



Our Shared Path to a Barrier-Free Canada: A Resource Guide

Curated by Ruth @ AccessAble Accessibility Consulting

Why We Do This (Our Values)

Accessibility isn't just a checkbox or a set of legal hurdles to jump over. To me, it's about **dignity, autonomy, and policy integrity**. As a **Chartered Insurance Professional (CIP)**, I see the risks that others miss – not just the technical bugs, but the human barriers in your contracts, forms, and client processes that leave people behind.

My mission is simple: To help you move beyond basic compliance so that every person who interacts with your organization feels seen, respected, and included.

I. Navigating the Rules (The Legal Foundation)

Canada's laws are evolving to ensure no one is left out. Here is the roadmap for your region:

- *The Federal Standard:* [Accessible Canada Act \(ACA\)](#) – Our collective goal for a barrier-free country by 2040.
- *International Best Practice:* [WCAG 2.2 Quick Reference](#) – Think of this as the "Building Code" for the internet. It focuses on making things **POUR**: Perceivable, Operable, Understandable, and Robust.

Provincial Legislation (Where You Operate):

- [Ontario \(AODA\)](#) | [Manitoba \(AMA\)](#) | [Nova Scotia](#) | [British Columbia](#) | [Newfoundland & Labrador](#) | [Saskatchewan](#)

II. Simple Ways to Start Today ("Quick Wins")

You don't need to be a coder to start making an impact. These small shifts make a world of difference:

- *Clear Language, Clear Minds*: Use the [ISO Plain Language Standard](#) to reduce cognitive load in your contracts. It's better for everyone, especially neurodivergent clients.
- *Check Before You Send*: Use the built-in [Microsoft Accessibility Checker](#) in Word or PPT. It's like a spell-checker for inclusion.
- **The Color Test**: Use the [WebAIM Contrast Checker](#) to ensure your text isn't vibrating or disappearing into the background for low-vision readers.

III. Let's Learn Together (2026 Community Sessions)

Sometimes the best way to start is just to show up and ask questions. No judgment, just progress.

- *Monthly Coffee Chats (\$25)*: 45 minutes of casual Q&A. We troubleshoot real-world barriers together.
- *Quarterly Expert Training (\$50)*: 60-minute deep dives. We go from "What is WCAG?" to "How do I fix this PDF?".

IV. When You Need a Human Layer (Strategic Services)

Free tools are great, but they only catch about **30-40% of the risks**. For the other 60%, you need a human perspective.

- *Policy Risk Snapshot (\$199-\$299)*: I'll audit one key page (like your contact form) and tell you exactly where the "policy cracks" are and what they cost you in legal risk.
- *ND Workplace Inclusion Audit*: A deep look at your internal culture to ensure your neurodivergent employees can thrive, not just survive.

Ready to take the next step?

I'm here to be your partner in this journey. Whether it's a \$25 chat or a full-scale audit, let's make sure your "digital front door" is open to everyone.

Pick a time that works for you: [Calendly - AccessAble](#)