

## Home and Vehicle Program

### Wheelchair Ramps

#### When to Consider a wheelchair ramp:

- When the height of the entrance is less than thirty inches
- When there is sufficient room to build at the front or back entrance
- When trying to manage the cost of the project

#### Specifications:

- Length is calculated at a minimum of 12:1 ratio (e.g., 30 inch rise = 30 foot ramp). 20:1 is ideal for self propellers.
- After 30 feet of length, require a mandatory landing for a rest area
- Requires a 5 X 5 level surface at the bottom and the top
- Require a side rail or railing for safety depending on the length of the ramp
- May require a threshold ramp to overcome door track
- Should have a non slip surface



#### How do I go about obtaining a ramp?

Contact the Niagara Children's Centre Home and Vehicle program if you would like a consultation. You typically require 2 quotes if you are applying for funding. You or the Occupational therapist can assist with setting up an appointment with the contractor of your choice to obtain quotes and determine who you would like to complete the work. The Social Worker can assist with funding options depending on your family income.

#### Considerations:

- Portable metal ramps may be suitable for small level changes (e.g., 10 foot ramp)
- Must be cleared of snow in the winter
- May be slippery in the winter
- May require a building permit if new construction (versus adding to the existing porch)
- Could be very long/visually intrusive and more physically demanding
- A ramp in the garage may be a viable option and won't require snow removal, etc.