

From: [Adam White](#)
To: [John Henderson](#); [Suzanne Séguin](#); [Nicole Beatty](#); [Brian Darling](#); [Emily Chorley](#); [Aaron Burchat](#); [Adam Bureau](#); [Clerk Cobourg](#); [Jamie Kramer](#)
Subject: (EXTERNAL SOURCE) Let's Talk A Barrier-free Downtown Cobourg
Date: November 9, 2020 3:35:49 AM

Dear Mr. Mayor, City Councillors, Clerk, and Jamie,

Before moving to Cobourg this June, I was a volunteer member on the Oshawa Accessibility Advisory Committee (OAAC) for 3 years. It gave me knowledge and experience to understand how developers have to be Accessibility for Persons with Disabilities Act (AODA) compliant, and make barrier-free recommendations.

In Oshawa, there are a number of CIP grants businesses and developers can applied for. I haven't done the research to know if the Town of Cobourg has CIP grants that landlords and business owners can apply for to make renos to the façade to make a barrier-free entrance.

I acknowledge that back in the day - buildings were built without accessibility in mind.

Accessibility doesn't mean a complex endeavor. It is simple as a push door button or a ramp.

The banks downtown are all accessible, yet the vast majority of downtown businesses are not accessible. I have talk to businesses about improving their accessibility. It feels that business owners and landlords don't know about AODA and how accessibility can improve their business.

I live with multiple disabilities. I ride a scooter. I love being downtown. I have the courage to knock on the store window or door to get noticed. I either am let inside, like Buy and Sell, Black Cat, Diary Dream, Let's Talk Books, Mr.Sub; or served outside, like The Human Bean, The Rustic Bean, Jamiacan Patty House, and For Heaven's Sake,

I am grateful for the help, yet not everyone with disabilities is as assertive as I

Residents are quietly suffering because the status quo is for a barrier-free downtown doesn't exist.

I believe in open dialogue and mutual respect between Downtown businesses and residents. I am attaching the OAAC letter send to Downtown Oshawa Business Owners. Please consume for information, and as an idea to inspire a conversation for a barrier-free downtown Cobourg.

PS

Jamie Kramer invited me to speak at a meeting about accessibility this week. I am recovering from a severe health situation. It is a life changing experience. I don't know if I be able to make a future Delegation. I'm still confused about Town of Cobourgs Procedural By-law. I don't know if I can submit a Correspondence to an agenda. I don't know if there is a Councillor on the Accessibility Advisory Committee.

Cordially Yours,

Adam White