



Minutes

Accessibility Advisory Committee

April 17, 2024

Electronic Meeting

Members: B. Barra-Berger, N. Davison, R. DiGiovanni, L. Gold, A. Ho, L. Hulme-Smith, B. Keshen, V. Spatafora, A. Tocco, T. Vegh, S. Wollin

Staff: K. Abbas, K. Bacani-Angus, M. Byrne, V. Choe, C. Clark, A. Griepsma, K. Heathcote, T. Kidd, T. Kirkwood, S. Maio, V. Navolsky, K. Pal, M. Peart, G. Potter-King, L. Rahman, I. Soneji, E. Straughan, B. Wu

Other: D. MacDonald (YRP)

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. Disclosures of Interest

None

D. Accessibility Updates

D.1 Update on Accessibility Activities

Stephen Maio, Senior Executive Officer, People, Equity and Culture, Office of the CAO introduced Michele Bryne to the Committee, who is the new Manager for Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Accessibility.

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

Approval of Accessibility Policy and Multi-Year Accessibility Plan

Framework

On March 21, 2024, York Regional Council approved the revised Accessibility Policy and York Region's Multi-Year Accessibility Plan Policy Framework.

York Region Accessibility Advisory Committee Networking Dinner

An in-person spring social and networking dinner will be held on May 15, 2024 for all committee members. The event will be held at the York Regional Police Association Headquarters in Aurora from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

National Accessibility Week 2024 - Professional Development Forum

The National Accessibility Week 2024 Accessibility Advisory Committee Professional Development Forum will take place on May 29, 2024 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and is open to all local accessibility advisory committees across York Region, as well as their secretariat staff.

The forum theme for this year will be “Forward Together: Accessibility and Inclusion for York Region Spaces and Places”. External presentations are confirmed by the Accelerating Accessibility Coalition, March of Dimes and the Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility. York Region Mobility on Request will also present and there will be an optional tour of the York Region building at 17150 Yonge Street.

May 29, 2024 also marks Red Shirt Day so attendees are encouraged to wear red to show solidarity and support for people with disabilities and their families, as well as the commitment to creating a more accessible Canada.

E. Presentations

E.1 York Region Community of Belonging for Staff with Disabilities

Committee received the presentation by Tracy Kidd, Community of Belonging Lead, Social Assistance, Social Services Branch, Community and Health Services Department and Masrine Peart, Human Resources Specialist, Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Accessibility, People, Equity and Culture, Office of the CAO.

Committee recessed at 5 p.m. and reconvened at 5:10 p.m.

E.2 York Region’s Homelessness Service System Plan

Committee received the presentation by Kevin Pal, General Manager, Social Services Branch, Community and Health Services Department.

F. Deputations

None

G. Communications

None

H. Other Business

H.1 Next Meeting - York Region Accessibility Advisory Committee

The next meeting of the York Region Accessibility Advisory Committee is scheduled to be held virtually on June 26, 2024 beginning at 4 p.m.

I. Adjournment

The York Region Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting adjourned at 5:48 p.m.