

Integrated Accessibility Standard Regulation Policy

Statement of Commitment

Bird Studies Canada is committed to treating all people in a way that allows them to maintain their dignity and independence. We are committed to meeting the needs of people with disabilities in a timely manner, and will do so by preventing and removing barriers to accessibility and meeting accessibility requirements under the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act.

Training

Bird Studies Canada is committed to training Ontario staff and volunteers on Ontario's accessibility laws and on accessibility aspects of the Ontario Human Rights Code that apply to persons with disabilities. Training will be provided in a way that best suits the duties of employees, volunteers, and Board of Directors.

Kiosks

Bird Studies Canada will consider the needs of people with disabilities when designing, procuring or acquiring self- service kiosks.

Information and communications

Bird Studies Canada is committed to meeting the communication needs of people with disabilities. When asked, we will provide information and communications materials in accessible formats or with communication supports. This includes publicly available information about our goods, services and facilities, as well as publicly available emergency and safety information.

Bird Studies Canada will consult with people with disabilities to determine their information and communication needs.

We will ensure existing feedback processes are accessible to people with disabilities upon request.

We will work to make BSC's website and content conform with regulation (i.e., WCAG 2.0, Level AA) by January 1, 2021.

Employment

Bird Studies Canada is committed to fair and accessible employment practices.

We will notify the public and staff that, when requested, we will accommodate disabilities during recruitment and assessment processes and when people are hired.

If needed, we will create an individual accommodation plan and/or workplace emergency information for any employees who have a disability.

Our performance management, career development, redeployment, and return-to-work processes will take into account the accessibility needs of employees with disabilities.

Design of Public Spaces

Bird Studies Canada will meet the Accessibility Standards for the Design of Public Spaces when building or making major modifications to public spaces, including:

- Service-related elements like service counters, fixed queuing lines and waiting areas
- Outdoor paths of travel, like sidewalks, ramps, stairs, curb ramps, rest areas and accessible pedestrian signals
- Accessible off street parking
- Recreational trails
- Outdoor public eating areas like rest stops or picnic areas

In the event of a service disruption, we will notify the public of the service disruption and alternatives available.

Modifications to this or other policies

Any of our policies that do not respect and promote the dignity and independence of people with disabilities will be modified or removed.

For More Information

For more information on this policy, please contact Liane Varga at:

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Email: <u>lvarga@bsc-eoc.org</u>

Steen Piece

Approved:

<u>Dec. 10, 2014</u>

Steven Price, President

Date

Accessible formats of this document are available free upon request.