

## Human Resources Legislative Update

### AODA Accessible Built Environment: Consultation Paper on Proposed Changes to Building Code Released

**Date:** January 9, 2013

The Ontario government has released [a consultation paper](#) on proposed changes to the barrier-free design requirements of Ontario's *Building Code*. The proposed *Building Code* changes arise from the development of built environment accessibility standards under the [Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005](#) ("AODA"). The consultation process focuses on certain key accessibility requirements, including:

- Renovations
- Barrier-free path of travel (common access and circulation)
- Vertical access (elevators)
- Visitable suites in multi-unit residential buildings
- Adaptable design and construction
- Visual fire alarms
- Washrooms
- Use of educational materials and resources

[As previously reported](#), the AODA Integrated Accessibility Standards regulation was recently amended with the addition of new built environment standards on the design of public spaces.

The government [has invited comment](#) on the consultation paper and potential technical changes, to be received no later than March 1, 2013.