

Advisory Committee on Disability Issues

Leslie Jerry

Community Inclusion Coordinator



Medicine Hat
The Gas City



Advisory Committee on Disability Issues (ACDI)

Established in 1992

Purpose: to advise City Council and all City Departments on issues related to persons with physical, developmental and mental health disabilities. A secondary purpose is to advocate on behalf of persons with disabilities to other authorities that formulate policies and/or offer programs that impact people with disabilities. The ACDI recognizes both visible and invisible disabilities.





Begin with the end in mind: recruitment

Get the right people at the table

- ▶ People able to represent the needs of all people with disabilities
- ▶ Team players, willing to work with city staff
- ▶ 7 of 9 members must self-identify as having a disability

ACDI's Top Achievement

Building internal support and recognition for accessibility and inclusion for people with disabilities.

“The biggest eye opener for Parks & Outdoor Recreation staff was how changes large & small could make a big difference & just how many people with disabilities take advantage of the City's parks system and leisure trails. By including ACDI in the consultation process, investing the time in listening to their feedback, staff have gained a whole new perspective and feel the improvements will be useful to the community as a whole.”

*Rodger Vizbar, General Manager, Parks and Outdoor Recreation
(2009)*





Committee Support

- Build relationships
- Devote time and energy
- Ensure their contributions are meaningful
 - where they can add value
 - their goals are in line with the organization's
- Create opportunities for committee to interact directly with staff



Working with Staff

Determine and address the barrier (real or imagined)

- Physical barriers
- Fear based barriers
 - Unknown other
 - Saying/doing the wrong thing
- Other (budget, not connected to their goals)
- Make it safe for staff to tell you what they need to



Projects - Internal

- ▶ Accessibility Audits of all of our recreational facilities, city hall, the airport, parkades, and some of our parks
- ▶ Accessibility & Inclusion Training for staff & volunteers
- ▶ Accessibility Audits & street-level recommendations for Municipal Works

Staff training pictures



Communicate why Accessibility is important

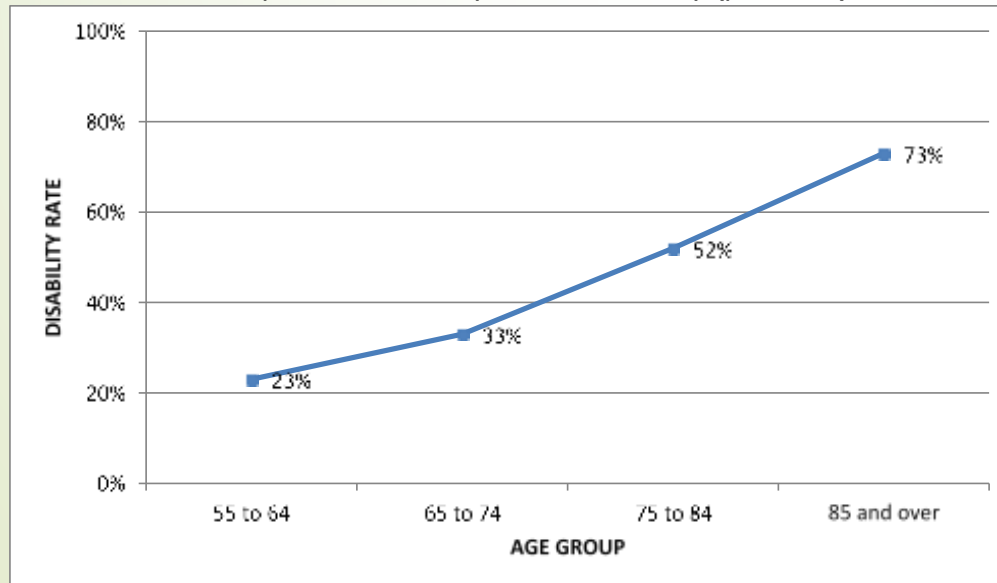
How does Medicine Hat Compare?

- 14.8% of Canadians are 65 years and over
- 11.1% of Albertans are 65 years and over
- 16.1% of residents in Medicine Hat are 65 years or over and this number will grow as the baby boomers reach retirement age.
- 30.1% of residents in Medicine Hat are 55 years and older

2011 Census, Statistics Canada

Figure 1.2 Disability rates, by age group (%)

Source: 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey (p. 6, FDR).



Audit Recommendation Excerpt

Accessible Parking	1. Consider adding 2 marked accessible parking spaces in the lower parking lot. Each stall should be a minimum of 2,400 mm wide with an access aisle of the same width (2,400 mm) between the two accessible stalls.	Low
Barrier Free Path of Travel	1. Consider reducing the transition from the roadway to the trail so that it does not exceed 13 mm.	Medium
Barrier Free Path of Travel	1. Consider leveling any height differences in the pavers that exceed 13 mm.	Medium
Entrance	1. Reduce the threshold to 13 mm or less.	High
Entrance	1. Consider replacing the door with a lighter door that can be operated with a lever handle requiring no more than 38 Newton.	High
Entrance	1. Consider including a window in the doors so those leaving the building can check to see that the door swing area is clear.	Medium
Men's Washroom	1. Increase door width to the extent possible to compensate for the narrow hallway width.	High
Men's Washroom	1. Replace the existing angled grab bar with an L-shaped grab bar with a 60 degree bend lining up with the front of the toilet. The midpoint of the grab bar should sit 300-330 mm above the height of the toilet seat.	High

Projects - Community

- Contribute to the International Day of Persons with Disabilities (IDPD) event
- Accessible House Tours for Canadian Home Builders Association
- Videos to raise awareness on parking, snow removal, sidewalk clean up, etc.

IDPD – students learn to sign & sing

Together We Learn – Mary Lambert

We are different on the outside
Our skin, our hair, and eyes
We are different on the inside
To the things that make us one

Together we learn

Together we share

When we come together

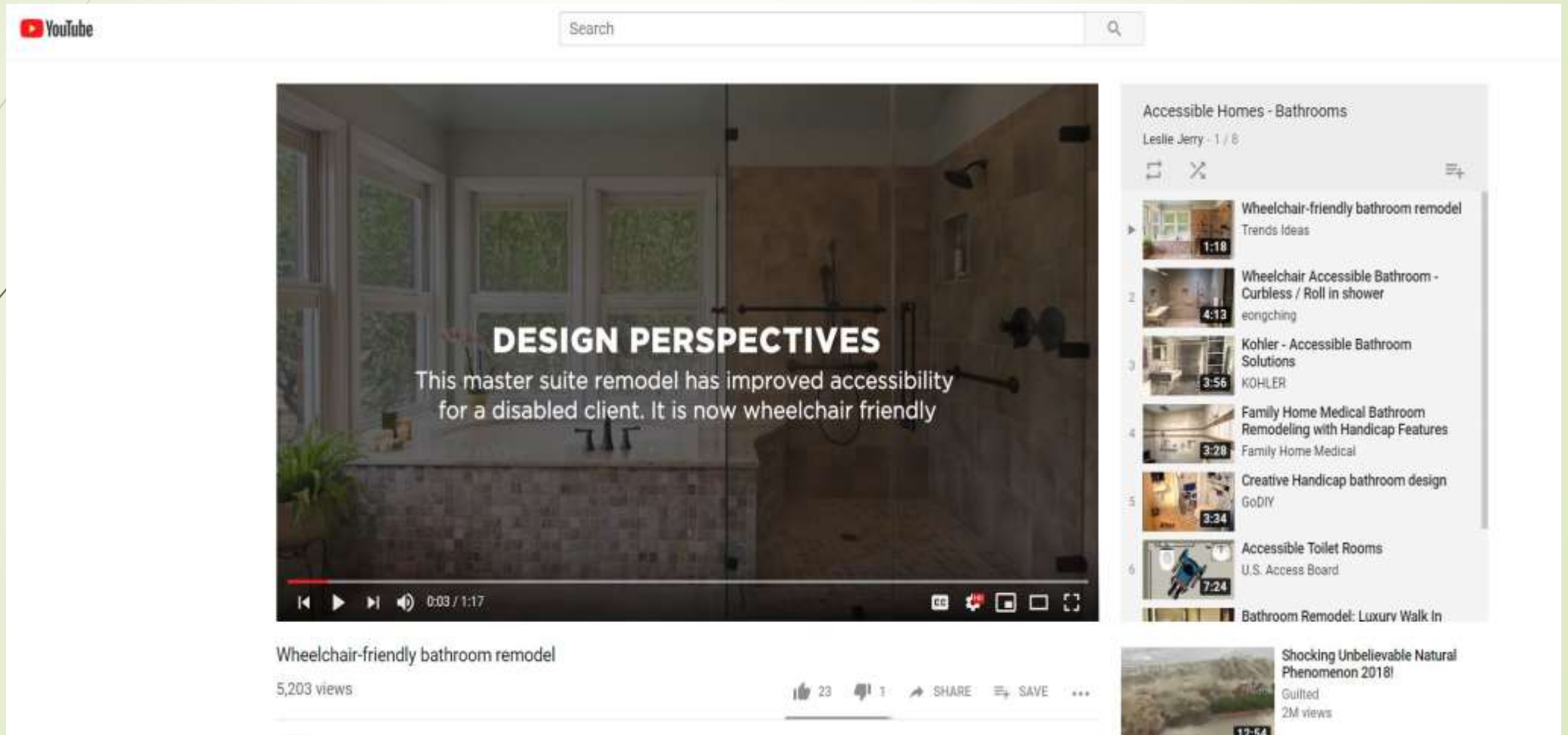
We show that we care

– together

Some of us may have no sight
Some communicate with hands
Disabilities can help us grow
As We reach out as friends ...



Accessible Housing – created a YouTube Channel with more resources



The image is a screenshot of a YouTube video player. The video is titled "Wheelchair-friendly bathroom remodel" and has 5,203 views. The video content shows a modern bathroom with a large window and a glass shower enclosure. Overlaid text reads: "DESIGN PERSPECTIVES This master suite remodel has improved accessibility for a disabled client. It is now wheelchair friendly". The video player includes standard controls like play, volume, and a progress bar showing 0:03 / 1:17. To the right of the video is a playlist titled "Accessible Homes - Bathrooms" by Leslie Jerry, containing 6 videos. The first video in the playlist is the same one shown in the player. Below the playlist, a portion of another video titled "Shocking Unbelievable Natural Phenomenon 2018!" is visible.

YouTube

Search

DESIGN PERSPECTIVES
This master suite remodel has improved accessibility for a disabled client. It is now wheelchair friendly

0:03 / 1:17

Wheelchair-friendly bathroom remodel

5,203 views

23 1 SHARE SAVE ...

Accessible Homes - Bathrooms
Leslie Jerry · 1 / 6

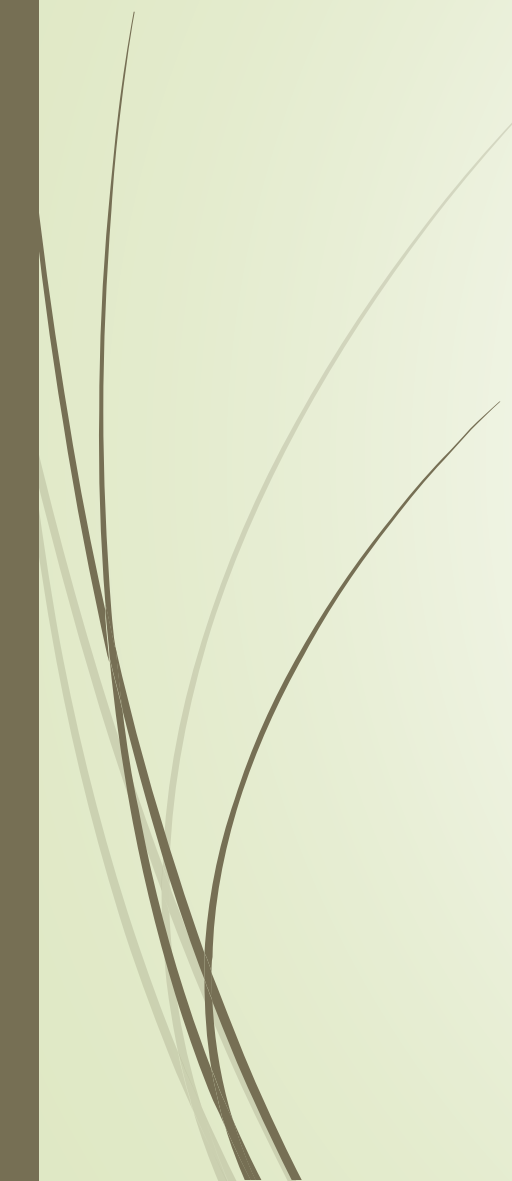
- 1 Wheelchair-friendly bathroom remodel Trends Ideas 1:18
- 2 Wheelchair Accessible Bathroom - Curbless / Roll in shower eongching 4:13
- 3 Kohler - Accessible Bathroom Solutions KOHLER 3:56
- 4 Family Home Medical Bathroom Remodeling with Handicap Features Family Home Medical 3:28
- 5 Creative Handicap bathroom design GoDIY 3:24
- 6 Accessible Toilet Rooms U.S. Access Board 7:24

Bathroom Remodel: Luxury Walk In

Shocking Unbelievable Natural Phenomenon 2018!
Guiltyed
2M views
17:54



ACDI Success Summary

- ▶ People
 - ▶ Get the right people at the table (volunteers & staff)
 - ▶ Make it Safe for people to contribute
 - ▶ Say thank you
 - ▶ Process
 - ▶ Build relationships and demonstrate caring
 - ▶ Have some fun together
 - ▶ Celebrate success
 - ▶ Clear Direction
 - ▶ Set measureable goals
 - ▶ Connect goals to organizational priorities
 - ▶ Monitor progress
 - ▶ Communicate results
- 



Contact Information:

Leslie Jerry

Community Inclusion Coordinator

City of Medicine Hat

403-502-8086

lesjer@medicinehat.ca



Medicine Hat
The Gas City