

STATEMENT of POLICY and PROCEDURE			
Manual:	Accessibility Standards	SPP No.	AS 1.01
Section:	Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act	Issued:	Nov 1, 2012
Subject:	Language & Terminology	Effective:	
Issue to:	All Manual Holders	Page:	1 of 2
		Replaces:	Sept 15, 2011
Issued by:	Greg Last	Dated:	Nov 1, 2012

Choosing the right words and putting the person first, some suggestions

Do

- Disability
- “Person(s) with a...” or “people with a...”
- Intellectual disability or developmental disability
- “Person living with...” or “person born with...”
- Blind, partial vision, low vision, vision loss: be specific
- Deaf, deafened, hard of hearing, hearing loss: be specific
- Person who does not speak
- Person in a wheelchair
- Person with a mobility or physical disability
- Mental health disability

Don't

- Handicap, handicapped, invalid or impediment
- The disabled
- Mental retardation, mentally retarded, retarded, mentally challenged, idiot, imbecile, moron, simple, mongoloid
- Suffering, afflicted, victim, stricken
- Visually impaired, the blind
- Deaf (avoid generalizing; try to find preferred term from “do” list)
- Deaf, mute, dumb
- Confined, bound, stuck
- Crippled, cripple, lame, physically challenged
- Insane, lunatic, maniac, mental, neurotic, psychotic, psycho, deviant, crazy; the negative list is too long

STATEMENT of POLICY and PROCEDURE			
Manual:	Accessibility Standards	SPP No.	AS 1.01
Section:	Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act	Issued:	Nov 1, 2012
Subject:	Language & Terminology	Effective:	
Issue to:	All Manual Holders	Page:	2 of 2
		Replaces:	Sept 15, 2011
Issued by:	Greg Last	Dated:	Nov 1, 2012

- Accessible parking, bathrooms
- Person with epilepsy
- Person born with a disability
- Person who has (as particular condition) or a person who has had a stroke
- Person with a disability, person who has (a particular condition)
- Person with a disability (challenges are environmental conditions)
- Handicapped parking, bathrooms
- An epileptic
- Birth defect, deformity/deformed, congenital defect
- Victim of (a condition such as multiple sclerosis, a stroke, cerebral palsy)
- Suffers from, afflicted by, stricken with, etc.
- Physically challenged