

Fountainview Academy

Accessibility Plan

**2023 - 2027**

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## Introduction

Fountainview Academy is a Group 4 Independent School near Lillooet, British Columbia. A boarding high school, Fountainview Academy houses its students, staff, and staff families on the school campus. All staff (and nearly all students) are Seventh-day Adventist (SDA) Christians, and the program follows a Seventh-day Adventist philosophy of education. The school is owned and operated separately from the organized SDA Church but maintains a strong and positive connection with the British Columbia Conference of SDAs and the worldwide church.

Besides the students, staff, and staff families who reside on the school campus, the campus is also frequently visited by parents and families of students and of prospective students. Our Accessibility Plan seeks to remove or minimize barriers to accessibility for the residents of the campus and, as far as possible, the visitors as well.

## Accessibility Committee

Fountainview Academy is a member of the AMS group of FISABC, which has an Accessibility Committee serving the various schools in the group. We also have an on-site Accessibility Advisory Committee made up of members of our campus community. Our Accessibility Advisory Committee conducts accessibility audits and provides feedback and suggestions to the school's Leadership Team. The composition of the committee seeks to include representation of individuals with disabilities, the various departments of the program (academic, student life, work/industry, etc), and staff families (especially those with enrolled children).

The current committee includes the following individuals:

- Kevin Corrigan (Academics, PE)
- Priscilla da Silva (Cafeteria, Parent)
- Rob Dunn (Work Department, Parent, Caregiver, First Nations)
- D'Arcy Simanton (Finance, Parent, Caregiver)
- Lorraine Theron (Student Life, Caregiver)

## Feedback Tool

A feedback form is available on the school website. Any individual can use the form to provide feedback on barriers encountered or on positive experiences with accessibility within the school. The form can be accessed [here](#).

## 3-Year Accessibility Plan

After reviewing the most recent accessibility audit by the committee and considering feedback provided both from the committee and from the feedback tool, the Leadership Team has approved the following 3-Year Plan:

### FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS

<b>Now</b>	Add two wheelchair access ramps to the lower level of the school building, particularly for visitor and elderly campus resident access to the auditorium, cafeteria, and downstairs washrooms.
	Add a wheelchair access ramp to one of the staff houses (Road's End) to facilitate entry and exit for an elderly resident.
<b>Before 2024-25 school year</b>	Investigate options for improved signage/directory/map directing visitors from campus entrance to key buildings on campus.
	Investigate options for automatic door opener at one of the wheelchair accessible entrances (see item above) on the lower level of the school building.
<b>During 2024-25 school year</b>	Assess road lighting between school building and dorms (e.g. – consider street lights on a timer so that the road is lit for students traveling between the school and dorm after dark, but the light does not shine all night in the windows of residences).
	Assess lighting at the school building entrance (again, consider options such as a timer).

### PROGRAM IMPROVEMENTS

<b>During 2023-24</b>	Survey students/parents to solicit feedback on accessibility barriers.
	Possibly add to this section of the plan based on feedback from survey.

### OTHER IMPROVEMENTS

No other improvements were suggested at this time, though ongoing feedback may lead to others.

### **FEEDBACK TOOL REVISIONS**

A feedback tool has been created and linked on the school website and within this document. As the tool is new, no revisions are proposed at this time.

### **REVIEW**

The following will be reviewed annually (in the fall):

- The Feedback Tool
- The Physical Accessibility Audit Form
- The 3-Year Accessibility Plan

## **Monitoring and Evaluation**

The Accessibility Committee and the Leadership Team will ensure that the following steps are taken:

1. An annual accessibility audit is conducted by the Accessibility Committee (preferably in the fall of the school year), and the resulting feedback is reviewed (and acted upon as needed) by the Leadership Team. The audit will include a review of the effectiveness of the plan's implementation and impact on accessibility throughout the school.
2. The 3-Year Plan is reviewed and updated by the Leadership Team, preferably in the fall of each school year, but no less often than every three years.