



Public Indoor Facility Audit

A project that encourages facilities in Yorkton to be more inclusive and accessible.

Presented by:

Lisa Washington

Manager of Community, Culture
and Heritage

Date:

November 2, 2021

Funded by the Government of
Canada's New Horizons for
Seniors Program



Contact Us

For questions and more information:

Email

lwashington@yorkton.ca

Website

www.RuralDementiaSK.ca



Social Media

[@RuralDementiaSK](https://www.instagram.com/RuralDementiaSK)

Project Description & Objectives

This project assessed some City of Yorkton facilities to make recommendations to improve the physical environment, aimed at becoming more age- and dementia-friendly. Guided by previous research done by the Alzheimer's Society of Saskatchewan (ASOS) and Age-Friendly Saskatchewan, 12 City of Yorkton venues were assessed against a checklist of physical barriers that may prevent seniors and people living with dementia from enjoying those facilities and their desired lifestyle. The assessment, or audit, was limited to and focused on the physical environment and making recommendations for increasing accessibility through improvements to the physical facilities. The final report includes some possible funding sources for capital improvements.

The audits were completed by a team of five: a Consultant from Buchanan, Saskatchewan; a retired couple from Kamsack, Saskatchewan; and a retired couple from Melville, Saskatchewan. One partner in each couple lives with dementia.

Project Activities

Each checklist had the team study features determined by ASOS to be important to those living with dementia in terms of being able to continue lifestyle activities without being faced with barriers. The facility features can be summarized as falling into seven areas of attention, with some overlap between:

- Entrances and Exits
- Surfaces (wall and floors)
- Bathroom Facilities
- Lighting
- Seating
- Quiet Areas and Customer Service Desks
- Signage and Navigation

Progress & Next Steps

- The final report was submitted September 30.
- The majority of recommendations are toward improvement of signage to become more dementia-friendly in assisting people to navigate more independently and find services on their own.
- The most significant cost attached to recommendations is the addition of private family washrooms, as the majority of the facilities have gender-identified, accessible washrooms.
- Administration will be meeting in November to go over the report and develop an implementation strategy for the achievable recommendations