



Accessibility Standards for Customer Service as required by the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA 2005)

The following policy, practices and procedures have been established by the Niagara Falls Rowing Club to govern the provision of its services in accordance with the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 and Regulation 429/07, "Accessibility Standards for Customer Service."

1. Our mission

The mission of the Niagara Falls Rowing Club is to ensure that its policies, practices and procedures for the provision of its services are consistent with the principles outlined in the Accessibility Standards for Customer Service to effectively provide services to people with disabilities.

2. Our commitment

In fulfilling our mission, the Niagara Falls Rowing Club strives at all times to provide its goods and services in a way that respects the dignity and independence of people with disabilities. We are also committed to giving people with disabilities the same opportunity to access our goods and services and allowing them to benefit from the same services, in the same place and in a similar way as other customers.

3. Providing goods and services to people with disabilities

The Niagara Falls Rowing Club is committed to excellence in serving all customers including people with disabilities and we will carry out our functions and responsibilities in the following areas:

3.1 Communication

When communicating with a person with a disability, the Niagara Falls Rowing Club will communicate in a manner that takes into account the person's disability.

3.2 Telephone services

The Niagara Falls Rowing Club is committed to providing fully accessible telephone service to our customers. We will train club representatives to communicate with customers over the telephone in clear and plain language and to speak clearly and slowly. We will offer to communicate with customers by email, if telephone communication is not suitable to their communication needs or is not available.



3.3 Assistive devices

The Niagara Falls Rowing Club recognizes that some individuals with disabilities use assistive devices in order to access our services. We will permit these individuals to use their assistive devices to obtain, use or benefit from our services. Should an individual with a disability be unable to access our services through the use of their own personal assistive device, the Niagara Falls Rowing Club will determine if service is inaccessible, based upon the individual requirements, assess service delivery and potential service options to meet the needs of the individual. As our building is not accessible to all, we will make arrangements to meet at a barrier free facility with customers as required.

3.4 Billing

The Niagara Falls Rowing Club is committed to providing accessible invoices to all of our customers. For this reason, invoices will be provided in the following formats upon request: hard copy, large print or by email. The Niagara Falls Rowing Club will answer any questions customers may have about the content of the invoice in person, by telephone or email.

4. Service Animals

The Niagara Falls Rowing Club recognizes that some individuals with disabilities may require the use of guide dogs or other service animals in order to access services. Persons with disabilities who are accompanied by a guide dog or other service animal will be permitted to enter the parts of our premises that are common areas and to keep the animal with them, unless the animal is otherwise excluded by law from the premises. If the animal is legally excluded from some parts of the premises, the Niagara Falls Rowing Club will provide alternative measures to enable the person to obtain, use or benefit from its services.

4.1 Support Persons

The Niagara Falls Rowing Club further recognizes that some individuals with disabilities rely on support persons for assistance while accessing services. A person with a disability who is accompanied by a support person will be allowed to enter the Niagara Falls Rowing Club's premises together with the support person and will not be prevented from having access to the support person while on our premises at no additional cost.

5. Notice of Temporary Disruption

The Niagara Falls Rowing Club will provide customers with notice in the event of a planned or unexpected disruption in the facilities or services usually used by people with disabilities. This notice will include information about the reason for the disruption, its anticipated duration, and a description of alternative facilities or services, if available. The notice will normally be posted on the premises, where appropriate in the circumstances.



6. Staff Training

The Niagara Falls Rowing Club will provide training to applicable club representatives about the provision of services to persons with disabilities and all those who are involved in the development and approvals of customer service policies, practices and procedures. Applicable club representatives will be trained on policies, practices and procedures that affect the way services are provided to people with disabilities. Club representatives will also be trained on an ongoing basis when changes are made to these policies, practices and procedures. New club representatives will be trained upon the completion of a three month probationary period.

Training will include the following:

- The purposes of the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 and the requirements of the customer service standard.
- How to interact and communicate with people with various types of disabilities.
- How to interact with people with disabilities who use an assistive device or require the assistance of a service animal or a support person.
- What to do if a person with a disability is having difficulty in accessing the Niagara Falls Rowing Club services.
- The Niagara Falls Rowing Club policies, practices and procedures relating to the customer service standard.

7. Feedback Process

The ultimate goal of the Niagara Falls Rowing Club is to meet and surpass customer expectations while serving persons with disabilities. Comments on our services regarding how well those expectations are being met are welcome and appreciated.

Feedback regarding the way the Niagara Falls Rowing Club provides goods and services to people with disabilities can be made by email, verbally, or in writing. All feedback will be made to:

Niagara Falls Rowing Club
5454 Lyons Creek Rd.
Niagara Falls, Ontario
By Phone: 905-708-8066
By Email: niagarafallsrowing@gmail.com

Complaints will be addressed according to complaint policy already established in our company's complaint management procedures.



8. Modifications to this or other policies

We are committed to developing customer service policies that respect and promote the dignity and independence of people with disabilities. Therefore, no changes will be made to this policy before considering the impact on people with disabilities. Any policy of the Niagara Falls Rowing Club that does not respect and promote the dignity and independence of people with disabilities will be modified or removed.

9. Questions about this policy

This policy exists to achieve service excellence to customers with disabilities. If anyone has a question about the policy, or if the purpose of a policy is not understood, an explanation should be provided by, or referred to the President of the Niagara Falls Rowing Club.

10. Copies of this Policy

The Niagara Falls Rowing Club recognizes that persons with disabilities use methods other than the standard print to access information. If the Niagara Falls Rowing Club is required to give a copy of this policy to a person with a disability, we will provide the policy, or the information contained in the policy, in a format that takes account the person's disability. Alternatively, the Niagara Falls Rowing Club and the person with a disability may agree on an alternate format for the document or information.

Review and Approval:

Document has been reviewed, to be approved by Board of Directors

Date: January 2017