

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS
INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS
STANDARD DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
9:30 A.M. – 12:00 P.M., WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2017
6TH FLOOR, 200 GRAHAM AVENUE
DXC TECHNOLOGY**

Present: Lisa Snider (Chairperson), Tanis Woodland, Jeff Buhse, Jim Hounslow, Carol Bartmanovich, Chris Bohemier, John Wyndels (DIO)

Regrets: Doris Koop, Allen Mankewich, Paul Knapp.

The Information and Communications (IC) Standard Development Committee will be holding an initial input session in January. It is intended to get a better understanding of the barriers people with disabilities have in their interactions with information and communication. All members of the IC Standard Development Committee are expected to be present. The challenge will be to keep the discussion focused, so that we gather the information that is directly related to our work and scope of work. We haven't had a public consultation prior to a discussion paper being available.

The venue will accommodate 100 people. Half of the people will be invited and the other half will register for the event. Leaving it solely to people who register may not include those people the committee especially wants to hear from. The Chairperson asked all Committee members to come up with 2-3 questions or statements to ask the participants, in order to get focused feedback. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

Jutta Trevianus shared documents from 2007 when the IC Standard in Ontario was initially being developed. They present a number of ideas that never made it to the final version. This will be forwarded to members of the committee prior to the meeting next Wednesday.

The Chairperson developed a list of the major points we are addressing in Section 6 (Section 14 AODA) on the display board.

Below are a number of the major points to be addresssd and reconciled.

Functional Performance Requirements

This would be a list of what to know about what people need. So for example: when vision is needed, give an alternative, when hearing is needed, give an alternative, etc.

To meet these Functional Performance Requirements, use Alternative formats and communications supports for:

1. Content – text, audio, video, images that is either archived, legacy, current or new
2. Delivery of Content – brochures, print, websites, apps, kiosks, AI robots
3. Authoring – Content Management Systems, etc.

4. Procurement – Buying goods or services from third parties (Note that Procurement will be moved to the area below called ‘Things that cover Number 1-3’.

Things that cover Number 1-3:

- Refers to print and digital
- It doesn't matter where it originates
- Obligated parties can only be responsible for what they control. For example, Facebook used as website-only control centre
- Procurement from 3rd party or people create things

NOTE: Procurement will be moved here as explained in the notes below and it may be called Purchasing, Procurement or Purchasing of 3rd part goods and services.

Other sections of the proposed standard

- A. Emergency Plans
- B. Feedback
- C. Education and Training Resource Materials (notification of need, procure or make alternative formats)
- D. Training to Educators
- E. Producers of Educational Training Materials (textbooks, publishers)
- F. Educational Training Libraries – provide accessible formats and records
- G. Public Libraries

NOTE that Sections C-G may be removed, see notes below for explanation.

Standards

- WCAG
- PDF / UA
- WCAG2 ICT
- ATAG (authoring tool)
- UAAG (browsers, viewers, etc.)

The Committee wondered if procurement should be strictly limited to Information and Communications. What if modifications were made to third party goods or services, how would this impact what the public needs to do in terms of accessibility? Finally the Committee talked about whether the term procurement would be used, or would it be Purchasing, or Purchasing of Third Party Goods or Services.

Procurement is the proactive aspect of the standard. This means parties buying content that meets established accessibility standards and takes into account the needs of persons with disabilities.

Archived content and legacy content doesn't have to be fully accessible, unlike current and new content which will be required to be. Former income tax filing would be an

example of legacy content. Legacy content has to be available. If required, it can be retrieved and made accessible. Undue hardship will define what is achievable. There will have to be grandfathering of requirements especially in the area of procurement. The term 'on request' will be used in this section for archives and legacy content (and/or delivery of content).

The Committee talked about how information and communication is not just a one way process where business or organizations create things for the public and deliver them. This also includes the public receiving the information and sending information and communicating with business or organizations as well.

The Committee looked at the next parts of the AODA Standard that deal with Education, Libraries and Training Institutions (C to G in the Other Sections above). They wondered why they were singled out into these separate sections when the requirements in them seemed to mirror the rest of the Standard. Lisa will find out why that was done by Ontario.

The Committee started to discuss the Standards section, and how it would fit into this new mapping of the Standard. Standards can be problematic, since they are now updated more frequently (WCAG 2.1 for example and a possible merge coming with WCAG and other standards such as ATAG), and there are no worldwide standards for print. Do we put these in the guide? Place them in the Standard? How would they fit into the Standard with this new mapping? The Committee agreed that the public would want to know what they need to do and explanations of how to do it. It was agreed that enforcement and compliance was through the AMA so that did not enter into our Standard (except dates of when things are to happen).

The meeting adjourned shortly before 12:00 p.m. The next meeting of the committee will be Wednesday, December 13 at 9:30 a.m. at DXC Technology, 6th Floor, 200 Graham Avenue.