



## NEWS RELEASE

# StopGap Accessibility Ramps Arriving for Niagara-on-the-Lake Businesses

For Immediate Release

December 11, 2025

The Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake is pleased to announce that accessibility ramps provided through the StopGap Foundation's Community Ramp Project will be delivered to participating businesses on Friday, December 12. This initiative marks an important step toward creating a more inclusive, accessible, and welcoming community for residents and visitors alike.

"Accessibility benefits everyone," said Lord Mayor Gary Zalepa. "These ramps reflect our dedication to making Niagara-on-the-Lake an inclusive community where residents, visitors, and businesses can thrive together."

The custom-built ramps, painted in a single heritage-approved colour that aligns with the Town's heritage character, support individuals with mobility challenges by removing single-step barriers at storefront entrances. The project directly supports Council's Strategic Plan priorities, including fostering a Vibrant and Complete Community, enhancing accessibility, strengthening local businesses, and improving the overall visitor experience in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

"Small changes can make a big difference in people's daily lives," said CAO Nick Ruller. "The StopGap ramps reflect our community's shared desire to remove barriers and create spaces where everyone feels welcome. We're proud to support this work and look forward to the positive impact it will have."

To recognize this important milestone, the Town will host a community unveiling event in early spring. This celebration will highlight the collective effort behind the project and provide the community with an opportunity to learn more about the StopGap initiative and its impact in Niagara-on-the-Lake. Stay tuned in the new year for more information. Additionally, more information on how additional businesses can participate in receiving a ramp will be available in 2026.

The Town extends a special thank you to accessibility advocate Pamela TurnerSmith, who brought this idea forward!

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