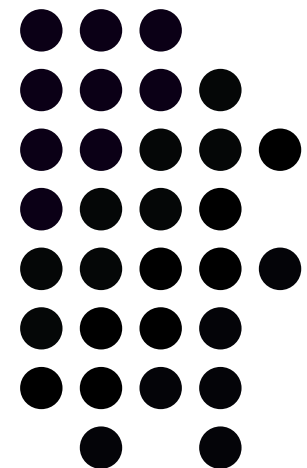


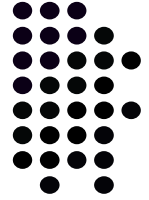
# Transportation for Everyone – Designing Accessible Transportation Systems

Ontario  
Ministry of  
Transportation

## Sustainable TransForum

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Ministry of Transportation  
May 28, 2007

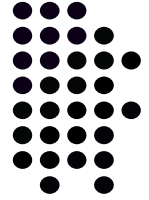




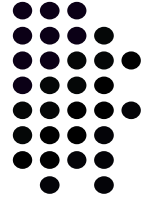
# Overview

- **Demographic Shift over 20 Years**
- **Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA), 2005**
- **The Transportation Standards Development Committee (T-SDC)**
- **Engaging Stakeholders**
- **T-SDC Standard Content and Challenges**
- **Status of other Accessibility Standards**
- **How to Meet These Shifting Needs – Incorporating New Requirements**

# Demographic Shift – Over the Next 20 Years.....

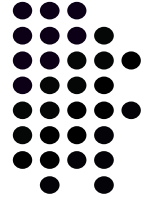


- **Ontario's population will grow over 25%**
- **More than 3 million people will be over 65**
- **The number of seniors over 80 will grow by 65%**
- **1 in 5 Ontarians will have a disability**



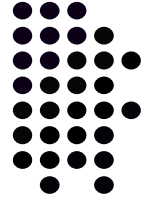
# AODA, 2005: Principles

- **For people with disabilities, the AODA will:**
  - **Improve accessibility**
  - **Expand opportunities**
  - **Improve access to employment, customer service, communications and transportation**
  - **Allow full contribution and participation in community and economic life**
- **Inform and change attitudes, values and behaviour towards accessibility**



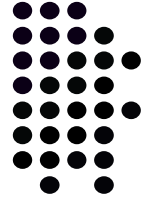
# AODA, 2005: Requirements

- **The AODA will develop, implement and enforce standards—target date is January 1, 2025**
- **The AODA applies to every person or organization in the public or private sectors in Ontario**
- **Standards are developed by Standard Development Committees (SDCs):**
  - **Measures, policies, practices or other requirements for the identification, removal and prevention of barriers**
  - **Proposed targets to make Ontario accessible by 2025**
- **Ministry of Community and Social Services (MCSS) is key steward**



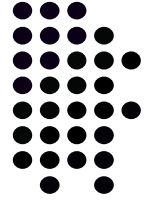
# Status of other AODA Standards

- **Customer Service:**
  - addresses delivering service to the public
  - public review complete, proposed standard was submitted to MCSS in spring, 2007
  - includes training, policies, practices and specific customer measures
  
- **Built Environment:**
  - addresses access to, from and within buildings and outdoor spaces, and could include counter heights, aisle/door widths, parking and signs, as well as pedestrian access routes and signals
  - public recruitment for SDC held April 8 to May 8, 2007
  
- **Information and Communications:**
  - addresses information and communication provided to the consumer or end-user through print, telephone, electronically and in- person



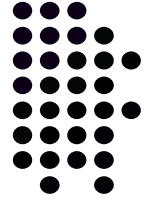
# T-SDC Process

- **Readiness and Cost/Feasibility Assessment –third party analysis to support T-SDC decision-making**
- **Develop 20 year objectives and technical standards**
- **Develop implementation schedule**
- **Public review of the proposed Transportation Accessibility Standard**
- **Potential revisions to the proposed standard and submission to MCSS Minister**
- **Government decision to adopt**



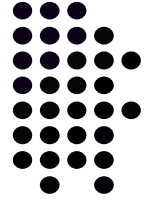
# T-SDC: Keys to Engagement

- **Key stakeholders with**
  - **Ontario Community Support Association**
  - **Canadian Hearing Society**
  - **CNIB**
  - **Independent Living Resource Centre**
  - **Transportation Action Now**
  - **Kidney Foundation**
  - **Bloorview MacMillan Children's Centre**
  - **Transit Operators from across the Province**
  - **Taxi companies**
  - **School Bus operators**
- **Develop guiding principles to help the T-SDC**
- **Responsibility for drafting the standard**



# Scope -Transportation Standard

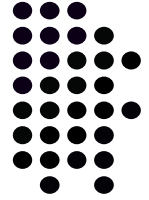
- **Modes:**
  - **fixed route urban transit bus, streetcar, subway and light rail car**
  - **fixed route commuter rail car, inter-city rail car, commuter bus and inter-city coach**
  - **fixed route ferries**
  - **specialized transit service vehicles (e.g. Wheel-Trans)**
  - **on-demand taxis**
  - **booked services vehicles**
  - **school transportation vehicles**



# Scope

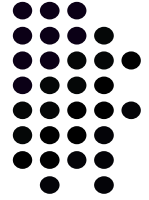
## Means

- **Fare payment and ticket validation equipment**
- **Boarding/de-boarding points, assistance, devices**
- **Route or destination signage**
- **Pre-boarding route or destination announcements**
- **Steps, accessible aisle, floor surfaces**
- **Grab bars/handholds/stanchions**
- **Allocated space**
- **Location of personal care attendants**



# T-SDC Challenges

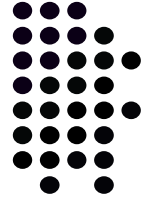
- **Broad scope**
- **Balancing views**
- **The level of the standard**
- **Cross-cutting issues across committees**
- **Transit specific issues**
- **Booked service issues: equitable fares**
- **Approach to school transportation**
- **Acceptable implementation timeframes**



# How to Meet Shifting Needs?

- **Proposed Accessibility Standard will be achieved over 20 years**
- **Standard will be reviewed every 5 years**
- **Proposed Built Environment Standard will also be revisited every 5 years**
- **The Transportation Standard is designed to improve encourage innovation improved access based on technologies that are feasible**

# How to Meet Shifting Needs (cont'd)



- **Work closely with other Ministries involved with infrastructure planning and investment/replacement cycles**
- **More attention to jurisdictional scanning and best practices**
- **The province requires that any transit program funding provided be used to only support the purchase of fully accessible transit vehicles.**
  - **As of December 2005 over 58% of all municipal conventional transit buses in Ontario are fully accessible.**
  - **It is anticipated that all municipal transit buses in Ontario will be fully accessible by 2012**