

Great Plains College Accessibility Plan

December 2025-November 2028

INTRODUCTION

On December 3, 2023, the Government of Saskatchewan enacted *The Accessible Saskatchewan Act*, requiring the provincial government and publicly funded institutions to develop and share accessibility plans. These plans aim to identify, remove, and prevent barriers that impact persons with disabilities, ensuring equitable access to programs, services, and opportunities.

At Great Plains College, accessibility is a core value. We are committed to creating an inclusive environment where all students can fully engage in their educational journey. Over the years, we have invested in initiatives such as a highly responsive student services team, in-person mental health counselling at all campuses, website enhancements achieving an “AA” accessibility rating, and improvements to physical spaces across our campuses.

While accessibility remains central to our work, we recognize that there is always room for growth. This Accessibility Action Plan outlines areas for improvement at both the institutional and campus levels, reinforcing our commitment to continuous progress.

Stakeholder input was essential in shaping this plan. Through consultation and collaboration, we have identified priorities that will guide our efforts to remove barriers and foster an environment where everyone can thrive.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

In November 2025, Great Plains College conducted an accessibility survey to gather meaningful feedback that would serve as the foundation for this Accessibility Action Plan. The survey was distributed to key stakeholders who regularly interact with college programs and services, including staff, students, alumni, support agencies, and community partners. To ensure broad participation, the survey link was also posted on the college website and shared through social media channels.

We received 109 responses representing all campus regions, with 69 responses coming directly from students who access our buildings and services daily. This strong level of engagement provided valuable insight into both campus-specific needs and overarching institutional priorities.

The feedback highlighted several key themes, including the need to increase awareness of available services, enhance physical spaces, increase access to technology and equipment, and provide learning materials in diverse formats to meet varying student needs such as technology and textbooks. In addition, respondents identified specific recommendations for individual campuses, which have been incorporated into this plan. The goals and action items outlined in the following sections are a direct reflection of the feedback received through this process, ensuring that our next steps are informed by the voices of those we serve.

GOALS

To guide our efforts and ensure meaningful progress, Great Plains College has identified three overarching goals for this Accessibility Action Plan. These goals reflect both the feedback received through stakeholder engagement and our ongoing commitment to creating an inclusive learning environment:

1. Improve Physical Accessibility Across Campuses

Continue to identify and remove barriers within our facilities, ensuring that all students, staff, and visitors can navigate and access campus spaces safely and comfortably.

2. Increase Awareness of Accessibility Services for Students

Strengthen communication and outreach, so students are fully informed about the supports and resources available to help them succeed.

3. Enhance Employee Knowledge of Accessibility

Provide training and resources to equip employees with an in-depth understanding and tools needed to support accessibility in their roles and interactions.

COMMITMENT TO ACTION

To achieve the goals outlined in this plan, Great Plains College has established a series of targeted actions. These initiatives address both college-wide priorities and campus-specific needs, ensuring that accessibility improvements are practical, measurable, and aligned with our commitment to inclusivity.

Institutional Actions

- Maintain website and digital accessibility scores, as per Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG)
- Explore opportunities to offer accessibility training to staff
- Better highlight available student service resources and encourage student use
- Commit to undertake a signage audit across all campuses
- Maintain mental health supports for students and staff across all campuses
- Ensure emergency drills and procedures are considerate of those requiring assistance
- Explore translation widgets/read aloud features for college communications
- Enhance delivery of curriculum and learning materials to meet students' various leaning needs

Campus-Specific Actions

Biggar

- Improve snow and ice removal

Kindersley

- Explore adding accessible parking in front of campus building
- Investigate barriers for independent use of elevators and electronic doors

Maple Creek

- Explore adding accessible parking in front of campus building

Martensville

- Improve snow and ice removal

Swift Current

- Explore barriers to access for Swift Current North Campus
- Within signage audit, consider whether current signage is sufficient for those with vision impairment
- Investigate barriers for independent use of elevators and lifts

Warman

- Investigate functionality of lighting levels in classrooms
- Explore classroom furniture that is easier to reconfigure
- Improve snow and ice removal

OUR ONGOING COMMITMENT

Great Plains College is committed to creating an environment where every individual can learn, work, and thrive without barriers. This Accessibility Action Plan is not the end of our efforts—it is the beginning of a continuous journey toward greater inclusion.

We thank our students, staff, and community partners for their valuable input in shaping this plan. Your voices guide our progress, and your feedback will remain essential as we implement these actions and explore new opportunities for improvement.

Accessibility is a shared responsibility, and together we can make a meaningful difference. We invite you to stay engaged, share your ideas, and help us build a college experience that is welcoming and accessible for all.

If you have comments or suggestions about this plan, we welcome your feedback:

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