



The **Minutes** of the **Accessibility, Inclusion and Diversity Committee** meeting held in the ROTARY ROOM, BOSWYK SENIORS ACTIVITY CENTRE, 7682 Grand St, Mission on Wednesday, March 19, 2025 at 6:30 pm.

Members Present: Ken Herar, Councillor, Alternate Chair
Will Giesbrecht
Dawn Hein
Janis McNabb
Krystina Hetherington
Marco Palmeri
Nicole Israelov
Wendy Jones
Jean-Pierre Maher

Members Absent Angel Elias, Councillor
Carol Hamilton, Councillor
Darcy Sleevea
Elizabeth Birak
Fiona Whittington-Walsh

Others Present: Jennifer Russell, Corporate Officer
Nicole Philippon, Administrative Assistant

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved and seconded,

That the agenda of the Accessibility, Inclusion and Diversity Committee meeting of March 19, 2025 be approved.

CARRIED

3. MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

Moved and seconded,

That the minutes of the Accessibility, Inclusion and Diversity Committee meeting of February 19, 2025 be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

4. NEW BUSINESS

a) Preview Webpage and Feedback Portal

The Corporate Officer provided the Committee with a printed copy of the finalized and adopted Accessibility Plan. Members were guided through the City of Mission's website to find the Accessibility Plan in the "Plans and Strategy" section. It was also noted that a dedicated Accessibility webpage is in development and will be launched soon.

Committee members were shown the new public feedback form for reporting accessibility concerns which is located under the "Report an Issue" tab on the homepage. Once the dedicated webpage is operational, the feedback form will also be linked there. Members conveyed their approval of this design and form content. Additional comments included sending an automatic confirmation email to acknowledge receipt of submissions and providing a text-only version of the Accessibility Plan on the website to support those using optical readers.

b) Referrals from Council

i. Canada's Anti-Racism Strategy 2019-2022

The Corporate Officer shared Council's recommendation for the Committee to utilize Canada's Anti-Racism Strategy 2019-2022 as an instrumental resource in their initiatives. Committee members were encouraged to review and familiarize themselves with the strategy to effectively integrate its principles into their work.

ii. Adaptive Mountain Bikes for Public Use

The Committee discussed the referral from Council regarding the concept of the city purchasing adaptive mountain bikes for public use. The Corporate Officer provided background on the recommendation, which originated from a forestry department project focused on trail building, preceding the dissolution of the Tourism department in late 2024.

Committee members expressed concerns about various aspects such as liability, the necessity of waivers, insurance implications, and the costs associated with maintenance and management, which might involve providing training on proper use and providing essential safety gear. Despite acknowledging the potential benefits, the Committee felt the initiative might be premature. They emphasized that the current focus should remain on improving existing programs and facilities, suggesting that such an investment could be revisited in the future.

Moved and Seconded,

That the Committee does not recommend the purchase of adaptive mountain bikes for public use, due to current, more urgent priorities and the need for further data on public interest and implementation feasibility.

CARRIED

Moved and Seconded,

That Council prioritize accessibility improvements to parks and playgrounds following the completion of facility audits.

CARRIED

5. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on **May 21, 2025 at 6:30 pm.**

6. ADJOURNMENT

Moved and seconded,

That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm.