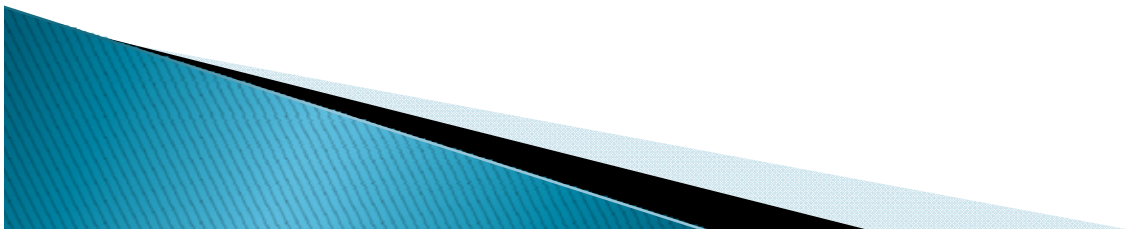


The Accessibility for Manitobans Act

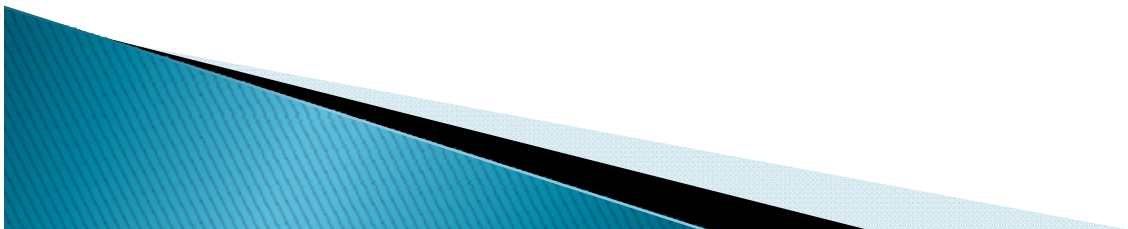
***Association of Manitoba Municipalities
(AMM) Annual Convention***

November 24, 2015



Overview of Presentation

1. Why accessibility legislation?
2. Overview of
The Accessibility for Manitobans Act
3. Accessible Customer Service Standard
4. Additional Requirements for Public Sector Organizations, including Municipalities



Part 1:

► Why accessibility legislation?



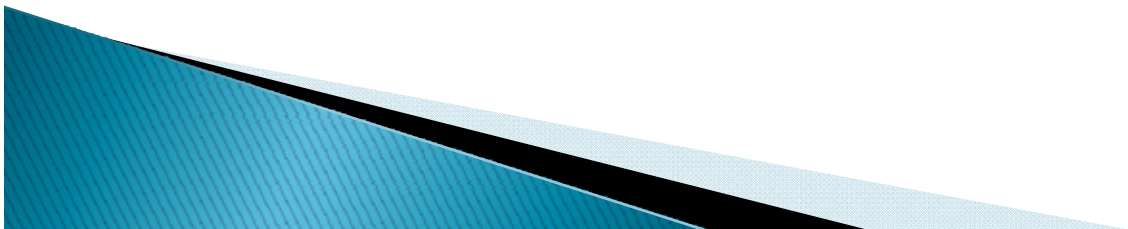
Today about 1 in 6 Canadians – or 5.3 mil – lives with a disability. By 2030, that number will grow to 1 in 5.



The Accessibility for Manitobans Act

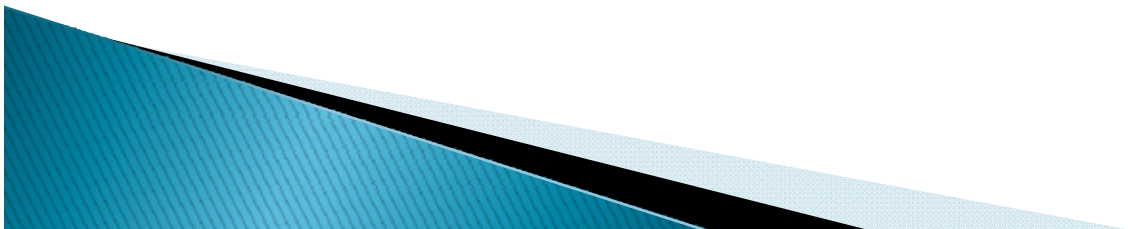
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Part 1:

► Why accessibility legislation?



Today about 1 in 6 Canadians – or 5.3 mil – lives with a disability. By 2030, that number will grow to 1 in 5.



Barriers come at an enormous cost – to persons with disabilities, to their family and friends, to their communities and also to business.



The Manitoba Human Rights Code is
still the most important law in
addressing discrimination.

“For those who are discriminated against because of their disability, the human rights complaints system is not necessarily the answer...Eliminating obstacles one at a time, step by step, or ramp by ramp, so to speak, is not the best way to achieve a barrier free and inclusive world.”

- Canadian Human Rights Commission,
2002 Annual Report

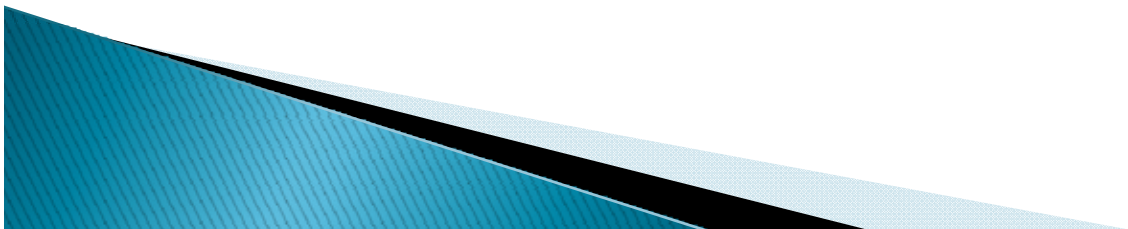


- ▶ Other jurisdictions, including the United States, Australia and Ontario, have introduced legislation aimed at combating barriers that prevent the full participation and integration of persons with disabilities.



While these laws take different forms, there are certain elements common to each:

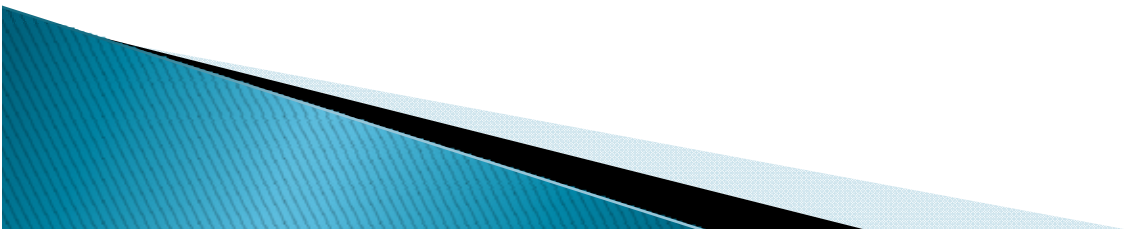
- clear, specific and achievable goals
- accessibility standards for both the public and private sectors
- involvement of persons with disabilities and other stakeholders affected by the legislation
- guarantees contained by human rights codes are not undermined in any way
- regular review of the progress made



Part 2:

Overview of

The Accessibility for Manitobans Act



The Accessibility for Manitobans Act became law December 5, 2013



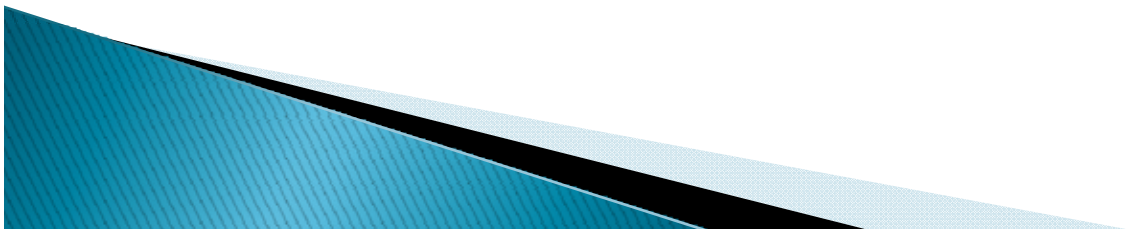
Main Goals of Accessibility Legislation

- Identify, prevent, and remove barriers.
- Work with public/private sectors on long-range plans to ensure accessibility.
- A commitment to achieve significant progress by 2023 to make Manitoba more inclusive for everyone.



Barriers to Participation

-may be structural or attitudinal;
- ... may affect information and communication;
-may be improved or made worse by new technology;
- ... may be accidental or systemic when they are a result of policies and common practices.



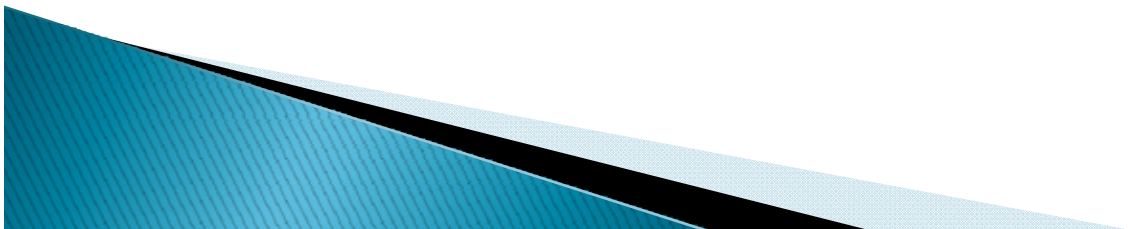
Accessibility Standards

Will set out requirements for affected persons or organizations to identify, prevent and remove barriers within a designated time period.



Accessibility Standards Will Target

- Customer Service
- Employment
- Transportation
- Information and Communication
- Built Environment



How are the standards being developed?

The Accessibility Advisory Council is responsible for:

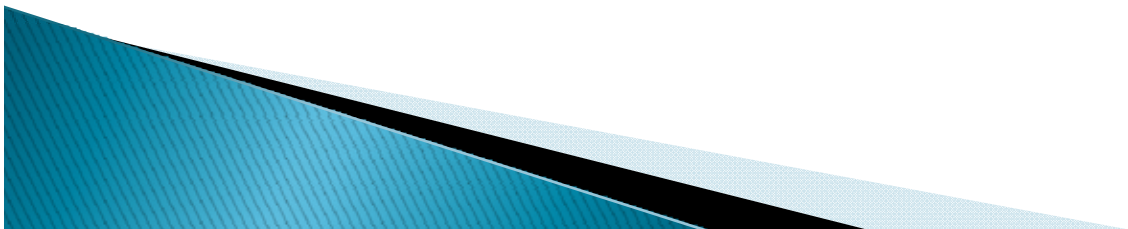
- Identifying priorities, developing the standards and administering the Act.
- The Council includes representatives from organizations of persons with disabilities, business, municipalities, and other stakeholders.

Public consultation is critical.



Compliance

- ▶ Once a standard has been approved, all organizations identified by the standard must comply.
- ▶ Different requirements and timelines will be set out for different types and sizes of organizations.
- ▶ Technical and economic factors will be considered.
- ▶ Non-compliance will result in penalties.



Part 3:

Customer Service Standard

