

How to Update an Accessibility Plan

A Brief Presentation for Public Sector
Organizations



The Accessibility for Manitobans Act

- Nearly one in four Manitobans face barriers to accessibility in daily living. With an aging population, this number continues to grow.
- All Manitobans, regardless of their abilities, have the right to participate fully in society, and to be treated with dignity and respect.
- With the introduction of accessibility legislation, organizations must all collaborate to make Manitoba accessible.

What is an Accessibility Plan?

An accessibility plan:

- is required by all public sector organizations under The Accessibility for Manitobans Act
- outlines measures your organization has taken to identify, remove and reduce barriers to accessibility
- describes future steps your organization **will** take to continue to identify, prevent and remove barriers

What is an Accessibility Plan?

An accessibility plan (continued):

- lists the measures in place to ensure your organization assesses its **policies, programs, practices, services, rules or by-laws** to determine their impact on accessibility
- can have an internal audience, but must be made available to the public

**Did you know that 87%
(or 165 out of 189) public sector
organizations across Manitoba
have created an initial
accessibility plan?**

Important

Accessibility Plans must be updated every two years, per The Accessibility for Manitobans Act

Why should my organization update its Accessibility Plan?

Updates to accessibility plans are needed because they:

- help focus an organization to consider and eliminate new barriers
- ensure all Manitobans have full access to programs and services designed to meet the public's needs
- it's required by law, and failure to do so may lead to compliance and enforcement activities

Steps for updating your accessibility plan

1. Read through your current accessibility plan
2. Review progress on any policies, actions or measures your organization has taken to create accessibility in the past two years
3. Set future priorities, including compliance with requirements under accessibility standards
4. Identify the actions your organization will take to advance accessibility in the next two years
5. Make your updated accessibility plan publically available

Tips

Helpful to include:

- a contact with ways to get in touch (email/phone)
- the time period the plan covers
- How your organization meets (or exceeds) accessibility standard requirements

Tips (continued)

- Keep accessibility in mind when discussing corporate and strategic planning. Consider integrating the plan into quarterly or annual reporting periods, and/or board meetings
- You may choose to update your accessibility plan by editing the original plan that acts as a baseline.
- Another option is to use the free template on How to Update your Accessibility Plan by visiting XXX **[Erika: can we hyperlink to this resource? Maybe provide a visual snapshot of the front cover]**

Want to view sample plans?

Visit: [Sample Accessibility Plans | The Accessibility for Manitobans Act | Province of Manitoba](#)
[\(accessibilitymb.ca\)](#)

Thank you

Let's collectively celebrate accessibility achievements over the last two years and plan for an accessible way forward!

Remember to submit your updated accessibility plan to accessibilitycompliance@gov.mb.ca