



## Citizens With Disabilities – Ontario

[www.cwdo.org](http://www.cwdo.org)

### “Together We Are Stronger”

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February 17, 2014

Dr. Eric Hoskins, Minister  
Ministry of Economic Development, Trade and Employment  
Communications and Public Affairs Branch  
8th Floor, Hearst Block  
900 Bay Street  
Toronto, ON M7A 2E1

We are writing you today on a very important matter regarding the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005.

Citizens with Disabilities – Ontario is committed to the rights of all persons to participate fully in the civil, cultural, economic, political and social life of their communities. Our 2000 members reside in nearly every electoral district in Ontario.

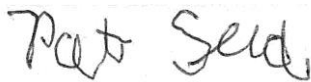
We believe the AODA legislation requires some type of reporting mechanism to allow persons with disabilities to report issues related to accessibility matters to the government directly. We understand that the current policy of the government is to have persons with disabilities report their concerns directly to the organizations. We also understand that persons with disabilities have the right to go to the Ontario Human Rights Tribunal to try to rectify the situation. However, we believe this policy has several gaps in it, particularly the ability to resolve issues quickly.

We would like to see the government take a more active role in monitoring compliance with the AODA. We believe persons with disabilities have the right, particularly in situations where their health and well-being is at risk, to report issues immediately for resolution.

We support the position of the AODA Alliance that the government must seriously review how it monitors and upholds the legislation. We want to work with private and public sector organizations, but we also want the right as citizens to engage the government with issues and concerns related to accessibility matters.

More information about our organization can be found on the [Citizens with Disabilities – Ontario website](#).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pat Seed". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Pat Seed  
Chair, Citizens with Disabilities Ontario