

AGENDA

Date: Thursday, January 22, 2026

Location: Committee Room #415 & Microsoft Teams

Time: 9:00 a.m.

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. Confirmation of the November 27, 2025 minutes.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Committee Mandate
2. St. Thomas MAAC Shirts for City Events
3. Age Friendly Community Information

REPORTS of COMMITTEES

1. Budget:
2. Special Events:
3. Site Plan Control:

NEW BUSINESS

1. Accessibility Concerns - Thumbs Up

The Chair and Vice Chair, Thumbs Up St. Thomas Committee will be in attendance to discuss accessibility concerns in the City.

2. Response from The Honourable Raymond Cho, Minister for Seniors and Accessibility **Pages 2-3**
3. Draft Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update & Community & Aquatic Centre Feasibility Study

Draft Documents Available on the City's website: [Parks & Rec Master Plan Update + Feasibility Study - City of St. Thomas](#)

Drop-In Open House - January 22, 2026 - 2:00-4:00 p.m. or 6:00-8:00 p.m.
Joe Thornton Community Centre

Written Comments to parksplan@stthomas.ca by February 13, 2026

NEXT MEETING

To be determined.

ADJOURNMENT

From: [Minister Seniors and Accessibility \(MSAA\)](#)
To: [Hindley, Jon](#)
Subject: Reply from Minister Cho
Date: December 19, 2025 3:03:56 PM

You don't often get email from ministerseniorsaccessibility@ontario.ca. [Learn why this is important](#)

CAUTION:

This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Thank you for your letter on behalf of the St. Thomas Municipal Accessibility Advisory Committee regarding accessible parking requirements in Ontario. I appreciate you taking the time to share the committee's concerns and thoughtful recommendations.

Ontario is focused on making life easier and more accessible for people with disabilities and their families. Our government is making investments across the province and working to achieve, meet and exceed the standards set out in the [Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005](#) (AODA).

Under the AODA, the [Design of Public Spaces \(DOPS\) Standards](#) set requirements for both off-street and on-street parking intended for public use. These requirements apply to new construction and planned significant redevelopments of public parking facilities.

The DOPS Standards specify minimum requirements for the number and type of accessible parking spaces, including detailed dimensional and configuration criteria for off-street parking spaces. They also set out requirements for obligated organizations to ensure that accessible parking spots have appropriate signage identifying them to users. Specific requirements for the number and type of accessible spaces, as well as signage requirements, can be found in [Sections 80.34 to 80.37 of the Design of Public Spaces Standards](#).

The intent of accessible parking requirements is to provide minimum province-wide standards that meet the needs of a diverse and growing population. These requirements represent minimum standards and do not prevent an organization from exceeding the requirements to meet its specific needs.

We continue to ensure accessibility standards are met through a modern regulatory process that works collaboratively with organizations and businesses. We remain committed to working with the disability community, businesses, and other partners to help advance accessibility for all Ontarians.

I note you have included my Cabinet colleague, the Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, and I am also sharing with Minister Flack for his information and consideration.

Thank you again for writing. The committee's input is important feedback and helps to guide our work as we continue to develop and improve policies, programs and

services.

Sincerely,
Honourable Raymond Cho
Minister for Seniors and Accessibility

c: The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

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