisher will make information available in an accessible format or provide communication supports to people with disabilities in a way that considers their disability.
- The RM of Fisher will review and update the Accessibility Achievements and Barriers annually.
- The RM of Fisher will review this Accessibility Plan every two years, to ensure continued compliance with the Accessibility Act.

Barriers and Work Plan Actions

The Rural Municipality of Fisher is aware that some barriers still exist and have been identified. We plan to address these following concerns:

- Lower counter height is required to provide optimal customer service to those bound to a wheel chair.
- Wheel chair and handicap accessible washrooms are required.
- Public building signage does not include Braille or large format.

Expected Outcomes

- RM of Fisher residents with accessibility issues are able to access RM services, buildings and programs while maintaining their independence.
- All levels of RM staff will be more conscious and aware of accessibility barriers and recognize accessibility issues more readily.
- Staff will feel confident when confronted with accessibility issues having been provided with training and the tools to assist.
- Senior staff will consider and incorporate accessibility requirements in their short and long-term budget planning going forward.

Contact Information:

If you have any questions about compliance or wish to receive resources, as well as copies of accessibility plans of other small municipalities, please contact the Accessibility Compliance Secretariat:

Accessibility Compliance Secretariat

Second Floor – 114 Garry Street
Winnipeg, MB R3C 1G1
Phone: 204-792-0263
Email: AccessibilityCompliance@gov.mb.ca

If you require this information in an alternate format please contact the Manitoba Accessibility Office:

Manitoba Accessibility Office

630 – 240 Graham Avenue
Winnipeg, MB R3C 0J7
Phone: 204-945-7613
Toll free: 1-800-282-8069, ext. 7613
Email: MAO@gov.mb.ca
Website: www.AccessibilityMB.ca

Manitoba Chapter Canadian Hard of Hearing Association (CHHA)

C/O SMD Clearinghouse
2nd Floor, 825 Sherbrook Street
Winnipeg, MB R3A 1M5
Phone: 204-975-3037
www.chha-mb.ca

Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA)

930 Portage Avenue
Winnipeg, MB R3G 0P8
Phone: 204-982-6100
www.cmha.ca

Canadian National Institute for the Blind (CNIB)

Regional Office
1080 Portage Avenue
Winnipeg, MB R3G 3M3
Phone: 204-774-5421

Community Living Manitoba

#6-120 Maryland Street
Winnipeg, MB R3G 1L1
Phone: 204-786-1607
Email: aclmb@aclmb.ca

Fisher and District Handivan

Phone: 204-372-7314

Fisher Branch Seniors Resource Centre

60 Tache Street
Fisher Branch, MB R0C 0Z0
Phone: 204-372-6861
Email: fbrso@mymts.net