

#1365146

## **Accessibility**

### **Purpose**

The St. James-Assiniboia School Division affirms its commitment to provide all staff, students, and visitors to its facilities an inclusive environment. To that end, the Division strives to eliminate or reduce barriers that inhibit the participation of people who may be affected by a disability, aging, an injury or other life event resulting in compromised:

- Mobility
- Dexterity (use of hands)
- Vision
- Communication
- Understanding
- Mental health

Barriers may include:

- Attitudinal
  - Barriers that result when people think and act based on false assumptions.
- Informational and Communication
  - Barriers are created when information is offered in a form that suits some, but not all, of the population.
- Technological
  - Barriers occur when technology, or the way it is used, cannot be accessed by people with disabilities.
- Systemic
  - Barriers within policies, practices or procedures that result in some people receiving unequal access or being excluded.
- Physical and Architectural
  - Barriers that are physical obstacles **that** make it difficult for some to easily access a place.

### **Scope**

This policy must be integrated into the planning and operation of all school division departments and facilities.

### **Accessibility Plan**

The following regulations shall be developed in compliance with current government standards in accordance with the application and phase-in requirements detailed within each standard:

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- Accessibility Standard for Customer Service Regulation
- Accessibility Standard for Employment Regulation
- Accessibility Standard for Information and Communications Regulation

The following regulations will be developed in compliance of future government standards in accordance with the application and phase-in requirements detailed within each standard:

- Accessibility Standard for Transportation Regulation – Jan 2027
- Accessibility Standard for the Design of Public Spaces Regulation

An accessibility plan summary will be posted on the School Division website and will be updated as new regulations are developed.

**Implementation**

The accessibility plan will provide a long-term, systemic and proactive approach to dealing with accessibility issues. This mandate is to achieve significant progress by 2023.

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