Accessibility+Buildings

DICKINSON + HICKS ARCHITECTS INC.

"We value access for all people. Let us help you ensure your building is accessible and code compliant"

- *Barrier-free Design, Construction Drawings, and Coordination of Consultants' work.*
- *Due Diligence Accessibility Review prior to purchase of building.*
- *Accessibility Assessment of Existing Building to establish required upgrading work.*
- *Building Code Review & Assessment.*
- Ontario Trillium Foundation Access Grant *application assistance*
- *Project budgeting assistance*
- *Building Entrances*
- *Multi-level Access*
- *Barrier-Free Path of Travel*
- *Washroom design*

Did you know? Accessibility + Your Building

Higher Standards of Accessibility a Reality for Buildings in Ontario

Over the past decade, the province of Ontario has sought to improve accessibility in several areas of Canadian life. The Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) is the legislation that has enacted five accessibility standards: Customer Service, Information and Communications, Employment, Transportation, and **Built Environment** (Buildings & Public Spaces). It is the **Built Environment** standard that has influenced the development of the building code. As a result, on January 1, 2015, Ontario Regulation 368/13 was filed to amend the new 2012 Building Code (O.Reg. 332/12) to further enhance and improve the accessibility of newly constructed buildings as well as existing buildings being extensively renovated.

Does this new development in legislation affect your building?

As the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing describes, *"the new requirements apply to most new construction and extensive renovations. Existing buildings, where no work is planned, are not affected by these new requirements. Houses, including semi-detached houses, townhouses and duplexes, are not affected by most accessibility requirements, with the exception of smoke alarm requirements."* If you are not planning new work to your building, then accessibility upgrading is not required. However, if new or renovation work is anticipated, then there may be accessible upgrading required as part of the work.

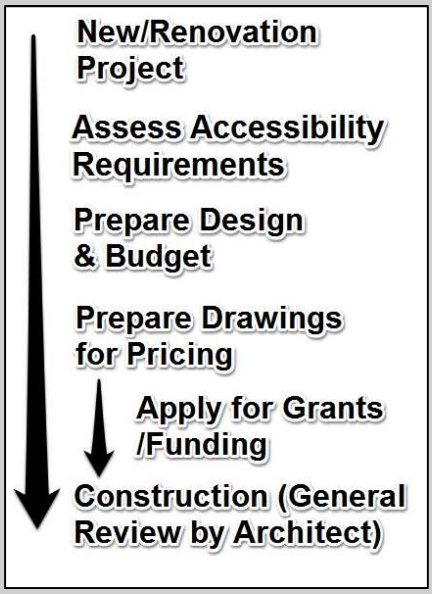
Do we need an architect?

In addition to the requirements for accessible design, the Ontario Building Code legislates who is able to prepare, review and submit permit drawings for new buildings, renovations, and/or accessibility upgrading. More specifically, architects are required for the following types of buildings containing the following occupancies: Assembly (churches, schools, theaters, libraries, etc); Care, Care & Treatment, & Detention (hospitals, long term care, nursing homes, prisons, etc); as well as various residential, business, mercantile and industrial buildings typically larger than 600m2 and 3 storeys in building height.

An entrance to a new barrier-free lift - one of many possible accessibility improvements.

45 Mill Street, Orangeville, Ontario. L9W 2M4. ph/519-941-0912. mail@dickinson-hicks.com. www.dickinson-hicks.com

Please contact us to schedule an appointment to review your accessibility needs.



Shown above are the basic steps taken to complete an accessibility-based project.

Completed Accessibility Projects

Dickinson + Hicks Architects has completed accessibility designs for hundreds of church, para-church and other related organizations since 1988. Some more recently completed projects are shown below:

- Kipling Ave Baptist Church(Tonronto)
- Orangeville Opera House(Orangeville)
- Mimico Baptist Church (Toronto, current)
- Norval Presbyterian Church(Norval)
- Hillsburg Baptist Church (Hillsburg)
- Westminster United Church(Orangeville)
- Hornings Mills Hall (Hornings Mills)
- Bramalea Baptist Church(Brampton)
- Knox Presbyterian Church (Acton)
- Tweedsmuir Presbyterian (Orangeville, current)
- Erin United Church (Erin)
- County of Dufferin Housing Projects (Barrier-free lift additions in Orangeville & Grand Valley)
  - 22 Third Ave
  - 56 Bythia St.
  - 71 Emma St.

Featured Project

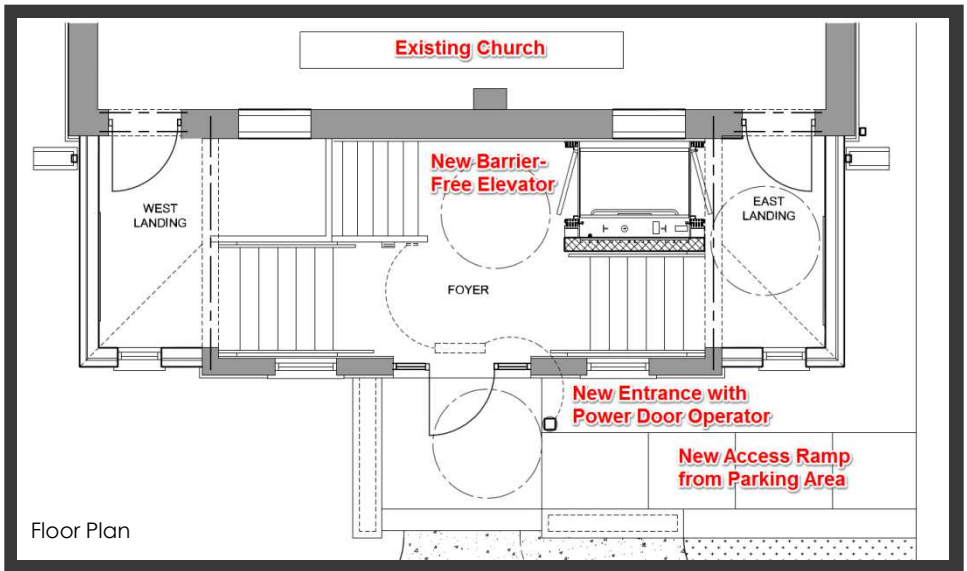
Erin United Church
(Erin)

The Challenge

As is the case with most historical church facilities, there is a raised main floor supported by a sunken basement - both accessible only by stairs.

The Solution(s)

- Extend the sides of the entrance stair to provide room for a new elevator giving access to raised main floor and basement.
- Slope the approach sidewalk to barrier-free requirements and ensure at-grade access.
- Select materials and execute the design to ensure historical aspects of the existing building were maintained and/or embellished.
- Modify seating in sanctuary to allow for barrier-free seating locations.



Floor Plan

Existing

New

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