

Memorial Accessibility Plan Update-December 2024

In December 2023, the first draft of Memorial's Accessibility Plan was completed and published online. This was an important step in meeting the requirements of the Accessibility Act of Newfoundland and Labrador. Memorial completed a second round of consultations in the form of a survey that was made available to all community members, which provided an opportunity to respond to the draft plan and submit additional feedback. The latest round of consultations overwhelmingly demonstrated that more is needed in terms of the administration of Memorial's Accessibility Plan. In particular: two themes highlighted by survey respondents were: 1. work on making the plan more specific in a way that outlines who is responsible for items contained within the plan and 2. communication of the plan.

The Accessibility Steering Committee has continued to meet quarterly and in response to the feedback provided in the survey, individuals have been appointed as leads for subcommittees that represent each focus area under the plan. These focus areas include: communications, policies, and procedures; design of spaces; employment; teaching, learning and research and customer services and goods and services. Each lead has formed a committee and in some cases sub-committees. Each committee has reported on accomplished goals and submitted an annual update that includes further refined specific goals, measurable outcomes, and target dates to work toward.

The work required under Memorial's Accessibility Plan will continue. Participation of internal and external community members remains imperative to make further progress on the refined goals to best ensure accessibility in all aspects of providing post-secondary education. Thank you to community members who continue to assist with achieving accessibility at Memorial, we hope you will continue to work with us. We also eagerly wait on further amendments to the Accessibility Act that will help Memorial as well as other organizations in Newfoundland and Labrador to advance accessibility in all aspects of society.