



MINUTES OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ACCESSIBILITY AND INCLUSION MEETING

April 17, 2025

1:00 pm

2nd Floor Conference Room of City Hall
1100 Patricia Boulevard, Prince George, BC

*We respectfully acknowledge the unceded ancestral lands of the Lheidli T'enneh,
on whose land we live, work and play.*

PRESENT: Ken Biron <Chair>
Amy Blanding
Roberta Chartrand
Irina Doering <Zoom>
Samantha Hermanson
Allyshia Berger <Zoom>
Moe Hopkins
Joleen Warmerdam

IN ATTENDANCE: Councillor Susan Scott
Councillor Ron Polillo <1:02 p.m. – 1:29 p.m.>
Robyn McConkey, Parks Services Supervisor
Sarah Brown, Supervisor of Community Well-Being and Partnerships/ Staff Liaison
Maria Paulson, Civic Initiatives Coordinator
Elisha Leclair, Information and Records Coordinator

A. COMMENCEMENT

The meeting of the Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusion was called to order at 1:02 p.m.

B. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved By K. Biron
Seconded By A. Blanding

That the agenda for the April 17, 2025 meeting of the Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusion, BE ADOPTED.

Carried Unanimously

C. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

C.1 Minutes from the Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusion Meeting held January 16, 2025

Moved By A. Blanding
Seconded By S. Hermanson

That the minutes of the Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusion meeting held January 16, 2025 be adopted as read on this day and that such minutes as read set out all the business before the committee at that meeting and fully and properly record all of the resolutions passed by the committee at that meeting.

Carried Unanimously

D. NEW BUSINESS

D.1 Parking Modernization Study Presentation

Robert Keel and Amelia Crichton, LEA Consulting Ltd., presented their Parking Modernization Study and gathered feedback from the committee with key discussion questions regarding concerns with availability of accessible parking in Downtown Prince George, how the design of accessible parking could be improved, and personal experience with parking operations or enforcement of accessible parking.

Moved By A. Blanding

Seconded By S. Hermanson

The Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusion:

1. REQUESTS that the committee discontinue the use of the term “stakeholder”, recognizing its colonial connotations and instead adopt a more inclusive alternative such as “interested and affected parties” or “interest holders”.
2. DIRECTS that this language shift be included in the committee’s annual report to Council and RECOMMENDS that Council consider adopting similar inclusive terminology.

Carried Unanimously

Councillor Ron Polillo left 2nd Floor Conference Room at 1:29 p.m.

D.2 Roundtable of Introductions

A roundtable of introductions was conducted.

D.3 Overview of Committees, Commissions, and Boards

Elisha Leclair, Information and Records Coordinator, provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding an “Overview of Committees, Commissions, and Boards”.

Moved By A. Blanding

Seconded By J. Warmerdam

The Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusion RECEIVES FOR INFORMATION the presentation regarding an "Overview of Committees, Commissions, and Boards" as attached to the April 17, 2025 committee meeting agenda.

Carried Unanimously

D.4 Appointment of Chair and Vice-Chair

Moved By I. Doering

Seconded By A. Blanding

That the Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusion NOMINATES AND APPOINTS Ken Biron as Chair for the term beginning April 1, 2025 and ending March 31, 2026.

Moved By I. Doering

Seconded By S. Hermanson

That the Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusion NOMINATES AND APPOINTS Amy Blanding as Vice-Chair for the term beginning April 1, 2025 and ending March 31, 2026.

Carried Unanimously

D.5 Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusion Orientation

Maria Paulson, Civic Initiatives Coordinator, presented an orientation for the Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusion

The committee inquired when planning would start for the BC Accessibility 2027-2030 Work Plan. Staff advised the committee planning would soon commence and that their Work Plan approved by Council would remain unaffected for this year.

D.6 Proposed SPARC BC Local Community Accessibility Grant Application

Moved By A. Blanding

Seconded By I. Doering

That the Committee REQUESTS Administration submit a grant application to SPARC BC Local Community Assessment Grant Stream 1 regarding City of Prince George project entitled “Update Accessibility Assessments of Civic Facilities: Work Plan for Accessibility Improvements”; and AUTHORIZES the Committee Chair to prepare and provide a letter in support of the grant application on behalf of the Committee.

Carried Unanimously

E. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

E.1 Next Committee Meeting: July 17, 2025

The Committee was advised the deadline to submit agenda materials including their background material to legislativeservices@princegeorge.ca in their final form is 12:00 p.m., Monday, July 7, 2025.

F. ADJOURNMENT

THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ACCESSIBILITY AND INCLUSION MEETING ADJOURNED AT 2:26 p.m.

K. Biron, Chair

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