



# University of Toronto

OFFICE OF THE VICE-PROVOST, SPACE AND FACILITIES PLANNING

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TO: University Affairs Board

SPONSOR: Ron Venter, Vice-Provost, Space and Facilities Planning

CONTACT INFO: 416-978-5515; ron.venter@utoronto.ca

DATE: May, 20<sup>th</sup>, 2003 for June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2003

AGENDA ITEM: #10

## **ITEM IDENTIFICATION:**

The AFD [Accommodation & Facilities Directorate] Standing Committee on Barrier Free Accessibility: Update on the Annual Report.

## **JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:**

University Affairs Board receives reports for information.

## **PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN:**

The AFD Standing Committee on Barrier Free Accessibility is required to report annually to the Planning & Budget Committee of the Academic Board. The Barrier Free Accessibility Report is also considered by the University Affairs Board.

The attached memorandum, dated May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2002 from Ms. S. Addario, Chair of the Standing Committee, provides a brief update of the on-going activities and some of the projects under consideration. The complete annual report for 2002/03 detailing all barrier free accessibility projects will be tabled at the September 2003 meeting of the University Affairs Board.

## **HIGHLIGHTS:**

Not applicable.

## **FINANCIAL AND/OR PLANNING IMPLICATIONS:**

Not applicable.

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

This item is for information only



# University of Toronto

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MAY 1, 2003

## MEMORANDUM

TO: RON VENTER, CHAIR, ACCOMMODATIONS AND FACILITIES DIRECTORATE

FROM: SUSAN ADDARIO

SUBJECT: AFD STANDING COMMITTEE ON BARRIER FREE ACCESSIBILITY – ANNUAL REPORT

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Ron, as you are aware, some of the work included in the terms of reference for the Standing Committee has been taken on by the University-wide committee struck to provide a compliance response to the *Ontarians with Disabilities Act*. Most members of the AFD Standing Committee serve as members of the ODA compliance committee, working under Professor Angela Hildyard's leadership.

In relation to the work of the AFD committee:

1. The Committee was not able to review and prioritize divisional requests for accessibility projects through the Facilities Renewal Planning competition, as those funds were severely restricted this year.
2. The Committee has been able to identify and prioritize several projects in student activity space and in the student services, and will be bringing these projects (proposed concepts and funding sources) to AFD for approval at its May meeting. These include:
  - (a) a wheelchair access ramp, wheelchair lift and accessible washroom for University College, enabling access to the Peace and Conflict Studies program, the Junior Common Room and the offices of the UC Lit;
  - (b) a wheelchair access ramp, wheelchair lift and accessible washroom for the Graduate Student Union, enabling access to the basement and first floor of the building;
  - (c) a schedule of projects identified by the Students' Administrative Council Wheelchair Access Committee (SAC-WAC), which identifies accessibility improvements in the Faculty of Physical Education and Health, at University of Toronto at Mississauga, Victoria College, and the International Student Centre, as well as the UC Lit project.

The report will also identify accessibility improvement projects which are in development at University of Toronto at Scarborough, at St. Michael's College (Arts and Science space), and as part of the Sidney Smith infill project.

3. The Committee has worked with the Chief Capital Projects Officer to ensure that all new capital projects have appropriate barrier-free consultants commenting on design. Projects managers will attend a barrier-free design workshop later this spring, organized for the capital projects group by the Manager of Accessibility Services and delivered by barrier-free design consultants.
4. Members of the Committee, along with the Equity Committee of the Faculty of Physical Education and Health, are currently conducting a comprehensive accessibility audit of the Clara Benson and Warren Stevens buildings. The findings and recommendations will be forwarded by the Dean, FPEH, to AFD for review and action.
5. The Committee will also report to AFD at its May meeting on all other accessibility improvement projects approved this year, including the Hart House elevator project and the Nursing building elevator project.

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