

Summary of the Accommodation Policy

Scarborough Women's Centre recognizes the importance of providing access to services and programs to women wanting to leave an abusive or isolating situation.

Scarborough Women's Centre strives to accommodate women with disabilities while maintaining a positive environment to support learning and development on topics of concern for women.

Purposes of the policy :

1. Promote that women with disabilities are able to access services and programs at the Centre
2. Be consistent with Ontario government's ruling commitment to increasing accessibility and opportunity for persons with disabilities
3. Provide women with services, programs and facilities without discrimination because of a disability (ies)
4. Enrich the lives of women by facilitating an environment where a diversity of women including those with disabilities can share their experiences and learn from each other
5. Create linkages with other agencies to maximize knowledge and resources available to serve women with disabilities in the community.

Scarborough Women's Centre Programs & Services

Case Management:

Offers goal clarification, planning and support for women who want assistance in overcoming barriers to economic and emotional independence.

Economic Self Sufficiency Program

In a intensive program, women who have left abusive situations are assisted in the move to economic and emotional independence

Educational Workshops:

Courses and workshops on topics of concern to women presented in small groups (15-20) with a trained facilitator.

Topics include:

Assertiveness, Self-Esteem, Anger Management, Legal Issues and Women's Health

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

Board and Committee Members:

Responsible for overall direction of the agency and ensuring adequate resources are available

Information Referral Volunteer:

Provide referrals in our anonymous, confidential phone service.

One-to One Mentoring Program:

Trained mentors/tutors provide mentoring and support in a non-judgemental way to an individual woman going through a transition in her life.



**Scarborough
Women's
Centre**

SUMMARY OF ACCOMODATION POLICY FOR SERVICE USERS

**2100 Ellesmere Road, Suite 245
Scarborough, Ontario M1H 3B7**

Tel (416) 439-7111
Fax (416) 439-6999
TDD (416) 439-7321

Mission Statement

Scarborough Women's Centre facilitates the empowerment of any woman who wants to leave an abusive or isolating situation, so that she can implement long term positive changes with confidence

What is Disability?

The Ontario Human Rights Code defines disability as.

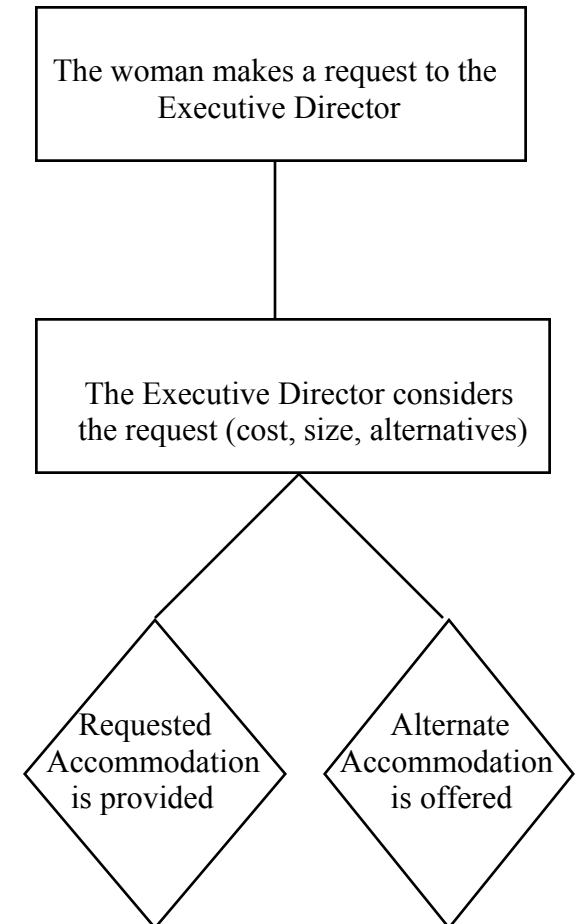
- ◆ any degree of physical disability, infirmity, malformation or disfigurement that is caused by bodily injury, birth defect or illness and, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, includes diabetes mellitus, epilepsy, a brain injury, any degree of paralysis, amputation, lack of physical coordination, blindness or visual impediment, deafness or hearing impediment, muteness or speech impediment or physical reliance on guide dog or other animal or on a wheelchair or other remedial appliance or device,
- ◆ a condition of mental impairment or a developmental disability,
- ◆ a learning disability, or a dysfunction of one or more of the processes involved in understanding or using symbols or spoken languages,
- ◆ a mental disorder,
- ◆ an injury or disability for which benefits were claimed or received under the insurance plan established under the Workplace Safety and Insurance Act 1997; (“handicap”)

How can the Centre accommodate women with disabilities?

Examples:

- ◆ The Centre will assist you in different ways (over the phone, through mail/e-mail, by fax, in person)
- ◆ The Centre will encourage women with disabilities to bring supports to the Centre to help them participate in activities (eg: an attendant)
- ◆ The Centre post signs designating rooms and spaces and other information
- ◆ The Centre’s Office will maintain aisles and pathways wide enough to accommodate women in wheelchairs, including a wash-room
- ◆ Staff and volunteers of the Centre will be trained to provide more effective services to women with disabilities

How can a woman request accommodation at the Centre?



Copies of the entire Accommodation Policy for Service Users can be obtained by contacting the Executive Director.