

Appendix A: 2024 Outdoor Accessibility Fest-for-All Exhibitor Feedback

16 of 33 responded

The event goal "To raise awareness around opportunities that promotes inclusion in activities, services and spaces for people with varying levels of ability" was the focus of the day.

- 14 Strongly Agree
- 2 Agree

Overall, the event was worthwhile.

- 15 Strongly Agree
- 1 Agree

If this event is held again, our organization would participate.

- 16 Yes

I would recommend participating in this event to other organizations.

- 15 Yes
- 1 Maybe

I would recommend connecting with the following organization(s):

- More medical supply companies.
- More companies that provide services for accessibility.
- Funders like March of Dimes."
- All Levels CrossFit to bring attention to their Adaptive program.
- WEEG - Windsor Essex Employment Group (supports people with disabilities)
- BIAWE - Brain Injury Association Windsor Essex"
- Windsor Essex Chamber of Commerce - Windsor Advocacy Committee
- Windsor Family Network - Tina Szymczak
- Ontario Provincial Police Community Safety Officers
- Bayshore Personal Support Workers

How did you learn about this event?

- 3 Word of Mouth
- 10 Email
- 3 Other - Please specify: contacted by County

The duration of the event was:

- 16 Right Length

We are looking for suggestions on how to advertise this event. Please enter any ideas you have.

- Social Media and Radio.
- In Amherstburg we would recommend the Rivertown Times. I've also heard from a childcare provider that they would have loved to visit as they have a child with accessibility needs. Perhaps I would also reach out to the school boards for the flyer to be included in places with Edsby.
- News outlets (CTV, CBC, radio, etc) , municipal social medias
- Ask participating org's to share to their social media
- Earlier advertising not just on social media but also flyers making it more known to residents that do not receive supports but may need them in the future
- Social media, other markets/festivals or similar events
- "These were likely done to a certain extent already but I would recommend adding additional focus to:
- Leveraging exhibitor social media platforms by supplying ready made posts for them to use well in advance of the event
- Source some very good prize donations that can be given away at different points throughout the event but advertised well in advance.
- Grow the database of Accessibility Group contacts for municipalities throughout Ontario and make sure they receive email invites for their members and communities well in advance of the event."
- Post in local news paper. Asking other organizations to share this event information.
- Targeted mailing, sponsored social media posts, interviews with local news/radio stations

What did you most appreciate, enjoy or think was the best? Do you have some suggestions for improvement?

- The weather was great.
- Just keep growing it. It should grow with an annual event."
- I loved that the vendors got a chance to meet one another, the exhibits/demos were awesome and the location was SO great!
- Loved the variety of events for the public (ie. gardening, yoga, etc). Community members were able to see what the region offers them.

- "The event was very well run. I appreciate the hard work put in by organizers.
- It was great to have the help of workers.
- Maybe on a weekend, in a more centralized location to attract more attendance and diversity."
- You can never predict the weather but it sure was the perfect summer/fall day for this event!
- As a participant, it is valuable to connect with the other exhibitors, network and learn what services are available
- Already very organized but would like to see more older people out to the event also I enjoyed the basketball game and the interactive events such as doing a flower pot We enjoyed cooking for all
- The event ran smoothly, and we appreciate how much support there was. From the moment we arrived, there was a Town of Essex Employee helping to unload and ensure we knew where our table was located. We also appreciated the support with set-up and tear-down, there were multiple people to assist without even asking which helped keep things on time and avoid long delays.
- I liked the demonstrations - they were fun to watch.
- I loved the organization of the event. Everything was clear and straightforward, so many people were helpful, there were no interruptions to our day as everything went smoothly - even people helping us take down our tent. I was so impressed.
- The attendees were wonderful but it was the Organizing Committee and Volunteers that truly stood out for their commitment and hard work. Special mention goes out to both Crystal Sylvestre and Aaron Swartz for their work that helped ensure that our experience was a very, very good one!
- We appreciated the help to setup. Getting a food vendor present might be beneficial.
- This was an amazing event. My only suggestion would be the location. I believe centralizing the event would increase traffic.
- Loved that it was outdoors (I just need to purchase a tent for next year lol)
- "The wide range of events/activities made for a great day that flew by quickly! There was a great, diverse group of organizations, companies, and municipalities - these booths were an eye opener not only to accessibility, but to how many events/initiatives go on around Essex County that people have no idea about.

- I personally think the duration of the event was just right, but I did notice a few people trickle in when we were packing up, upset that they missed the event."

Were there any barriers encountered that could be considered for the next event?

- No
- None from us
- No.
- No. Very well planned.
- No barriers that I noticed. I know that parking is difficult in that area but it was managed well with people being dropped off and spaces being open.
- Transportation is always a challenge! We covered the cost of approximately \$350.00 for about 15 ALSO clients to attend. Perhaps there could be transportation made available from a central city location to the event. This could help more people with disabilities to get out.
- I didn't see any
- Accessible transportation. This is a barrier across Windsor Essex leaving many unable to attend these great events. Accessible transportation has limited options, the ones that do exist are inflexible in terms of pick-up and drop-offs and are expensive for the clientele base they are trying to serve. We ended up partnering with another provider and covering the cost for the clients to attend, but the bus had limited seating so not everyone could attend.
- I received a little bit of feedback from the guests that the event could have been better attended had it been run on a weekend. I know it's challenging to get vendors for weekends, but I thought I would share.
- I think the timing of it could be improved - outside of work hours so more people can attend
- The possibility of rain is the only thing that might have adversely impacted the event but the weather was perfect.

What type of event would you like to see the ECAAC host in the future?

- Presentation of upcoming accessible technologies can be interesting
- This should be an annual event!