

# Accessibility at OnWords & AGM

Vancouver, BC | June 1–4, 2017

---

Here are a few resources regarding accessibility for the 2017 OnWords Conference and Annual General Meeting June 1–4, 2017 in Vancouver.

**Allergies:** As a courtesy to attendees with chemical sensitivities, attendees should refrain from using scented products to help ensure the comfort of everyone at the conference.

**Nearest drug store:** The closest drug store to the Delta Vancouver Suites hotel is 240 m away at the Rexall at 499 Granville Street.

**Visual or hearing impairments:** There are seats available at the front of meeting rooms for members with hearing or visual impairments. Speakers have been asked to speak clearly and look at the audience during their presentations.

If you will be bringing an attendant or assistant with you please notify TWUC staff in advance of registration.

## Venue Locations

- 1) **Delta Vancouver Suites Hotel** — 550 W Hastings St
- 2) **Harbour Centre** — 515 W Hastings St  
Venue for most OnWords & AGM events
- 3) **Djavad Mowafaghian Cinema** at the Goldcorp Centre for the Arts — 149 W Hastings St  
Venue for Margaret Laurence Memorial Lecture
- 4) **Morris J. Wosk Centre for Dialogue** — 580 W Hastings St  
Venue for banquet



## Delta Vancouver Suites Hotel

The OnWords Conference hotel is the Delta Vancouver Suites at 550 West Hastings Street. The main entrance on Seymour Street is wheelchair accessible, but the Hastings Street entrance is not. The hotel is accessible by public transit. It has a multi-story parking arcade with accessible parking spots. There are a few rooms with grab bars in the bathtub and lowered counters so please call early to reserve if required.

The Delta Vancouver Suites is a short distance (21 m) from the Harbour Centre, where most of the OnWords and AGM events are taking place.

The hotel connects to the Morris J. Wosk Centre for Dialogue, where the banquet is being held on Saturday. There is walk-through access on the Main Level and Level 3, next to elevators (wide double glass doors, held open). The Level 3 entrance is normally kept locked but a request will be put in to keep it open during our event.

## SFU Harbour Centre

The OnWords Conference takes place at Simon Fraser University and most of the events are in the SFU Harbour Centre building at 515 West Hastings Street, across the street from the hotel.

Our events in this building will be in the Joseph and Rosalie Segal Centre (Rooms 1400-1430), the Fletcher Challenge Theatre (Room 1900), and the Xerox Conference Room (Room 1500).

**To find these rooms:** Enter the Harbour Centre on Hastings Street at the south end of the building. Head straight down the hall past the Belzberg Library.

- The **Fletcher Challenge Theater** (Room 1900) is to the left of the escalators. For the accessible entrance, continue down the hall to find the ramp leading to the door on the northeast end of the room. It is best to sit at the front of this room.
- If you go right to the back of the building and turn left at the Teck Gallery, you'll find the **Joseph and Rosalie Segal Centre** (Rooms 1400-1430). There is a heavy push door but staff will be available to assist when the doors are not open.
- Go straight to the end of the same hall and take a left turn to get to the **Xerox Conference Room** (Room 1500).

## **HALLWAYS**

The hallways have sufficient room for maneuverability.

## **ACCESSIBLE WASHROOMS**

All washrooms have lever push doors.

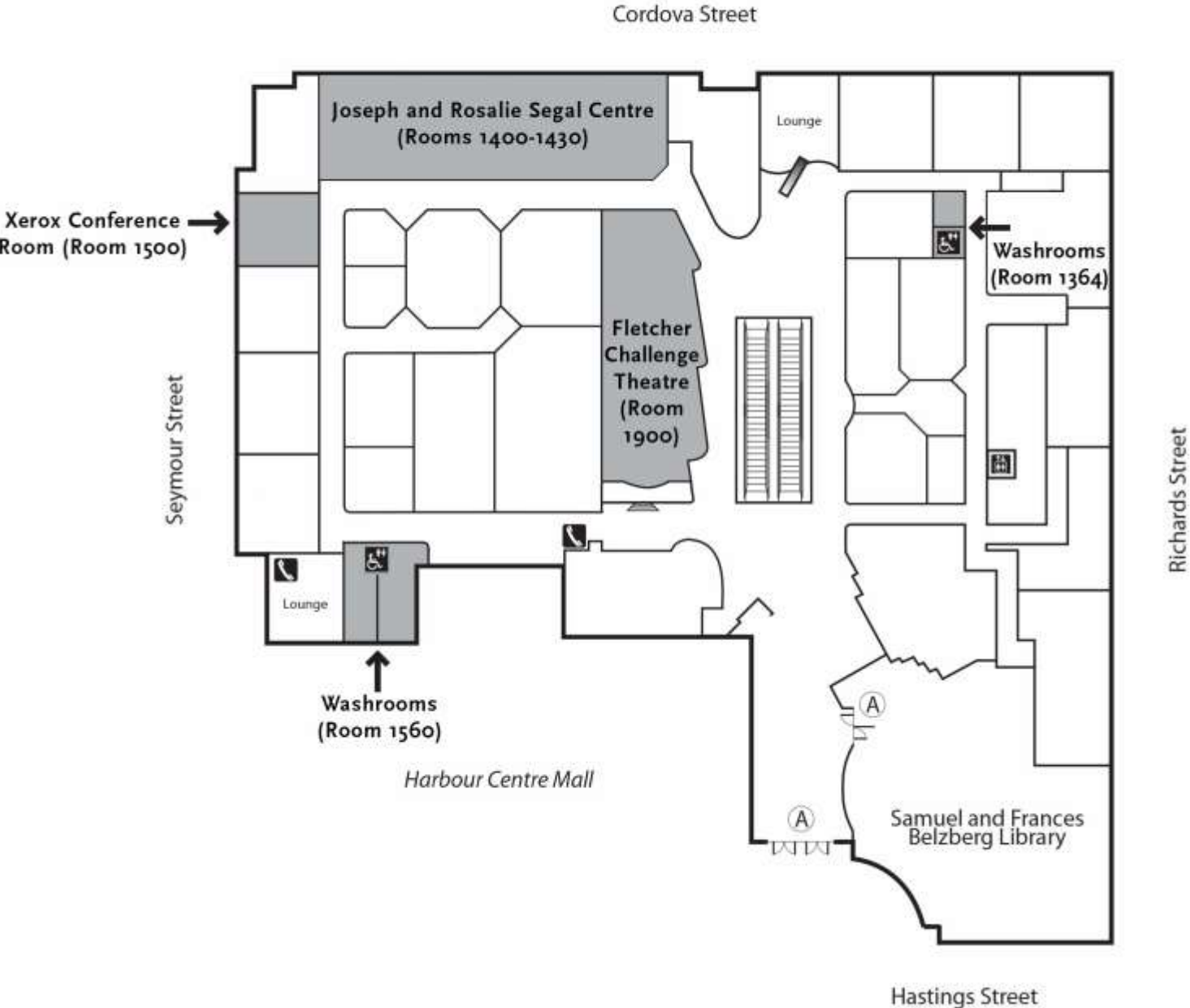
- **Women's & Men's (Room 1364)**, east corridor, north end (heavy lever push handle)
- **Women's & Men's (Room 1560)**, south corridor, west end, past BC Gas Trans Mountain Pipeline Cinema (lever push handle)

## **ACCESSIBLE TELEPHONES**

Telus pay phones and white House Phones are located throughout the campus at various locations. Both types of phones can be used to contact Harbour Centre security.

**Please see the floor plan of this venue on the following page.**

SFU Harbour Centre Floor Plan (Concourse Level)



## Djavad Mowafaghian Cinema (Goldcorp Centre for the Arts)

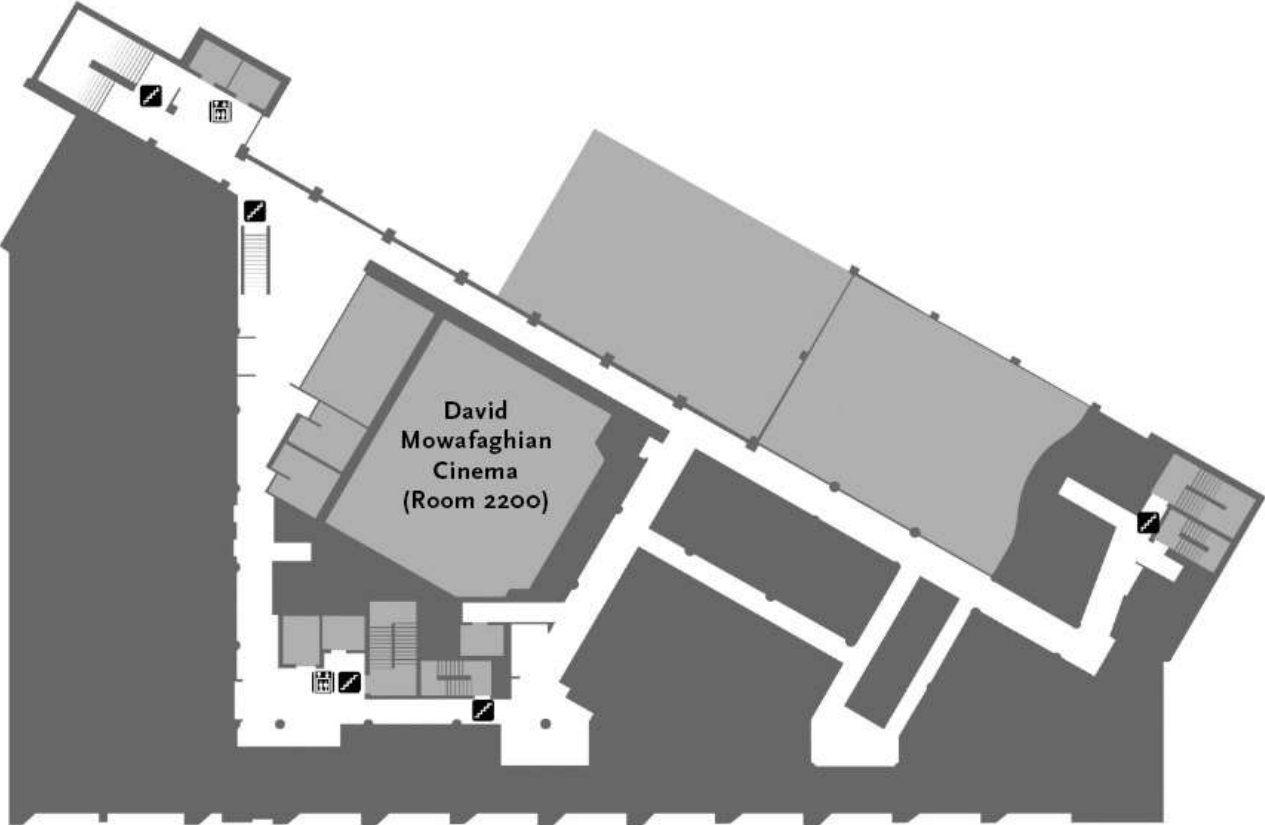
The Margaret Laurence Memorial Lecture will take place in the Djavad Mowafaghian Cinema in the Goldcorp Centre for the Arts at 149 W Hastings St. This is 350 m from the Delta.

The Cinema is an accessible room with a wheelchair designated seating space at the top of the cinema. **Please let us know in advance if you need access to the wheelchair designated seating space.**

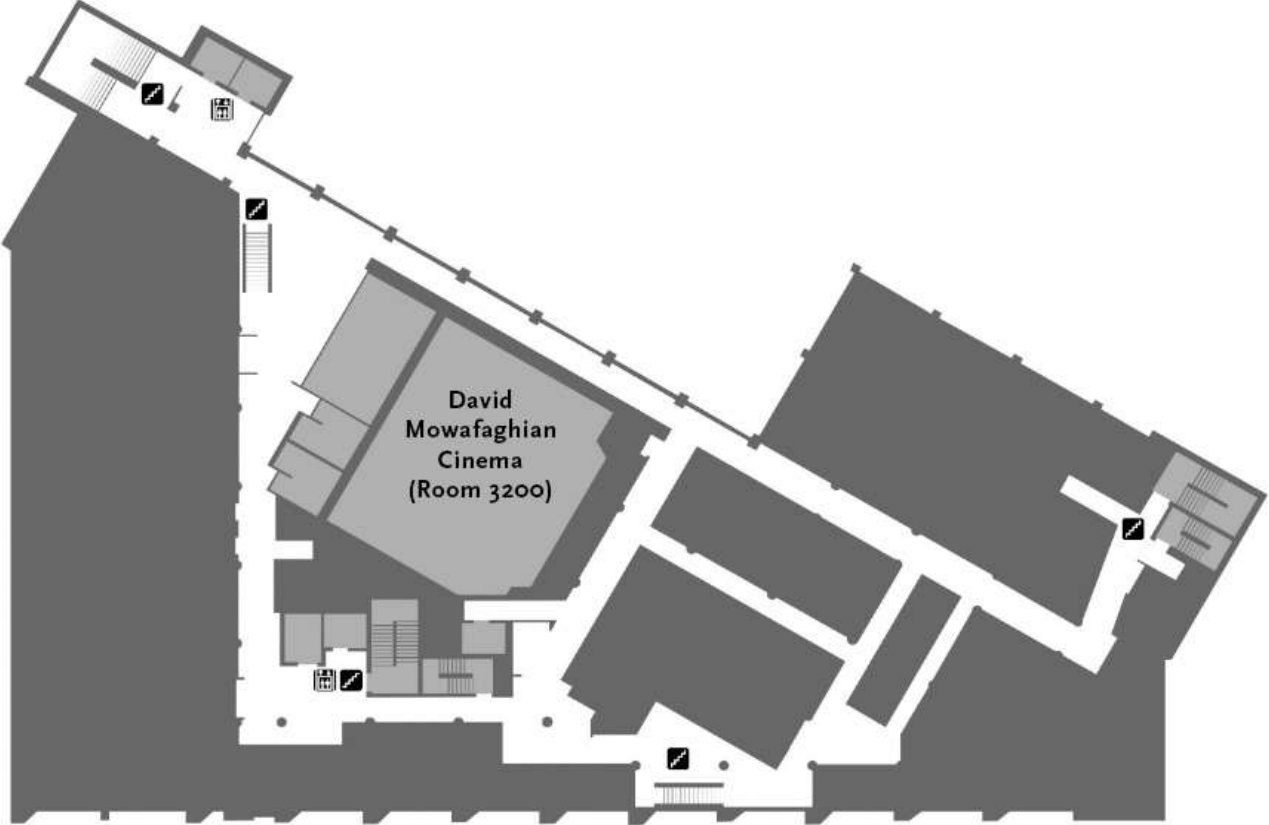
**Please see the floor plan of this venue on the following page.**

Goldcorp Centre for the Arts: Floor Plan

**Second Floor**



**Third Floor**



## Morris J. Wosk Centre for Dialogue

The Banquet is being held in the Morris J. Wosk Centre for Dialogue at 580 West Hastings Street on the concourse level.

There is building-to-building access between the Delta Vancouver Suites Hotel and the Morris J. Wosk Centre for Dialogue. There is walk-through access on the Main Level and Level 3, next to elevators (wide double glass doors, held open). The Level 3 entrance is normally kept locked but a request will be put in to keep it open during our event. Parking is also available in the hotel. Once you are in the Morris J. Wosk Centre, you can take the elevators to the concourse level.

### **HALLWAYS**

All hallways are level and provide plenty of maneuvering room.

### **ELEVATORS**

Southeast corner. Goes to levels C (concourse), 1 (Main), 2, 3, and 4. Has a very spacious interior.

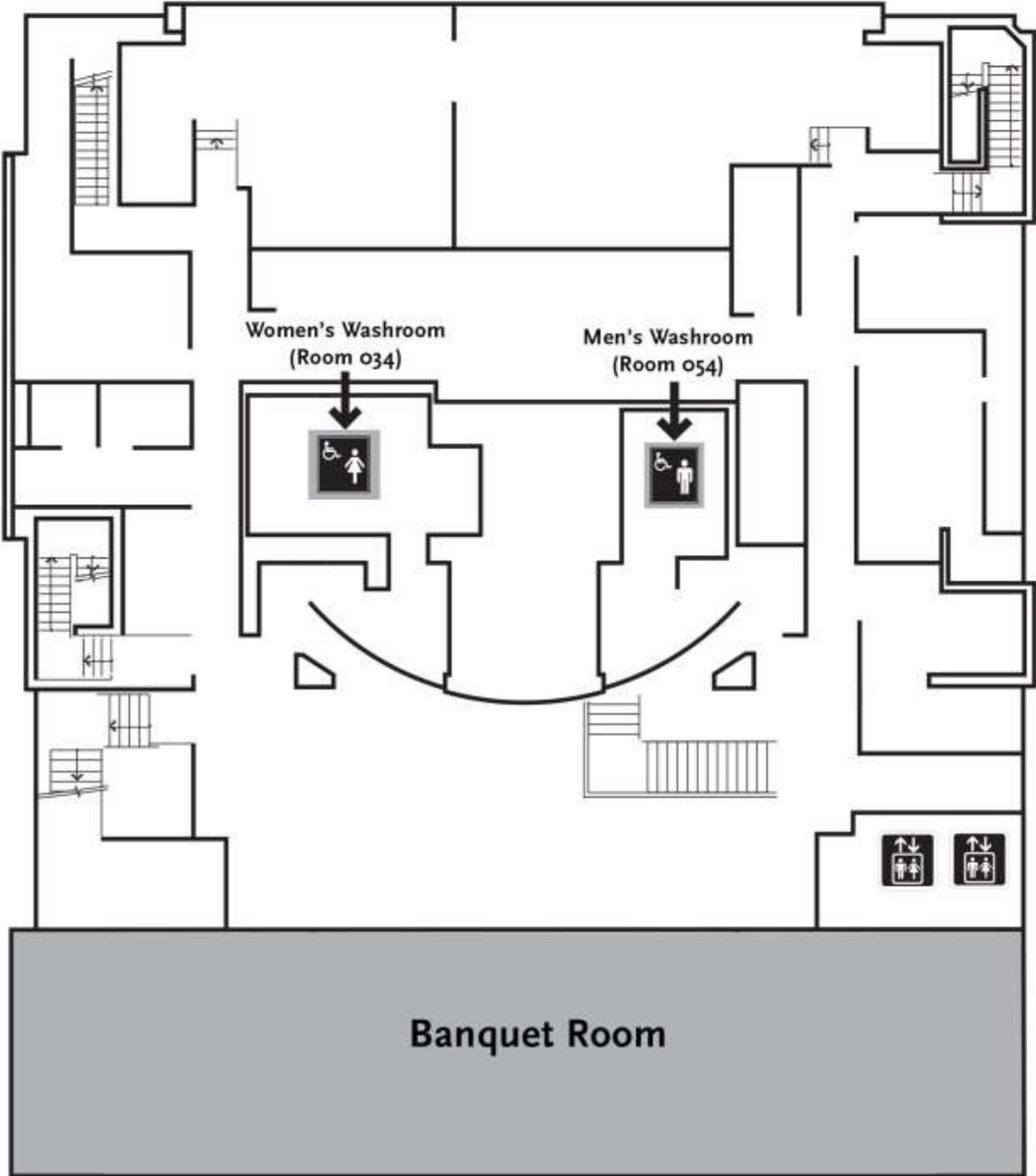
### **ACCESSIBLE WASHROOMS**

All accessible stalls have an emergency button to *PRESS FOR ASSISTANCE*.

- Concourse level: **Women's (Room 034)**, west side, centrally located / **Men's (Room 054)**, east side, centrally located (*AUTOMATIC DOOR* with push door activation).
- Level 3: **Women's (Room 378)**, east side, slightly south / **Men's (Room 388)**, east side, slightly north (push door).

Please see the floor plan of this venue on the following page.

Morris J. Wosk Centre for Dialogue: Floor Plan



## Accessibility in British Columbia

There is a website with information about accessibility in the province of British Columbia at <http://www.hellobc.com/british-columbia/about-bc/accessibility.aspx>

## City of Vancouver Transit

All the buses in the Vancouver transit system can accommodate 2 wheelchairs or mobility aids but not all transit stops are accessible. Call Customer Information at 604-953-3333 for assistance with route planning to find the nearest accessible bus stop to your starting point or destination. You can find additional transit information at <http://www.translink.ca/en/Rider-Guide/Accessible-Transit.aspx>

**SkyTrain:** SkyTrain stations and trains have special features designed to make the system safe and convenient for passengers with physical disabilities. All stations, with the temporary exception of Columbia, have elevators for people using wheelchairs. Please don't use wheelchairs on escalators under any circumstances.

### **Boarding the SkyTrain:**

- **Always enter** the train through the door with the wheelchair symbol marked on the exterior (usually on the second or fourth car in the direction of travel).
- **When inside**, position yourself in the wheelchair space provided.
- **Some cars have a flip-up seat** that can be raised to accommodate a wheelchair or scooter.
- **SkyTrain attendants** are trained to respond to requests for assistance.

Visit this page for transit accessibility info: <http://www.translink.ca/en/Rider-Guide/Accessible-Transit/Wheelchairs-and-Mobility-Aids.aspx>

## Taxis

Approximately 15% of Vancouver taxis are wheelchair accessible. Reservations are not required when requesting a lift-equipped vehicle but it may be prudent during busy periods.

## Airport

The Vancouver airport has customer care staff for assistance, an app to help you travel through the airport, accessible washrooms, an animal relief area outside International Arrivals at the entrance to Chester Johnson Park for service dogs, accessible phones, and a series of instructional videos to help you navigate through the airport. More info can be found here:

<http://www.yvr.ca/en/passengers/navigate-yvr/accessibility-at-yvr/at-the-airport>

## BC Ferries

The BC Ferries website includes accessibility information about travelling with and without a vehicle and applying for discount fares for BC residents. The details are available at

[http://www.bcferries.com/travel\\_planning/disabilities.html](http://www.bcferries.com/travel_planning/disabilities.html)

**If you have further questions or concerns, please contact the office staff:**

The Writers' Union of Canada

Phone: 416-703-8982

Email: [info@writersunion.ca](mailto:info@writersunion.ca)