

"To support and champion Independent Living for persons with disabilities through self-directed services and programs."

Media Release

Waterloo Region to host National AccessAbility Week Tradeshow and Conference 2025

WATERLOO, ON – May 20, 2025 - To celebrate National AccessAbility Week, Independent Living Waterloo Region (ILWR) and community partners of the Life Made Accessible committee are excited to announce this year's Accessibility Tradeshow and Conference will take place on May 28, 2025 at RIM Park in Waterloo.

"We're bringing together innovators, professionals and experts to showcase the latest advancements in accessibility," said Dan Lajoie, Manager, Independent Living Resources. "Thanks to the NAAW Planning Committee and supporters, the approximately 100,000 people with disabilities in Waterloo Region will benefit from the National AccessAbility Week Tradeshow with access to life-changing products and resources offered at the event."

This year's show promises something for everyone. Expect cutting-edge technology, networking opportunities and a wide variety of everyday products and services that support people with disabilities. The day will include a tradeshow element, a Sensory Room filled with adaptive toys and sensory aids, and two panel discussions entitled 'Interdependence and Breaking Down Social Barriers' and 'Creative, Community Connections'.

"I'm proud to be part of a government who supports National Accessibility Week (NAAW) programming. The National Accessibility Week Tradeshow and Conference is led by Independent Living Waterloo Region, the City of Waterloo, the City of Kitchener, the City of Cambridge, and the NAAW Committee. These partnerships demonstrate the importance of accessibility and working towards each person being able to reach their potential." – MP Bardish Chagger.

"We're thrilled to be hosting the Accessibility Conference and Tradeshow in Waterloo! Accessibility is not just about planning for today, it's about building a world that empowers everyone, both now and in the future, ensuring no one is left behind. This work reflects our shared commitment to accessibility, equity, inclusion, and removing the barriers that prevent full participation for people with disabilities." – Dorothy McCabe, Mayor of Waterloo.

The Life Made Accessible committee comprises Independent Living Waterloo Region, the City of Waterloo, the City of Kitchener, the City of Cambridge, Community Support Connections, Canadian Hearing Services, KW Habilitation, KW AccessAbility and Bridges to Belonging.



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