



## **ACCESSIBILITY AWARENESS TRAINING FOR ALL EDUCATORS (MODULE 1)**

Integrated Accessibility Standards Training for School Board Program and Classroom Staff

Completion Time: 30 minutes

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### ***Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA)***

In 2005, Ontario passed into law the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA). The stated purpose of the Act is: “to benefit all Ontarians by, (a) developing, implementing and enforcing accessibility standards in order to achieve accessibility for Ontarians with disabilities with respect to goods, services, facilities, accommodation, employment, buildings, structures and premises on or before January 1, 2025; and (b) providing for the involvement of persons with disabilities, of the Government of Ontario and of representatives of industries and of various sectors of the economy in the development of the accessibility standards. 2005, c. 11, s. 1.

### ***Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation (IASR)***

Ontario Regulation 191/11, “Integrated Accessibility Standards” (IASR), made under the AODA, sets out and establishes the accessibility standards for each of information and communications, employment and transportation.

### ***Training to Educators***

Section 16 of the IASR, “**Training to educators**” requires that school boards provide educators with accessibility awareness training related to accessible program or course delivery and instruction. The regulation defines “educators” as employees who are involved in program or course design, delivery and instruction, including staff of school boards.

A key intent of this requirement is that classroom staff will be able to deliver instruction through a lens of accessibility awareness and enhance their ability to meet the needs of students with disabilities. This training should encourage educators to consider a variety of learning resources and materials as they develop lesson plans and choose classroom resources and field trips.

## Accessibility Awareness Training (Module 1)

The following resources and links are provided for your required Accessibility Awareness Training regarding accessible program or course design, delivery and instruction.

Please reflect on the following questions prior to commencing training:

- 1) What does the term “accessibility” mean?
- 2) What are the most important accessibility issues for students and staff in our school/site?
- 3) In what ways is our school/site accessible to students, staff and members of the public?
- 4) What could our school/site do to improve accessibility and inclusion of students, staff and members of the public?
- 5) Why is it important that educators receive accessibility training and how might it benefit everyone?

### 1) *Message from the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario*

- ❖ Please view the Message from the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario The Hon. David C. Onley: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player\\_embedded&v=FYbwYO9Jxqo](http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=FYbwYO9Jxqo)
  - **Reflection:** What quotes from The Hon. David C. Onley’s message support your school’s SIPSA goals?

### 2) *The Teachable Project*

The Ontario Educational Services Corporation (OESC) has put together a website, “The Teachable Project,” to provide educators with information and training pertaining to Accessibility Awareness.

- ❖ Please visit “The Teachable Project” website ( <http://stage.theteachableproject.org/> ) and complete the following scavenger hunt activities while navigating the site:
  - Find and view the video, “An Introduction to Accessibility”
  - Find and review several of the “CONTINUUMS”. Reflect on your own experiences, practices and students.
  - Find the “Lesson Guide” area on the website. Review the lesson plans available for your subject or grade.
- ❖ **CHALLENGE:** Create a timeline for implementing a lesson or ideas from the website into your practice. Share with colleagues at a future staff meeting.

### 3) *Accessibility at Kawartha Pine Ridge DSB*

- ❖ Please view and become familiar with the *Accessibility, Disability and Special Education* resources available to you through Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board’s new *Equity and Diversity Resource Library* at: <http://www.kprschoools.ca/Students/Equity%20and%20Diversity/AccessibilityDisabilityandSpecialEducation.html>

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

In accordance with the Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation, made under the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) 2005, the Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board must keep a record of the employees trained.

**Please acknowledge that you have completed the online training by providing your School Administrator or Supervisor with a copy of your**

**[Accessibility Awareness Training Certificate \(Module 1\)](#)**.