



Minutes

Accessibility Advisory Committee

February 21, 2024

Electronic Meeting

Members: B. Barra-Berger, C. Davies, N. Davison, R. DiGiovanni, S. Foglia,
L. Gold, L. Hulme-Smith, B. Keshen, K. Malsi, A. Musavi,
V. Spatafora, A. Tocco, T. Vegh, S. Wollin

Staff: D. Aragundi, K. Bacani-Angus, L. Brooks, C. Clark, J. Gentles,
A. Griepsma, K. Heathcote, M. Herder, T. Kirkwood, D. Kuzmyk,
A. Lauzon, V. Navolsky, L. Rahman, M. Saule, I. Soneji,
E. Straughan, K. Wishart, B. Wu

Other: YRP Attendees: V. Aguiar, R. Keay, D. MacDonald, A. Snowball

A. Call to Order

Regional Councillor Vegh called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.

B. Land Acknowledgement

Regional Councillor Vegh made the following acknowledgement:

We acknowledge that York Region is located on the traditional territory of many Indigenous peoples including the Anishinaabeg, Haudenosaunee, Huron-Wendat and Métis peoples and the treaty territories of the Haudenosaunee, Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation and Williams Treaties First Nations.

Today this area is home to many diverse Indigenous Peoples, and we recognize their history, spirituality, culture and stewardship of this land.

We also acknowledge the Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation as our closest First Nation community.

C. Election of Vice Chair

Committee appointed Robert DiGiovanni as Vice Chair of the York Region Accessibility Advisory Committee for the year 2024.

D. Disclosures of Interest

None

E. Accessibility Updates

E.1 Update on Accessibility Activities

Committee received the following verbal updates from Kim Bacani-Angus, Lead, Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Accessibility (IDEA), People, Equity and Culture, Office of the CAO:

Accessibility Compliance Report

The *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act* requires the submission of an Accessibility Compliance Report every two years. 2023 was a reporting year and the Region's submission reported 100% compliance.

AODA

Accessibility legislation also dictates that the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act* must be reviewed every four years. Rich Donovan, CEO of the Return to Disability Group, was appointed as the reviewer and conducted public consultations through 2022 and 2023. In December 2023 the final report was published, which includes a number of recommendations to the Province of Ontario.

2023 to 2027 Multi-Year Accessibility Plan

Regional Council approved the 2023 to 2027 Multi-Year Accessibility Plan in November 2023. Updates will be provided on how York Region and York Regional Police are meeting actions in the Plan in the 2024 Annual Status Report at the end of this year.

Annual Member Review Meetings

As per the terms of reference for this committee, membership will be reviewed and evaluated annually by staff based on the ability of members to carry out advisory duties, attendance, participation, legislative requirements, and a member's ability to fulfill the requirements as outlined in the Membership Responsibility Agreement.

Spring Social

Committee members are invited to a Spring Social, which will be hosted at the York Region Police Association building in Aurora on May 15, 2024 from 5:30 pm to 8 pm.

Committee received the following verbal update from Steve Foglia, former Vice Chair of the York Region Accessibility Advisory Committee:

2024 National AccessAbility Week

National AccessAbility Week takes place this year from May 26 to June 1. York Region will be hosting a Professional Development Forum at 17150 Yonge St. on May 29, 2024. The first subcommittee planning meeting was held a few weeks ago with a volunteer group made up of individuals from the York Region Accessibility Advisory Committee, as well as five members from three other local Accessibility Advisory Committees.

F. Presentations

F.1 Accessible Recruiting and Hiring Practices

Committee received the presentation by Katherine Wishart, Manager, Employee Health & Safety, Melissa Saule, Manager, Talent Acquisition and Danielle Aragundi, Talent Acquisition Consultant, People, Equity and Culture, Office of the CAO.

Committee recessed at 5:01 p.m. and reconvened at 5:11 p.m.

F.2 Incorporating Accessibility into the Administrative Penalty Tribunal Program

Committee received the presentation by Ryan Keay, Manager, Administrative Penalties Tribunal, Court and Tribunal Services, Legal and Court Services.

G. Deputations

None

H. Communications

None

I. Other Business

I.1 Next Meeting of the York Region Accessibility Advisory Committee

The next meeting of the York Region Accessibility Advisory Committee is scheduled to be held virtually on April 17, 2024 at 4 p.m.

J. Adjournment

The York Region Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting adjourned at 5:44 p.m.