

Accessibility, Inclusion Services & Adapted Programs

The Department of Community Services is committed to providing its entire community with high quality, accessible leisure opportunities for residents of all ages. This will be achieved through the provision of:

**Accessible Equipment/Facilities • Inclusion Services
Adapted Programs • Fee Assistance Program**

Accessible Equipment/Facilities

The Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury is host to a Leisure Centre that meets all of the requirements required by the Ontario Building Code (OBC) and the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA). The centre includes a number of pieces of equipment to improve accessibility including; automatic doors, wide hallways, grab bars, elevator and 360 degree turning radius to accommodate wheelchairs in restroom areas.

Aquatic Centre

The Bradford Lions Aquatic Centre includes three swimming tanks; an 8-lane, 25 metre lap pool, a leisure pool and a warm water relaxation pool. The leisure pool is heated to approximately 86°F and the relaxation pool to approximately 90°F, which can accommodate those with muscular, circulatory or neurological impairment who require warmer temperatures. The aquatic centre also includes ramp entry into the leisure pool and chair lift entry to both the lap pool and the relaxation pool. A water wheelchair is available for clients to use between the change room and the pool itself. The family change room also includes a Hoyer lift and an adult change table to assist persons requiring transfer.

Fitness Centre

The Fitness Centre includes a 110m walking track, cardio theatre area, strength training room and a fitness studio. Certain pieces of equipment are modifiable to be appropriately aligned for clients who use a wheelchair or who have a support worker providing assistance.

Inclusion Services

The Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury promotes and encourages people with disabilities (physical, emotional, behavioural, developmental/intellectual, and medical) to participate in a wide variety of activities. The objective is to facilitate meaningful participation of people of varying abilities in the community activities of his/her choice.

Assessing a Participant's Need for Support

A participant may require extra support if any of the following applies:

1. Extra support is required at school in the classroom.
2. A physical, medical, developmental and/or learning disability exists that affects the safety of the participant or that of other participants.
3. Extra support is needed at home for basic care such as dressing and toileting.
4. Participant is currently associated with a support agency or program.

**For more information on Accessibility please
contact the BWG Leisure Centre at:
905-775-7529
leisureservices@townofbwg.com**

Inclusion Support

The Department of Community Services (Leisure Services Division) employs staff for summer camps to work specifically as one-to-one inclusion support staff with children who have a special need and/or a disability.

Medical Needs/Medications

Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury staff do not provide any ongoing medical interventions or support therapies (ie. injections, g-tube feeding, administering medication etc.).

Support Person Pass

Individuals in need of support to participate in a drop in program may attend with a support person to assist him/her. If the support person's sole purpose for attending is to support and integrate an individual with special needs, access for the support person is free. For regular customers attending with a support person, a support person pass can be obtained free of charge. Present the card upon arrival and the support person will enter at no charge. Forms are available at the customer service desk.

Program Registration with Inclusion Support

Contact is required with the specific supervisor (Aquatics Programmer for aquatic camps or the Recreation Coordinator for day camps) in order to coordinate registration and specific needs requirements. A participant profile form will need to be completed for all clients accessing this service (this information will be shared with instructional staff only). The one-to-one support staff service is a limited resource, and is available on a first come first serve basis and is available for a maximum of one week per child during the summer. Families who require support but do not disclose the needs of a participant prior to registration may be required to withdraw from the program if support can not be secured. Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury refund policy will apply.

Adapted Programs

Specialized instructional programs are available in Aquatics that promote the dignity, independence and potential of persons with disabilities. The special needs swim lessons strive to meet the swimming goals of individuals with identified special needs. All participants are required to complete a Participants with Special Needs form prior to his/her first lesson. The form can be accessed through the customer service desk at the Leisure Centre or online at www.bwgleisurecentre.ca

Fee Assistance Program

The Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury supports that municipal leisure opportunities should be available to all residents. Bradford West Gwillimbury residents experiencing financial difficulty due to low income may request fee assistance for membership to the BWG Leisure Centre. An application for assistance must be submitted. Criteria for eligibility is determined by; annual income based upon Statistics Canada Low Income Cut Off (LICO) table. Households that meet the criteria would be eligible for a reduction of the fitness membership fee at the BWG Leisure Centre.