

Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) Committee

Friday, April 16, 2010 | 9:00am – 11:00am, Room B308

Attendance: Janet Lising, Lora Nasim, Ahmed Abukar, Tanis Boak, Colleen Reinsborough, Khon Ta, Maureen Carnegie, Nancy Simms, Njeri Damali Campbell

Absent: Ercole Perrone, Shaun Carson

Guest: Thomas Silcox-Childs

MEETING SUMMARY

Welcome & Minutes Approval

Nancy Simms welcomed members and facilitated a check-in.

Approval of Minutes (February 8, 2010)

Minutes were amended and approved.

Business Arising from AODA Meeting (February 8, 2010)

1. Accessibility Consultant for new builds (NS)

Facilities Management presently works with a consultant who assists with building accessibility beyond the minimum standards of the Building Code. Rani K. Dhaliwal and Carol Anderson are to be commended for this practice, which maximizes Humber's resources. The Recommendation to hire an Accessibility Consultant will be revisited in 2 months.

2. AODA Policy Ads – University of Guelph-Humber website & Humber TV (NDC & LN)

University of Guelph-Humber (UGH) will upload the policy to their website and upload a link to Humber's AODA site until UGH AODA content is created. Media Services is developing a TV ad that will announce the AODA policy on Humber TV.

3. Notification of Service Disruptions: Everbridge Notification System (NS)

This system may be inappropriate for temporary service disruptions, as it is meant for security concerns such as campus closings or emergency lockdowns. Committee Members asked several questions regarding notification of service disruptions. Nancy Simms stated that she will invite MaryAnn (Public Safety) to attend the next AODA meeting to respond to these questions.

4. Accessibility of Humber's Website (NS)

Nancy Simms stated that at a meeting with Marketing & Communications regarding AODA, Humber web staff are eager to move forward on making the website more accessible. At this meeting, Nancy requested that the team wait until the AODA Information Technology & Communications Standard is finalized in order to review the requirements of this standard.

5. Update to TTY Technology (LN)

A new device has been created that replaces TTY Technology as a means to communicate with people who are deaf and hard-of-hearing. Lora Nasim will raise this item in an upcoming Client Services department meeting regarding telephony.

6. AODA Policy Review (NS & NDC)

Njeri Damali Campbell stated that the policy review is in process. Nancy Simms stated that this AODA requirement is about shifting organizational culture. For example, there are many procedures and practices that are not outlined in policies that require revision. Some of these practices are not equitable, and will require revision as well as documentation.

7. Accessible Services to Students: Financial Aid (CR)

There is a legal requirement for students to complete the forms on their own, due to confidentiality. Colleen Reinsborough will follow up with Financial Aid regarding the maintenance of independence, dignity, and equity of students with disabilities who are unable to complete supplementary forms on the spot.

Nancy Simms stated that Human Rights & Diversity would be happy to provide assistance to Financial Aid staff in enhancing the accessibility of their service.

8. Accessible Services to Students: Humber Libraries (JL)

Janet Lising reported that the Adaptive Technology room has been enhanced to provide an open and safer environment for students with disabilities. Ground Rules are now posted in the room. Janet thanks Maureen Carnegie for her assistance in this process.

9. Accessibility Reports (NS)

Nancy Simms reported the request to move ODA reports from the Disabilities Services website to the HR Services website was forwarded to Teeter Leeinveer. Maureen Carnegie stated that Keeth Kumarasamy could provide assistance in moving the reports to the HR website.

AODA Website Update (TSC)

Thomas provided the following update:

- Working alongside Marketing to raise the profile of AODA on the Humber Website and collecting examples from other institutions.
- The Committee is to be commended for the creation of an AODA page on the site in less than 1 year.
- Presently working on a decentralized area on the site that will contain Service Disruption updates.

AODA Annual Report (NS)

Nancy Simms stated that the report was submitted before March 31, 2010. Nancy further reminded the Committee that all new hires must complete AODA training. Those who have completed training elsewhere must provide proof. AODA training has been placed on the HR Services website as part of New Employee Orientation.

New Business

There is no new business.

2010/2011 AODA Committee Meeting Dates

2010: June 4, September 24, November 26

2011: January 28, April 29, June 24

If you are unable to attend a meeting, please send regrets at least 2 days before the meeting date to nancy.simms@humber.ca.