

For Immediate Release

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## **Creating a More Accessible City**

Mount Pearl to Host Universal Design Workshop to Make City More Inclusive

**MOUNT PEARL, NL** – On January 21, 2016, the City of Mount Pearl will host a Universal Design Workshop to discuss broad-spectrum ideas that relate to community design which support environments that are inherently accessible to older people and people with disabilities. No other municipality in the province has hosted a workshop of this kind.

“Our plan is to make universal design a strategic initiative of Council. This innovative workshop will help us to discover ways that we can design our City to be more inclusive and accessible to everyone,” says Mayor Randy Simms.

The workshop will identify elements of universal design that could be incorporated into the City’s policies, regulations and standards and are reflective of the Newfoundland and Labrador context. The workshop will allow participants to look at new standards for buildings, subdivisions, landscaping, infrastructure and public spaces.

“Council realizes that universal design extends beyond residential projects and affects development and infrastructure in both the public realm and private property,” continues Mayor Simms.

The workshop will take place at the Mount Pearl Soccer Hut on January 21 at 9:00 am. Members of all three levels of government, community groups, the construction industry and members of the public will be in attendance. For more information, or to register, contact Christopher Hardy at 748-1106 or [chardy@mountpearl.ca](mailto:chardy@mountpearl.ca)

### **About the City of Mount Pearl**

Mount Pearl is the second largest city in Newfoundland and Labrador, and leads the way as an independent, progressive, family-oriented and business-friendly city. The City of Mount Pearl provides outstanding municipal services and community programs.

### **About Universal Design**

Universal design involves designing products and spaces so that they can be used by the widest range of people possible. Universal design recognizes that there is a wide spectrum of human abilities. Everyone, even the most able-bodied person, passes through childhood, periods of temporary illness, injury and old age. By designing for this human diversity, universal design creates things that will be easier for all people to use.

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#### **Media contact:**

Maggie Hynes  
Communications and Marketing  
Officer City of Mount Pearl  
T 709-748-1009  
M 709-226-0858  
[mhynes@mountpearl.ca](mailto:mhynes@mountpearl.ca)

#### **For comment, contact:**

Mayor Randy Simms  
T 709-748-1080  
M 709-770-9003  
[rsimms@mountpearl.ca](mailto:rsimms@mountpearl.ca)