

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS
INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION
STANDARD DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
9:30 A.M. – 11:30 A.M., WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30, 2017
DXC TECHNOLOGY, 6TH FLOOR, 200 GRAHAM AVE.

Present: Lisa Snider, Jeff Buhse, Tanis Woodland, Tony, Chris Bohemier, Paul Knapp, Carol Bartmanovich, Doris Koop, Allen Mankewich, John Wyndels (DIO)

Regrets: Jim Hounslow

The Committee is trying to set up a meeting with people from the Accessibility Directorate of Ontario to get more information on their ICS Review and the feedback they received from the public over the years since the ICS was released. They are also trying to set up a meeting with Jutta Trevinarus, the head of the AODA ICS Review Digital Inclusion Technical Subcommittee to get an idea of their discussions.

The Chairperson and the Secretary of the committee met with Patrick Falconer from Barrier Free Manitoba (BFM) about a review of policies on standards in information and communications. This review was conducted by two lawyers on a pro bono basis for BFM. There was mention of a possible Manitoba Educational Standard that BFM is advocating for right now. Ontario now has that standard and is creating it, and we don't know yet whether they will take out Sections 15-18 out of their ICS and put it in the Educational Standard. We need to keep this in mind in our work.

The committee resumed our discussions in Section 13 - Emergency Procedure, Plans or Public Safety Information. There was discussion on how people can provide information to people with disabilities. It can be in alternative formats, or even just verbally telling someone information. Today one can use low tech or high tech methods and they are mostly not expensive. There was discussion about how the Manitoba Fire Code applies to this section, and who has to have emergency plans and who doesn't. After the meeting we planned on meeting with an expert on this for clarification on how this may apply to this section.

The committee discussed the term 'prepares', in '...if an obligated organization 'prepares' emergency procedures, plans or public safety information...'. The Committee agreed that this term 'prepares' indicates a new procedure, plan or public safety information and not existing ones. It was agreed that in the Guide it should be made clear that these sections apply to new and existing feedback mechanisms or emergency information.

Discussion continued on what the term 'public' means, when the AODA ICS says 'if an obligated organization prepares emergency procedures, plans or public safety information and makes the information available to the 'public' There was agreement on not using the 'make it available to the public' language, and instead using the phrase 'make it publicly available', as this has a different connotation. It was recommended that the Guide include the fact that this applies to volunteers, interns, etc. The Ontario Guide talks about some emergency information that can't be made public, and the Committee

agreed that this could be possible in Manitoba. It was noted that a follow up meeting with a Fire Code expert would take place after this meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m. The Chairperson will be unavailable in September. The next meeting of the Information and Communications Standard Development Committee is October 4 from 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. at DXC Technology, 6th Floor, 200 Graham Avenue.