HURON-PERTH CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

MULTI-YEAR ACCESSIBILITY PLAN

FOR THE PERIOD DECEMBER 2025 TO DECEMBER 2030

MULTI-YEAR ACCESSIBILITY PLAN

HURON-PERTH CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

December 2025 - December 2030

Prepared by

Accessibility Planning Committee

In accordance with Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation

This publication is available through the Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board's

- website (http://www.huronperthcatholic.ca/)
- Board Office, Dublin
- In accessible formats upon request*

^{*}Contact the Board Office

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1. **Aim**

This multi-year Accessibility Plan is developed in accordance with the Integration Accessibility Standards Regulation under the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005.* It incorporates the intentions of the Board to meet its obligations under the *Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2001.* The Plan describes the measures that the Board will take over the five year period from 2025-2030 to identify, remove and prevent barriers to people with disabilities who work, learn and participate in the School Board community and environment including students, staff, parents and guardians, volunteers and visitors to the Board and its schools. The plan will be guided by the Board's Accessibility Standards-Policy Statement (Policy 3A:25).

2.0 Objectives

This Plan:

- **2.1** Describes the process by which the Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board will identify, remove and prevent barriers;
- **2.2** Reviews recent efforts of the Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board to remove and prevent barriers;
- 2.3 Describes the measures the Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board will take in the period 2025-2030 to identify, remove and prevent barriers;
- 2.4 Makes a commitment to provide an annual status report on the Board's implementation of the multi-year accessibility plan and post on the Boards website;
- **2.5** Makes a commitment to review and update the multi-year accessibility plan at least once every 5 years;
- **2.6** Describes how the Huron-Perth Catholic School Board will make this accessibility plan available to the public.

3.0 Commitment to Accessibility Planning

This plan will be established, reviewed and updated in consultation with persons with disabilities and with the Board's Special Education Advisory Committee and Accessibility Advisory Committee. It will be presented to the Board for approval. The Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board is committed to:

- **3.1** Maintaining an Accessibility Planning Committee;
- **3.2** Continuing the process of consulting with the Special Education Advisory Committee and with persons with disabilities;
- 3.3 Ensuring, wherever practicable, that Board policies, procedures and practices are consistent with the principles of accessibility and inclusive/universal design. The Accessibility Planning Committee will provide input re: accessibility issues, where appropriate, with regard to new policies and procedures and to those under review:
- 3.4 Improving access to facilities, policies, programs, practices and services for students, staff, parents/guardians, volunteers and members of the community. Consideration of ongoing identification of barriers will be the responsibility of the Accessibility Committee and will, wherever practicable, be incorporated in the multi-year plan.

The Director of Education has authorized the Accessibility Committee to review and update the Multi-Year Accessibility Plan that will enable the Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board to meet these commitments.

4.0 Description of the Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board

The Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board has a rich 165 year history of providing quality Catholic education to our students. Located in mid-western Ontario, the Board encompasses historic Goderich and the Lake Huron shoreline with rich productive agricultural land and several small rural communities. At the southerly end, Stratford anchors Perth County with its world-renowned Shakespeare Festival. The counties of Huron and Perth are part of the Roman Catholic Diocese of London.

The Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board is one of the highest achieving Boards in the province of Ontario. We are very proud of teaching excellence across our schools guided by the principle that "students really do come first". For our approximately 4,600 students, their experience in our Catholic schools is more than academic achievement. Christ's teachings inspire our staff to see each child as a precious gift and a sacred responsibility. Within the rich heritage and tradition of our Catholic faith, our 500 staff members strive to call forth and develop in our young people all the necessary skills, competencies and attitudes (rooted in the Ontario Catholic Graduate Expectations), that will enable them to live a faithful and fulfilling life in contemporary society

SCHOOL BOARD PROFILE

Number of Schools: 18 (565,733 sq. ft.)

- 16 Elementary (354,317 sq. ft.)
- 2 Secondary (211,416 sq. ft.)

Number of Students: 4,615 (as of November 2025)

- 3,394 elementary (as of November 2025)
- 1,222 secondary (as of November 2025)

For the Board:

Director of Education 4 members including three Superintendents

Chairperson of the Board of Trustees 5 members (total number of Trustees)

For Administration

Principals' and Vice-Principals' Assoc. 22 members

For Bargaining Units/Employee Groups

CUPE Local 3615 (E.A.s, Off A, Lib Tech) 155 members

CUPE Local 3615.01 (Hall Monitors) 8 members

CUPE Local 3615.02 (ECEs) 25 members

O.E.C.T.A. Elementary 207 members

O.E.C.T.A. Secondary 92 members

O.E.C.T.A. Occasional 155 members (FTE)

Rep. Custodians 45 members

Rep. Non-Union Workers 28 members

Board Area: 6,000 sq. km.

5.0 <u>Members of Accessibility Planning Committee</u>

Department
Superintendent of Business and Treasurer
Health & Safety Officer
Learning Coordinator (Special Education)
Huron-Perth Student Transportation Services Manager
Manager Facilities Services

6.0 Strategy for prevention and removal of barriers

Beginning in September 1, 2002, the principles of inclusionary practice, freedom from barriers and accessible environments have informed all Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board policies, programs, procedures and services. Through the annual accessibility plan status report process implemented under the *Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2001*, the Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board's programming, policies and practices have been assessed to ensure continuous improvement in accessibility. This process will continue through the establishment of a multi-year accessibility plan which places particular emphasis on the provisions of the regulations made under the AODA with regard to customer service, information and communications, employment and school transportation.

7.0 Barrier Identification Methodologies

The Accessibility Planning Committee uses the following barrier-identification methods:

Methodology	Description	Status
Accessibility Survey	Results of surveys	Review by Members of
	tabulated/analyzed	Accessibility Planning
	-	Committee in progress
Accessibility Planning	Potential actions re identified	In progress
Committee considers results	accessibility issues discussed	
of review	within multi-year strategy	
Accessibility Planning	Surveys of buildings	In progress
Committee also considers	considered and identification	
Facilities report re physical	of criteria for action within	
environment	multi-year strategy	
Communication steps: Board,	Opportunity for input or	To be scheduled
SEAC, Employee Groups,	feedback prior to approval and	
Public	posting on website	

Recent Barrier Removal Achievements

The most recent Annual Accessibility Plan developed in accordance with the Ontarians with Disability Act (ODA) identified a range of barriers and appropriate strategies for their removal. The detailed achievements are set out in the following chart:

Type of Barrier	Location	Action Taken
Physical	St. Ambrose	Repave entire playground area
Physical	St. Boniface	Design and install structural support for installation sensory swing
Physical	St. James	 Supply and install light covers, outlet cover and safety cage for emergency light in sensory space
Physical	Holy Name of Mary	Alterations to girls changeroom to accommodate a change table
Physical	St. Mary's, Listowel	 Conversion of change room into student break room

8.0 Barriers to be addressed under the Multi-Year Accessibility Plan

The Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation 191/11 filed in June, 2011 pursuant to the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 identified specific requirements to achieve accessibility in the areas of:

- Information and Communications
- Employment
- Transportation

These requirements build on the Accessibility Standards for Customer Service which came into force in 2007.

HURON-PERTH CATHOLIC Board intends, through this Multi-year Accessibility Plan for the period 2019-2024, to take action to address barriers to accessibility related to the Standards areas of current Regulations. This is in addition to ongoing work the Board is undertaking with regard to identification and removal of barriers in the Board's physical environment.

8.0 Review and Monitoring Process

The Accessibility Planning Committee shall meet annually to review progress and evaluate the effectiveness of implementation of barrier-removal and prevention strategies and to plan for increased accessibility throughout the Board.

The Accessibility Planning Committee will ensure that in respect of the Multi-Year Accessibility Plan the following steps take place:

- (a) An annual status report on the progress of the measures taken to implement the plan is prepared.
- (b) At least once every 5 years the plan is reviewed and updated in consultation with persons with disabilities, with the Board's Special Education Advisory Committee and other relevant committees.

9.0 <u>Communication of the Plan</u>

In addition to the public availability of the plan as referenced earlier on Page 2, Huron-Perth Catholic District School Board will post an annual status report on the progress of the Multi-year Accessibility Plan on the Board's website. The Board will accommodate requests for accessible formats of the Plan.

Questions, comments or feedback regarding the Accessibility Plan may be directed to:

Accessibility Planning Committee
District School Board
Or
www.huronperthcatholic.ca →"Contact Us"

APPENDICES Accessibility Work Annual reporting to Special Education Committee 2002 - 2025

Year	School/Action
2024-25	St. Mary's, Listowel Converting a change room into a student break room. Fixing the automatic door opener on an accessible washroom.
	St. Ambrose Repave the entire playground to improve safety.
	St. Boniface • Install sensory swing and associated structural support.
	Holy Name • Repair accessibility washroom door.
	 St. Columban Convert change room to student break room. Upgrade change room lighting/controls.
	Sacred Heart • Install new electrical outlets in student break room
2023-24	Sacred Heart, Wingham Install frosted plexiglass, outlet covers, and remove light switch/PA button Replace drywall with a puck board and remove electrical outlets. Installation of hammock
	St. Ambrose, Stratford • Heater repairs. • Installation of mirror and removal of PA button
	St. Anne's Secondary School Installation of curtain in a student bathroom for privacy. Upgrades to light switches.
	 St. Mary's, Listowel Thermostat cover removals and light cover installation. Conversation of a change room into a student break room. Installation of two communication boards.
	St. Columban • Conversion of washroom into safe room.

	 Jeanne Sauvé, Stratford Installation of door stopper and light covers/plexiglass. Installation of communication board.
	Our Lady of Mt. Carmel School, Dashwood • Installation of communication board.
	St. Aloysius, Stratford • Installation of communication board
2022-23	 St. Anne's, Secondary School Replace accessible washroom faucets and install hands-free soap dispensers.
	St. Mary's, Goderich • Upgrade door hardware.
	St. Joseph's, Stratford • Installation of hammock in boys' change room.
	St. Patrick's, Dublin Install plexiglass and upgrade door hardware.
	St. Ambrose, Stratford • Supply/install new steel door and upgrade hardware. • Install plexiglass over an interior door window. • Paint accessible parking decal in school lot.
	Sacred Heart, Wingham Replace faucet in barrier-free washroom. Supply/install plexi-glass ceiling.
	St. James, Seaforth • Install light/outlet covers and safety cage for emergency light in sensory space.
2021-22	Holy Name of Mary Installation of fencing in the playground. Alter girls' change room for change table.
	St. Mary's, Goderich • Upgrade door hardware.
	Sacred Heart, Wingham Install plexiglass over an interior door window. Sensory room repairs.
	St. Joseph's, Stratford • Upgrade change room door.

2020-21	Jeanne Sauvé
2019-20	St. Boniface Repave entire playground for fall prevention and increased safety. St. Joseph's, Stratford Install privacy film on Resource Room window. Install safety matting on walls, door, and equipment. St. Mary's, Goderich Relocate thermostat and raise electrical outlets. St. Anne's Installation of a partition and additional upgrades to Spec. Ed. Room St. Patrick's, Dublin Wall/door installation, heater relocation, and painting to meet spec. ed. needs.
2018-19	Jeanne Sauvé Install six dimmable, recessed LED lights in the resource room. Sacred Heart Supply and install fire-rated wood door with passage set and hardware. Replace glass in doors. St. Boniface Remove/install new 38" doors and frames in two classrooms to accommodate wheelchairs (includes electrical relocation). St. Mary's, Listowel Replace glass in Quiet Room door. Parts and labour for repairing/relocating all electrical/thermostat in Quiet Room.

2017-18	Holy Name of Mary
	Precious Blood • Cut window in door of Spec. Ed. Room
	St. Aloysius • Relocate thermostat/install remote sensor in calming space
	St. Ambrose Install new hollow metal door in Room 119. Install auto operators on three exterior doors.
	St. Anne's CSS • Alter existing room to create two rooms.
	St. Joseph's, Stratford • Convert Chapel room to a calming room.
	 St. Mary's, Listowel Spec. ed. room modifications: door hardware, thermostat relocation, and install Lexan in window. Install fencing to enclose property for special needs student safety.
2016-17	Holy Name of Mary Install accessible universal washroom (2nd floor) and replace front door glass/film.
	St. Ambrose Install accessible universal washroom (related to Preschool relocation).
	St. Anne's CSS • Install flush door handle/plexiglass in Room 143 doors; replace chapel window.
	Sacred Heart • Install sidelight/plexiglass in Resource Room door; replace glass in Rooms 100/106.
	St. Mary's, Goderich Replace/film exit door glass. Install high-vision tape and paint.
	St. Patrick's, Dublin Install sidelight in Resource Room door; install high-vision paint and tape
	St. Joseph's, Stratford • Replace/film south door glass.

2015-2016	Jeanne Sauvé • Install dimmer/cages in Quiet Room.
	St. Ambrose • Quiet Room refinish; install door hardware, relocate/cover thermostat, install Lexan/film.
	St. Boniface • Upgrade Quiet Room with door hardware, thermostat replacement/relocation, plexiglass over windows.
	St. Michael • Modify offices for de-escalation room; install bidet toilet seat
2014-15	Precious Blood • Upgrade Washroom (touch-free fixtures, door operators).
	St. Ambrose • Install plexiglass in former SERT office for special needs room
	St. Boniface • Install new switch/outlet covers and replace/cover rad valve in Spec. Ed. room.
2013-2014	Our Lady of Mt. Carmel • Install new doors/vision panel in former work room/now Quiet Room.
	St. Joseph's, Clinton • Install asphalt ramp to new east entrance; install fencing and gates.
	Precious Blood • Install new ramp and barrier-free door operators (west end).
	St. Mary's, Goderich Replace barrier-free doors including operators.
	St. James • Modify main entrance for accessibility (doors/operators).
	St. Ambrose • Minor work in sensory room; modify primary entrance (ramp, door replacement/operators).
	St. Anne's CSS • Replace interlocking brick entrance with concrete slab for safety/accessibility.
	Board Office Install ramped entrance, handicapped parking, and Garaventa stair lift for main level accessibility.

2012 2012	Ct. Ambreco
2012-2013	 St. Ambrose Install swing hook for special needs swing; add receptacle in sensory room; install guard for radiator cover.
	St. Anne's CSS • Install door operators (rear door and resource room washroom); lower soap dispensers.
	St. James • Purchase hand sanitizer and dispensers.
	Jeanne Sauvé • Purchase door chimes for kindergarten.
2011-2012	Jeanne Sauvé Install new window in Resource Room.
	Our Lady of Mount Carmel • Calming Room - install tempered glass insert in door; paint room.
	St. Aloysius Install window in door (Room 4).
	St. Boniface • Room 5 - paint room and install privacy panels.
	St. Mary's Catholic, Listowel Install receptacle for change table.
2010-2011	St. Michael Catholic Secondary School Install sensor faucet in barrier-free washroom.
	St. Anne's Catholic Secondary School Install toilet in personal care room
	St. Ambrose • Special needs room modifications: install sidelight with Georgian glass in corridor door; replace window glass with plexiglass; remove hooks/whiteboard.
	Jeanne Sauvé Install elevator to provide accessibility to both levels (part of \$1.145M construction project).

2009-2010	St. Michael Secondary School
2009-2010	Barrier-free washroom alterations including push button operators.
	St. Anne's Secondary School • Barrier-free washroom alterations and upgrades to health room/storage area.
	St. Boniface School • Barrier-free washroom alteration of existing storage area.
	Jeanne Sauvé
2008-2009	St. Joseph's, Clinton • Purchase of portable ramp to access the gym stage.
	St. Michael Secondary School • Upgrades to existing washrooms, including ceiling tracking.
	St. Anne's Secondary School • Upgrades to existing health room and storage area for special needs students; purchase of accessibility chair.
2007-2008	Sacred Heart, Wingham • Install automatic door operators (part of Best Start addition).
	St. Mary's, Goderich Install FM systems for hearing-impaired students.
	Jeanne Sauvé Install new interior door hardware and rekey the building.
	Holy Name of Mary, St. Marys • Washroom/change room/play area renovations for wheelchair accessibility.
	St. Michael • Upgrades to shared washrooms for special needs students
2006-2007	Holy Name of Mary, St. Marys • Sidewalk curb cut and repairs to accommodate low vision students.
	Sacred Heart, Wingham Install sound panels and ceiling tile in a classroom.
	Jeanne Sauvé Install automatic door operators.
	St. Aloysius Install wall-mounted, height-adjustable table.

	St. Michael Install hammock as Spec. Ed. resource.
	St. Ambrose Renovate office space to install a swing for a Spec. Ed. resource.
2005-2006	St. Joseph's School, Stratford • Major addition and retrofit for full accessibility (entrances, washroom); includes accessible playground.
	Board Offices • Modifications to an existing washroom to make it barrier-free.
	St. Aloysius, Stratford • Major interior retrofit to include new barrier-free washroom, quiet room, and resource room area.
	Holy Name of Mary School Install five automatic door operators and hardware for wheelchair accessibility.
2004-2005	Holy Name, St. Marys Install handrails on interior steps; install new panic sets, latches, and firerated closers.
	St. Mary's, Goderich Install toilet platform and folding rails for student toileting needs.
	St. Aloysius, Stratford • Install hydraulic change table; install two concrete ramps; install five power doors for wheelchair access.
	St. Joseph's, Clinton • Construction of a new elementary school replacing the old site, meeting ODA 2001 and current Building Code requirements.
	St. Mary's, Listowel Construction of a new elementary school replacing the old site, meeting ODA 2001 and current Building Code requirements.
2003-2004	St. Joseph's, Kingsbridge • Install concrete ramps at two entrances/exits for a wheelchair user.
	St. Patrick's, Kinkora • Install bidet to accommodate student toileting needs.
	St. James, Seaforth • Relocate toilet and replace tap in special needs washroom.

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	St. Michael Secondary School Convert existing, unused washroom into a quiet room for Spec. Ed. resource.
2002-2003	St. James, Seaforth • Relocate toilet and replace taps in special needs washroom.