

## Five Key Takeaways from the Accessible Canada Act Webinar

On June 1, 2021, Easter Seals Canada and ARCH Disability Law Centre hosted a webinar on the Accessible Canada Act and what it means for Canadians. Below are five key points from the presentation for your reference. We strongly recommend you watch the entire video at [easterseals.ca](https://www.easterseals.ca) to gain a more comprehensive understanding of the act and to benefit from the Q&A session.

1. **Purpose of the act:** A key purpose of the Accessible Canada Act is to benefit all persons, especially persons with disabilities, by identification and removal of barriers and prevention of new barriers in employment, the built environment, information and communication technologies, communication (other than information and communication technologies), the procurement of goods, services and facilities, the design and delivery of programs and services, and transportation.
2. **Where the act applies:** The Accessible Canada Act a federal accessibility law. It only applies to organizations, businesses and government offices under federal jurisdiction. It does not apply to organizations that are regulated by provincial or territorial laws.
3. **Accessibility plans:** The Accessible Canada Act requires regulated government offices, organizations, and businesses to make accessibility plans. They also must consult with persons with disabilities to prepare their accessibility plan and the plans must be updated at least every three years.
4. **Feedback processes and reporting:** The Accessible Canada Act requires businesses, organizations and federal government offices to create feedback processes. These processes will allow them to get input about how they're implementing their accessibility plans and what barriers are faced by the people that deal with them. They are also required to make progress reports that include their consultations with persons with disabilities, and how they implemented the feedback that they got from the feedback process.
5. **Complaint mechanisms:** The Accessible Canada Act will create ways for people to make complaints about accessibility issues. Once complaint mechanisms are in place, complaints can be brought to the Accessibility Commissioner, the Canadian Transportation Agency, the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission, or the Federal Public Sector Labour Relations and Employment Board.