

October 4, 2017

The Honourable Tracy MacCharles
Minister Responsible for Accessibility
80 Grosvenor Street, 11th Floor, Hepburn Block
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 1E9

Dear Minister MacCharles:

Re: Accessible Icon Project

As Chair of the City of Greater Sudbury Accessibility Advisory Panel, I am pleased to write this letter in support of the Accessible Icon Project.


Based on the demographics of Greater Sudbury, it is estimated that there are between 24,000 and 26,000 citizens who have disabilities living in our community. Of these, approximately 1,000 are children under the age of 15 and 1,000 are teens and young adults.

The City of Greater Sudbury in partnership with the Accessibility Advisory Panel has worked since 2009 on projects to enhance accessibility and inclusiveness in our community. Addressing the barriers in both the built environment and cultural environments has important benefits for communities and future generations.

The new accessible icon invokes a more active, progressive and positive image in comparison with the current International Symbol of Access. The new accessible icon facilitates the development of attitudes of acceptance, respect and dignity amongst all individuals.

The Accessibility Advisory Panel is pleased to support and commend the Accessible Icon Project for their commitment to design activism.

Regards,



Lionel Courtemanche

Chair, City of Greater Sudbury Accessibility Advisory Panel

cc: France Gelinas, MPP Nickel Belt
Glenn Thibeault, MPP Sudbury
Marc Serré, MP Nickel Belt
Paul Lefebvre, MP Sudbury
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)
Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM)