

# ACCESSIBLE B.C. ACT:

2024 - 2025 Progress Report

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Ministry of  
Social Development  
and Poverty Reduction

# Introduction

The Accessible British Columbia Act (the Act) establishes a framework for the B.C. government to work in partnership with people with disabilities and the broader community to identify, remove, and prevent barriers to full and equal participation of people with disabilities. This report is published per the requirements of section 6 of the Act and outlines key measures to implement the Act in fiscal year 2024–25. For an overview of other accessibility priorities across government, please see the [AccessibleBC plan](#).

## Recognition and Accountability

Part 2 of the Act establishes responsibilities of B.C. government to promote accessibility and demonstrate public accountability implementing the Act.

### Accountability

Under Part 2 of the Act, the Minister and the Provincial Accessibility Committee (PAC) must provide a report of their efforts towards implementing the Act every fiscal year. This is the fourth progress report, and it provides an update on the implementation of the Act in fiscal year 2024–25.

Part 2 of the Act requires that the provincial government conduct independent reviews at regular intervals to assess the implementation of the Act. The first independent review is scheduled to begin in 2026.

## AccessAbility Week

In 2024, the province celebrated AccessAbility Week by providing \$450,000 in grant funding. Administered by Disability Alliance BC (DABC), the grants were awarded to 14 community organizations to improve and promote accessibility and inclusion in the province. Each organization received between \$8,700 and \$40,000 for projects across several focus areas, including emergency response planning and health and hygiene projects to arts and recreation programs.

## Awareness

In November 2024, Dana Lajeunesse was appointed the new Parliamentary Secretary for Accessibility. The Parliamentary Secretary for Accessibility supports the Minister in promoting accessibility in the province and supporting implementation of the Act.

In addition to celebrating AccessAbility Week, the provincial government recognized several other observances on accessibility and disability-related issues, including Autism Acceptance Month in April, Brain Injury Awareness and Deaf Blindness Awareness Month in June, Disability Employment Month in September, Registered Disability Savings Plan Awareness Month in October, and Indigenous Disability Awareness Month in November.

# Accessible Organizations

Part 3 of the Act sets out accessibility requirements for the B.C. government and regulated organizations. The three requirements include forming an accessibility committee, creating an accessibility plan, and developing a tool to receive public feedback about accessibility barriers.

## Accessibility in B.C. Government

The provincial government has been in compliance with the Part 3 requirements since 2022.

### Provincial Accessibility Committee

The Provincial Accessibility Committee (PAC) was established in 2021. PAC is an advisory committee that supports the implementation of the Accessible B.C. Act. PAC develops and recommends accessibility standards and provides advice to the provincial government on accessibility-related matters. In 2024–25, PAC met four times. Since 2023, the focus of PAC has been to support the development of the first two accessibility standards for Accessible Service Delivery and Employment Accessibility.

### Accessibility Plan

B.C. government continued work to implement its three-year accessibility plan in 2024-25. In addition, the Accessibility Directorate engaged with PAC and across government ministries to identify priorities for the 2025–28 AccessibleBC plan under the Act.

## Accessibility Feedback Tool

The Accessibility Feedback Tool (AFT) was launched in October 2022. 166 submissions were received during the 2024–25 year. The feedback was shared with 13 ministries across the provincial government to identify and analyse barriers, share data, and work with partners to improve accessibility in B.C.

## Prescribed Organizations

In April 2022, B.C. government adopted the Accessible B.C. Regulation, prescribing over 750 public sector organizations to meet the Part 3 requirement to establish an accessibility committee and to develop an accessibility plan and feedback mechanism. With phase two organizations required to comply by September 1, 2024, the regulation is now fully in force. A point in time compliance check audit conducted in fall 2024 found that more than 80% of obligated organizations were in compliance or had publicly initiated work to become compliant. Efforts continue to support organizations in this work.

# Accessibility Standards

Part 4 of the Act sets out the requirements and parameters for government to develop accessibility standards in several areas of focus.

## Accessibility Standards Development

The Provincial Accessibility Committee (PAC) is required by legislation to consult on the draft accessibility standards it develops before presenting final recommendations to the Minister. Supported by two technical committees on the standards topics, PAC presented draft standards on Accessible Service Delivery and Employment Accessibility for public consultation in May 2024.

## Public Consultation

The standards were released for public consultation from May 31 to July 31, 2024. During this period, people and groups were invited to submit feedback on both standards. People were invited to provide feedback via an online survey, through a direct submission, or by attending a virtual feedback session. More than 1,300 survey responses were received.

Feedback received during the public consultation was shared with the Provincial Accessibility Committee. Together with the technical committees, PAC considered the public feedback and used it to inform revisions to the draft standards. The [What We Learned Report](#) summarizes the public engagement process and feedback.

## Indigenous Engagement

The Accessibility Directorate continues to engage on a roughly quarterly basis to provide updates on the development of accessibility standards. Ongoing engagement and consultation with Indigenous Peoples will continue to be a priority as work to implement the Act continues.



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