

- A flat screen television is hidden in the historic kitchen and can be accessed quickly when needed.
- A DVD playing in the theatre can be viewed on the kitchen television and a separate DVD player is available on the main floor to show alternatives.
- A ceiling mounted camera was installed in the ceiling of the theatre and activity rooms in the basement. This allows interpretive presentations to be viewed live on the main floor television. Interpreters wear microphones so that they can be heard as well as seen.
- The video tour and photo album continue to be used for interpretation of the top floor.
- The hidden television has been useful for all visitors as we can now show DVDs to general visitors when school programs are taking place in the basement or show an alternative language.
- The pathway to the historic house was paved to provide better access and a path to the outdoor tea area was widened and improved for wheelchairs and walkers. Both these improvements benefitted all visitors.
- Two of the DVD/videos are captioned and work is being done to caption all AV presentations.
- Accessible washrooms and a sheltered picnic area are currently under construction on the grounds of Woodside.

Access at Woodside

- Woodside National Historic Site is the boyhood home of William Lyon Mackenzie King, Canada's tenth and longest serving prime minister. He was born in Kitchener (known as Berlin) and lived at Woodside from the age of 11 to 17.
- Woodside has been open to the public since 1952 and operated by Parks Canada since 1954. The original home was taken down and reconstructed in the same location with information provided by Mackenzie King and his sister.
- The basement has been used for visitor services for many years. It has a presentation space, activity area and currently the only public washrooms.
- Previous work to improve access took place in the 1990s when a path was constructed from the parking lot to the historic house. The path was sloped to remove a step up onto the porch at the main door. The picnic area was also graded and a wheel chair accessible picnic table was added.
- A small television/vcr combo was purchased so visitors could watch videos in the historic kitchen on the main floor if they could not go to the basement area. With advance notice a video camera system could be set up so that interpretive presentations in the basement could be viewed on the main floor.
- The top floor of the historic house is accessed by stairs with a low rise which some visitors find easier to climb. For anyone unable to climb stairs there is some alternatives. A video tour of the top floor was recorded in English and in French which can be shown with the same television system used to show other presentations.
- An album of professional photos of the top floor was also created to show anyone unable to climb the stairs to the top floor.
- In 2003 the basement visitor area was renovated. A stair lift mechanism and a wheelchair accessible washroom were considered as ways to improve access but could not be installed.
- Instead the previous video camera and television system was upgraded and made permanent and easier to use.