

PART 1 – Interpretation

Definitions

1. In this Act:

"accessibility committee" means a committee under section 9 [*accessibility committee*];

"accessibility plan" means a plan under section 11 [*accessibility plan*];

"barrier" has the meaning given to it in section 2 [*barriers*];

"director" means the director designated under section 21 [*director*];

"disability" means an inability to participate fully and equally in society as a result of the interaction of an impairment and a barrier;

"impairment" includes a physical, sensory, mental, intellectual or cognitive impairment, whether permanent, temporary or episodic;

"Indigenous peoples" has the same meaning as in the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*;

"provincial accessibility committee" means the government's accessibility committee;

"technical committee" means a committee under section 15 [*technical committees*].

2021-19-1.

Barriers

- 2.**
- (1) For the purposes of this Act, a barrier is anything that hinders the full and equal participation in society of a person with an impairment.
 - (2) For certainty and without limiting subsection (1), barriers can be
 - (a) caused by environments, attitudes, practices, policies, information, communications or technologies, and
 - (b) affected by intersecting forms of discrimination.

2021-19-2.

PART 3 – Accessible Organizations

Application

8. This Part applies to the following organizations:
- (a) the government;
 - (b) a prescribed organization and an organization in a prescribed class of organizations.

2021-19-8.

Accessibility committee

9. (1) An organization must establish a committee to
- (a) assist the organization to identify barriers to individuals in or interacting with the organization, and
 - (b) advise the organization on how to remove and prevent barriers to individuals in or interacting with the organization.
- (2) An accessibility committee must, to the extent possible, have members who are selected in accordance with the following goals:
- (a) at least half of the members are
 - (i) persons with disabilities, or
 - (ii) individuals who support, or are from organizations that support, persons with disabilities;
 - (b) the members described in paragraph (a) reflect the diversity of persons with disabilities in British Columbia;
 - (c) at least one of the members is an Indigenous person;
 - (d) the committee reflects the diversity of persons in British Columbia.

2021-19-9.

Provincial accessibility committee

10. (1) The provincial accessibility committee is to consist of up to 11 members appointed by the minister in accordance with section 9 (2) [*accessibility committee*] and this section.
- (2) An individual may be appointed under subsection (1) for a term of up to 4 years and may not be appointed for more than 2 consecutive terms.
- (3) The provincial accessibility committee is subject to the direction of the minister.

2021-19-10.

(ADD)Accessibility plan

Sep
01/22

11. (1) An organization must develop a plan to identify, remove and prevent barriers to individuals in or interacting with the organization.
- (2) An organization must review and update its accessibility plan at least once every 3 years.
- (3) In developing and updating its accessibility plan, an organization must consider the following principles:
- (a) inclusion;

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- (b) adaptability;
 - (c) diversity;
 - (d) collaboration;
 - (e) self-determination;
 - (f) universal design.
 - (4) In developing its accessibility plan, an organization must consult with its accessibility committee.
 - (5) In updating its accessibility plan, an organization must
 - (a) consider any comments received under section 12 *[public feedback]*, and
 - (b) consult with its accessibility committee.
- 2021-19-11 (B.C. Reg. 105/2022).

(ADD)Public feedback
Sep
01/22

12. An organization must establish a process for receiving comments from the public on
- (a) the organization's accessibility plan, and
 - (b) barriers to individuals in or interacting with the organization.
- 2021-19-12 (B.C. Reg. 105/2022).

ACCESSIBLE BRITISH COLUMBIA REGULATION 105/2022

B.C. Reg. 105/2022

[includes B.C. Reg. 253/2022 amendments (effective December 1, 2022)]

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SCHEDULE

[Provisions of the *Accessible British Columbia Act*, SBC 2021, c. 19, relevant to the enactment of this regulation: section 32]

Definitions

1. In this regulation:

"Act" means the *Accessible British Columbia Act*;

"Elections BC" has the same meaning as in the *Election Act*;

"francophone school district" means an organization consisting of a francophone education authority of a francophone school district and the francophone schools in that district, all within the meaning of the *School Act*;

"health authority" means an organization consisting of a regional health board and the facilities and regional services for which the board is responsible, all within the meaning of the *Health Authorities Act*;

"independent school" means an organization consisting of an authority and the independent schools that the authority operates, all within the meaning of the *Independent School Act*;

"Mental Health Review Board" means the board established under section 24.1 of the *Mental Health Act*;

"municipal police department" means an organization consisting of a municipal police board and the municipal police department under the direction of that board, all within the meaning of the *Police Act*;

"post-secondary education institution" means

- (a) a university within the meaning of the *University Act*,
- (b) an institution within the meaning of the *College and Institute Act*,
- (c) Royal Roads University, and

(d) Thompson Rivers University;

"public library" has the same meaning as in the *Library Act*;

"school district" means an organization consisting of the board of a school district and the schools in that district, all within the meaning of the *School Act*.

AccessAbility Week

2. For the purposes of section 4 [*recognition of AccessAbility Week*] of the Act, the week that begins on the last Sunday in May is prescribed.

Accessible organizations

3. For the purposes of section 8 (b) [*application to organizations*] of the Act, the following organizations are prescribed:
- (a) the organizations named in column 1 of the Schedule are prescribed, effective on the date set out opposite in column 2;
 - (b) the following organizations are prescribed, effective September 1, 2023:
 - (i) francophone school districts;
 - (ii) independent schools;
 - (iii) municipal police departments;
 - (iv) municipalities;
 - (v) post-secondary education institutions;
 - (vi) public libraries;
 - (vii) regional districts;
 - (viii) school districts;
 - (c) health authorities are prescribed, effective September 1, 2024.

Schedule

[am. B.C. Reg. 253/2022]

Column 1 Organization	Column 2 Effective date
BC Family Maintenance Agency Ltd.	September 1, 2024
BC Financial Services Authority	September 1, 2023
BC Games Society	September 1, 2023
BC Infrastructure Benefits Inc.	September 1, 2023
B.C. Pavilion Corporation	September 1, 2023