



Dear municipal representative,

Fulcrum Accessibility Consulting, on behalf of the Accessibility Directorate, is conducting interviews with municipalities to gauge capacity to implement accessibility standards for the built environment, once enacted. These interviews will inform the development of capacity building tools, training, and resources for municipalities.

The Accessibility Act was proclaimed in 2017, demonstrating the Nova Scotia government's commitment to a more equitable and barrier free province. The Act recognizes accessibility as a human right and sets a goal of an accessible Nova Scotia by 2030. The Act enables the government to develop accessibility standards in six areas, including the built environment.

An important part of meeting the goal of an accessible province by 2030 will be ensuring prescribed public sector bodies have the resources and capability to implement accessibility standards once they are enacted.

As you may be aware, accessibility standards in the built environment were made public in January 2020. The government is currently reviewing these recommendations and preparing draft accessibility standards for the built environment. More information about the built environment recommendations can be found at the following link:

<https://novascotia.ca/accessibility/built-environment/>

Municipalities have been identified as a valuable contributor to this research. I am hoping a representative of your municipality will accept our request to participate in an interview. Questions will be provided in advance. Interviews will be conducted over Zoom and will be recorded for research purposes. Names of respondents will not be made public and any quotes will be used anonymously, with all identifiers removed. These discussions should take approximately 30-45 minutes.

Your responses will be used as part of a report that will be used to inform the implementation of an accessibility standard in the built environment. The data will be summarized, compared and presented with a list of recommendations.

Please contact Hannah at hannah@fulcrumaccessibilityconsulting.ca or 902-402-3736 with any questions, and to schedule a time to conduct this interview. I will be scheduling interviews up until March 5th, 2021. All interviews will take place between February 1st and March 13th, 2021.

Thank you for your cooperation and support. I look forward to hearing from you,

Sincerely,

Hannah Wood, lead consultant

Fulcrum Accessibility Consultant