

ACCESSIBILITY AND INCLUSION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Tuesday, November 5, 2024

A Regular Meeting of the Accessibility and Inclusion Advisory Committee convened on Tuesday, November 5, 2024 at 7:02 p.m. in the Council Committee Room, City Hall, 3000 Guildford Way, Coquitlam, BC, with the following persons present:

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Councillor Matt Djonlic, Chair
Councillor Teri Towner, Vice Chair
Julianne Cressman, Citizen Representative
Dana Ebtekar, Citizen Representative
Paul Jarvie, Citizen Representative
Alex Kwan, Citizen Representative
Heather Lawson, Citizen Representative (arrived at 7:32 p.m.)
Benjamin Perry, Citizen Representative (arrived at 7:09 p.m.)
Georgette Reyes, Citizen Representative
Pat Roy, Canadian Council of the Blind BC-Yukon Division
Ross Renaud, SHARE Family and Community Services
Susan Williamson, Tri-Cities Seniors' Action Society

REGRETS: Pete Stone, Community Ventures Society

GUESTS: iris yong, Urban Systems/Urban Matters
Stan Leyenorst, Accessibility Consultant, Universal Access Design
Hayley Inglis, Community Planner, Urban Systems/Urban Matters
Ingrid Baartman, Accessibility Professional, Universal Access Design

STAFF: Michelle Frilund, Acting Senior Manager Equity, Diversity and Inclusion
Thomas Thivener, Manager Transportation Planning
Kate Brown, Accessibility and Inclusion Specialist
Amalee Truong, Committee Clerk

CALL TO ORDER

The Chair provided an Indigenous territorial acknowledgement.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. Minutes of the Accessibility and Inclusion Advisory Committee Meeting held on Tuesday, September 3, 2024

The Minutes of the Accessibility and Inclusion Advisory Committee Meeting held on Tuesday, September 3, 2024 were approved.

NEW BUSINESS

2. Accessibility and Inclusion Plan Update and Engagement

Benjamin Perry arrived to the meeting at this time – 7:09 p.m.

The Acting Senior Manager, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion and the Accessibility and Inclusion Specialist provided a presentation entitled “Accessibility and Inclusion Plan Engagement” relative to the following:

- Overview of the Accessible BC Act
- Overview of the City’s Accessibility and Inclusion Plan
- Barriers and discussion to achieving Accessibility and Inclusion

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- Expressed appreciation to the City for implementing changes recommended by the Committee to increase inclusion and accessibility
- Desire to increase public awareness and education surrounding accessible and inclusive programs, facilities, and services in the City
- Desire to increase physical accessibility via public transportation and multi-use pathways around the City
- Desire to increase accessible housing located in transit friendly areas in the city

Heather Lawson arrived to the meeting at this time – 7:32 p.m.

Discussion continued relative to the following:

- Interest in exploring diverse opportunities to provide feedback to the City
Expressed appreciation to Lime e-mobility demonstration and education prior to the meeting
- Desire to understand the City’s role in overseeing service agreements in the City
- Desire to make accessibility accommodations for committee members such as lowering the fluorescent lighting in the Council Committee room
- Desire for community members to have opportunities for employment support and access to services within the City

3. 2025 Work Plan Discussion

Acting Senior Manager Equity, Diversity and Inclusion provided introductory comments relative to the 2024 Work Plan and asked the committee to provide input on the past year.

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- Desire to see “Welcome to Coquitlam” event/ programming brought back
- Desire to see growth of Accessibility Week and community education surrounding accessibility and inclusion
- Desire to see Accessibility and Inclusion Advisory Committee partner with Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion to participate in Tri-Cities Pride Society event in 2025

4. Transportation and Other Department Updates

The Manager Transportation Planning provided introductory comments relative to the following:

- Expressed appreciation to committee members for attending the e-mobility test rides held prior to this meeting
- Information session regarding Pipeline Road safety and active transportation improvement project will be hosted in mid-November
- Artistic bike racks that spell “explore” have been installed outside Coquitlam Public Library, City Centre Branch

Discussion ensued relative to the desire to clarify who to contact about feedback regarding bus shelters.

5. Committee Members’ Roundtable / Emerging Accessibility Issues

The Chair invited Committee members to share emerging accessibility issues and information regarding events occurring in their communities.

The following information was discussed:

- Desire for an update regarding additional accessible parking spots at Dogwood Pavilion
- Interest in having a future committee meeting held outside the council committee room or incorporating a walkabout
- Desire to better understand accessible infrastructure requirements so committee members will be able to contribute more insight at each meeting

OTHER BUSINESS

NEXT MEETING DATE – 2025

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

MINUTES CERTIFIED CORRECT:

Matt Djonlic, Chair

Amalee Truong, Committee Clerk

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