



## NEWS RELEASE

# Niagara-on-the-Lake Celebrates StopGap Ramp Installation and Announces 2026 Applications Now Open

For Immediate Release

March 27, 2026

Today, the Town held a ribbon-cutting ceremony and photo-opportunity to celebrate the StopGap ramps installed at participating businesses. As part of the event, the Town also announced that it is once again accepting applications for the StopGap Ramp Program.

Eligible Niagara-on-the-Lake businesses are encouraged to apply for a StopGap ramp by completing the [online form](#). A select number of ramps will be available on a first-come, first-served basis and will be provided free of charge to businesses that meet specific criteria, as outlined at the link above. Applications will be open until April 30, 2026.

“Accessibility is about ensuring everyone can fully participate in and enjoy our community,” said Lord Mayor Gary Zalepa. “The StopGap Ramp Program is a simple but powerful initiative that removes physical barriers and sends a strong message that Niagara-on-the-Lake is welcoming and inclusive. As we look ahead to the busy spring and summer tourism season, we are excited to see the ramps already making a meaningful difference. I encourage eligible businesses to apply for a ramp and join this important initiative.”

The StopGap Ramp Program is a community-driven initiative designed to improve accessibility by providing lightweight, portable ramps that address single-step barriers at storefront entrances. These ramps help remove obstacles for residents and visitors with mobility challenges, supporting greater inclusion and access throughout the downtown core.

The initiative reflects the Town’s ongoing commitment to inclusion, accessibility, and enhancing the overall visitor and resident experience. By partnering with local



businesses and community advocates, Niagara-on-the-Lake continues to take practical steps toward creating a more barrier-free environment that benefits everyone.

“This program demonstrates how collaboration can lead to tangible improvements in our community,” said CAO Nick Ruller. “Through strong partnerships between the Town, local businesses, and accessibility advocates, we are creating a more inclusive public realm. We look forward to seeing the positive impact these ramps will have during the upcoming tourism season and for years to come.”

Learn more on the [Town's website](#).

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