



**UNITED LUMBER AND BUILDING SUPPLIES COMPANY LIMITED**

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**UNITED TRUSS**

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<p><b>Title: AODA Customer Service Policy</b></p>	<p><b>Written By:</b> Health &amp; Safety Manager  <b>Date:</b> November 7, 2013</p> <p><b>Approved By:</b> General Manager  <b>Date:</b> November 12, 2013</p> <p><b>Current Version:</b> 03  <b>Last Revision Date:</b> November 6, 2023  <b>Last Date Reviewed:</b> November 6, 2023</p>
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**SCOPE:**

This policy applies to all employees, co-op students and volunteers.

**DEFINITIONS:**

**Assistive Devices:** A device used by a person with a disability used to carry out activities or in accessing goods and services. Examples include wheelchairs, canes, crutches, hearing aids, and real-time captioning services (on-screen typing of what speakers are saying).

**Disability:** As defined under the Ontario Human Rights Code, as follows:

- (a) any degree of physical disability, infirmity, malformation or disfigurement that is caused by bodily injury, birth defect or illness and, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, includes diabetes mellitus, epilepsy, a brain injury, any degree of paralysis, amputation, lack of physical co-ordination, blindness or visual impediment, deafness or hearing impediment, muteness or speech impediment, or physical reliance on a guide dog or other animal or on a wheelchair or other remedial appliance or device,
- (b) a condition of mental impairment or a developmental disability,
- (c) a learning disability, or a dysfunction in one or more of the processes involved in understanding or using symbols or spoken language,
- (d) a mental disorder, or

(e) an injury or disability for which benefits were claimed or received under the insurance plan established under the *Workplace Safety and Insurance Act, 1997*; (“handicap”).

**Service Animal:** any animal used by a person with a disability for reasons relating to the disability where

- a) it is readily apparent that the animal is used by the person for reasons relating to his or her disability; or
- b) the person provides documentation from a regulated health professional confirming that he or she requires the animal for reasons relating to his or her disability; or
- c) a valid identification card signed by the Attorney General of Canada or a certificate of training from a recognized guide dog or service animal training school.

**Support Person:** in relation to a person with a disability, another person who accompanies him or her in order to help with communications, mobility, personal care or medical needs or with access to goods or services. In situations where confidential information might be discussed, consent must be obtained from the customer before any potentially confidential information is mentioned in the presence of the support person.

**Policy:**

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United Lumber & Building Supplies Co. Ltd. is committed to preventing, identifying and removing any barriers that could impede the ability of people with disabilities to access care and services. More specifically, United Lumber & Building Supplies Co. Ltd. will use every reasonable effort to ensure that its policies, practices and procedures are consistent with the following principles:

1. That goods or services must be provided in a manner that respects the dignity and independence of persons with disabilities.
2. That the provision of goods or services to persons with disabilities and others must be integrated unless an alternate measure is necessary, whether temporarily or on a permanent basis, to enable a person with a disability to obtain, use or benefit from the goods or services.
3. That persons with disabilities must be given an opportunity equal to that given to others to obtain, use and benefit from the goods or services.
4. When communicating with a person with a disability, all employees shall do so in a manner that takes into account the person’s disability.
5. Every effort will be made by employees to accommodate and assist a person with a disability in the use of any form of assistive device or service, including the use of service animals and support persons, so that the person will be

able to obtain, use or benefit from the company's goods or services.

### **Use of Service Animals:**

Service animals are permitted access to all areas of United Lumber & Building Supplies Co. Ltd facilities open to the public, unless specifically prohibited by law. If a service animal is excluded by law from the premises, every effort will be made to provide the person with a disability with the ability to obtain, use or benefit from access to goods or services through another means. If it is not easily identified that the animal is a service animal, documentation from a regulated professional can be requested.

### **Use of Support Persons:**

If a person with a disability is accompanied by a support person, both persons are permitted to enter United Lumber & Building Supplies Co. Ltd. public areas together and shall not be prevented from having access to each other while on the premises.

If deemed necessary by United Lumber & Building Supplies Co. Ltd. for the protection of the health and safety of the person with a disability or the health and safety of others on the premises, a support person may be required for the person with a disability while on the premises. Before making a decision, the person with disability will be consulted to understand their needs. Based on the evidence, health and safety reasons will be considered to determine if there is no other reasonable way to protect the health or safety of the person with disability or others on the premises.

### **Notice of Disruptions:**

From time to time, the facilities used by persons with a disability to access United Lumber & Building Supplies Co. Ltd's goods or services, may not be available for utilization. Examples include a closed entrance with a wheelchair ramp, an elevator, and accessible washrooms. When this occurs, either on a planned or unplanned basis, notice shall be posted at a conspicuous place on the premises. Such notice shall include the reason for the disruption, its anticipated duration and a description of alternative facilities or services, if any, that are available.

### **Training:**

United Lumber & Building Supplies Co. Ltd. shall ensure, on an ongoing basis, that every employee, agent, volunteer or other who provides goods or services to the public on behalf of the Company, and every person who participates in developing the Company's policies, practices and procedures governing the provision of goods and services to the public, shall receive training about the provision of its goods or services to persons with disabilities.

Training shall be provided to each person upon hire, and shall be provided on an ongoing basis in connection with changes to the policies, practices and procedures governing the provision of goods or services to persons with disabilities.

The training provided shall include:

- a) How to interact and communicate with persons with various types of disability.
- b) How to interact with persons with disabilities who use an assistive device or require the assistance of a guide dog or other service animal or the assistance of a support person.
- c) How to use equipment or devices available on United Lumber & Building Supplies Co. Ltd. premises or otherwise provided by the Company that may help with the provision of goods or services to a person with a disability.
- d) What to do if a person with a particular type of disability is having difficulty accessing the Company's goods or services.

A detailed record will be kept by United Lumber & Building Supplies Co. Ltd. of the content, dates offered and attendance at its training sessions.

#### **Feedback Process:**

In order to ensure that United Lumber & Building Supplies Co. Ltd. is receiving and responding to feedback from the public about the manner in which it provides goods and services to persons with disabilities, the public is encouraged to contact the Company as follows:

In Person: United Lumber & Building Supplies Co. Ltd  
(At the location for which the feedback is applicable)  
Please address your concerns to the Store Manager or Supervisor on duty.

By phone: United Lumber & Building Supplies Co. Ltd  
(Phone numbers are listed in the letterhead).  
Please address your concerns to the Store Manager or Supervisor on duty.

By E-mail: Please address your concerns to the applicable email address:  
[social@unitedlumber.ca](mailto:social@unitedlumber.ca)

By Mail: United Lumber & Building Supplies Co. Ltd  
(Addresses' are listed in the letterhead).  
Please address your concerns to the Store Manager or Supervisor on duty.

All feedback will be reviewed and a written reply, by mail or e-mail, will be sent to the person(s) providing the feedback. Accessible formats and communication supports for feedback processes will be available on request.

**Documentation:**

A copy of this Policy will be available on the Company's website and will be provided to any person upon request, in a format that takes into consideration the person's disability, if any. A notice to this effect will be on the Company's website and informational brochures will be available to customers at the sales desk/cash, in stores, and the reception window at the truss plant.

**EMPLOYEE RESPONSIBILITIES:**

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- Forward all public feedback to the Store Manager
- Comply with the policy

**MANAGER RESPONSIBILITIES:**

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- Ensure all staff receive the appropriate training upon hire
- Retain training records for employee files
- Post notice of disruption when applicable
- Formally respond to all feedback from the public
- Ensure that customer AODA brochures are displayed and available at the sales desk (for stores) or reception window (for truss plant).

**HEALTH & SAFETY MANAGER:**

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- Assist Managers in responding to public feedback
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