



# City of Peterborough

## Media Release

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 5, 2010  
Peterborough, ON --

### Official Ribbon Cutting of the Ramp at City Hall

A celebration to mark the official opening of the accessible ramp at the front entrance of City Hall will take place Thursday, October 7<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 a.m. All are welcome to come and celebrate this significant improvement to accessibility at City Hall.

"The original builders in 1950 did not consider the needs of mobility-challenged citizens. Despite an number of accessibility improvements over the years, until this ramp was built, people with mobility challenges who arrived at City Hall to attend a City Council meeting were directed to the parking lot entrance at the back of the building." reflected Mr. Terry Wilson, Chair of the Council For Persons With Disabilities (CPD), "City Council, working closely with the Council For Persons With Disabilities' Building Committee has installed this ramp to correct that oversight. Now more of us can exercise our democratic rights with dignity and independence while sharing the spirit of equality and inclusiveness. CPD commends City Council for their continuing support in the struggle to make our community fully accessible for all persons with disabilities."

The ramp, which provides barrier-free access to the front entrance and lobby of City Hall, was constructed this summer. It is another step toward full accessibility as prescribed by the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005. The project consists of an exterior ramp with a heated surface for safety and interior ramp along the north wall of the lobby. Both portions of the ramp were designed to complement existing architecture.

Funding for this project was approved in the 2009 Capital Budget. The total cost for the ramp was \$142,665.

"More than 15% of Peterborough's population have a disability and that number continues to grow as we age. The front entrance ramp is an important improvement to accessibility at City Hall." commented Mayor Paul Ayotte, "The ramp allows people with disabilities and parents with strollers convenient access to events and presentations in the lower lobby as well as the Tax Office and Clerks Office."

This information is also available on our City of Peterborough website at [www.peterborough.ca](http://www.peterborough.ca).

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