



DRAFT MINUTES
Accessibility Advisory Committee
September 18, 2019

River Plate Room, Town Hall
Meeting No.5

Alternative formats available upon request by contacting:
sarah.moore@ajax.ca or 905-619-2529 ext. 3347

Committee Members:	Councillor Ashmeed Khan Shandell Conboy Sepelene Deonarine Barb Dowds Donna Mullings Rosanne Purnwasie Kathreen Smith Ray Smith Heather Steeves Julia Stevenson
Guests:	Abiraa Karasalingam, Ajax Resident and Youth Accessibility Leader Alaina Sergnese, Ajax Resident and UofT Student
Staff:	Sarah Moore, Committee & Accessibility Coordinator
Regrets:	Kailey Danks

1. Call to Order

Chair Dowds called the Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. She welcomed Alaina Sergnese, a University of Toronto student who would be observing the meeting for a school assignment.

2. Disclosure of Conflict of Interest

None

3. Approval of Minutes

Moved By: H. Steeves
Seconded By: A. Khan

That the June 19, 2019 Meeting Minutes of the Accessibility Advisory Committee be approved.
CARRIED

With consent of all Members present, the order of agenda items was shifted to accommodate Members who had to exit the Meeting early.

6. Update from Council

Councillor Khan informed the Committee that at the Monday, September 16, 2019 meeting of Council, Item 5.1 Greater County of Sudbury Correspondence Re: Onley report Recommendations was referred back to the Committee. He noted it was listed on the agenda for comment and discussion later in the Meeting. Councillor Khan provided a summary of his attendance at the Association of Municipalities of Ontario Conference, where he met with Minister Caroline Mulroney and shared feedback from the Committee's participation in riding Durham Region Transit with the Mayor.

Councillor Khan encouraged all Members to participate in the Kraft Heinz Project Play campaign in support of the Town's submission for \$250,000 to renovate and retrofit the Ajax Community Centre. S. Moore and Councillor Khan provided details of how Members could get involved to show support and earn community rally points online and at in-person pop-ups. The deadline to participate was noted as Sunday, September 22, 2019.

4. Presentation/Discussion

4.1 #RespectTheSpace Campaign

S. Moore shared a draft concept for an informational brochure and reviewed content in detail. She thanked Members H. Steeves, B. Dowds, K. Smith, and R. Purnwasie, as well as By-law Services staff for volunteering to take part in the project photo shoot. She noted that staff are working on designing the brochure and social media images for the Committee's review. Members provided feedback on the brochure copy and suggested edits. S. Moore will report back at a future meeting with final designs and discuss the schedule for information pop-ups.

Councillor Khan exited the Meeting (6:35 p.m.)

4.2 Ajax Community Awards Nomination

S. Moore reviewed the nominations prepared by J. Stevenson and R. Purnwasie on behalf of the Committee to nominate Jolie Café and the St. Andrews Presbyterian Church for the Town of Ajax Community Accessibility Award in the business and organization categories. Final feedback and edits were sought from the Committee. S. Moore noted that permission from the nominees is required to stand for nomination. R. Purnwasie volunteered to seek the Church's permission and S. Moore noted she would connect with Jolie Café.

Moved By: J. Stevenson
Seconded By: H. Steeves

That the 2019 Town of Ajax Community Accessibility Award nominations for Jolie Café and the St. Andrews Presbyterian Church be approved and submitted on behalf of the Town of Ajax Accessibility Advisory Committee.

CARRIED

4.6 Guide Dog Awareness Month

J. Stevenson shared information with the Committee about September recognition of National Guide Dog Awareness Month. She noted she had reached out to S. Moore to determine any program opportunities to support the recognition. S. Moore shared details of several partnership events with the Ajax Public Library Main Branch where J. Stevenson will be providing a Meet & Greet opportunity for participants to meet herself and Everley and learn about Guide Dog Etiquette. Events include Movies at the Main, Family Flicks, and Family Story Time. S. Moore circulated a copy of *Raising a Hero*, a children's book written from the perspective of a puppy training to become a service dog. Members were encouraged to attend the events in support.

S. Moore noted that the Town has agreed to place Guide Dogs Welcome decals, provided by the CNIB in all of its facilities, with rollout by the end of September.

4.4 Enabling Accessibility Fund – Youth Accessibility Leader

S. Moore introduced Abiraa Karasalingam, Ajax Resident and Youth Accessibility Leader. She noted that she had been contacted by A. Karasalingam, as she has been appointed by the Government of Canada as a Youth Accessibility Leader with the Enabling Accessibility Fund. A. Karasalingam informed the Committee that she has chosen to partner with the Town to work on an accessibility project to remove or prevent barriers for the greater Ajax community. The project will receive funding up to \$10,000 and is required to be completed within one calendar year of receiving funding. The deadline to submit project details is November 30, 2019.

J. Stevenson exited the Meeting (6:50pm).

A. Karasalingam sought Members' feedback on the beacon navigation pilot project for Town Hall. Members shared suggestions to include accessibility equipment and fitness equipment for seniors at an existing Town park. The Committee asked questions in relation to the scope of the project and whether it needed to be youth-oriented. A. Karasalingam clarified the project is not youth-specific and should seek to benefit the greater community. Members agreed that when considering a project, the usability and benefit to the greatest number of people should be priority.

A. Karasalingam requested Members to brainstorm ideas and submit to Sarah, for review and final selection at the October 16, 2019 Meeting.

4.3 Accessibility Legislation Briefing

4.3.1 Accessible Canada Act

S. Moore presented information on the Accessible Canada Act, which received Royal Assent June 21, 2019. The Accessible Canada Act differs from the AODA in that it applies to federally regulated private sector organizations, the Government of Canada, Crown Corporations, and Parliament. S. Moore outlined the new federal accountability structure which will include an Accessibility Commissioner, Chief Accessibility Officer, and Canadian Accessibility Standards Development Organization. Standards are to be developed in the areas of service design and delivery, built environment, employment,

information and communication technologies, communications, transportation, and procurement. While the Act mainly has federal application, S. Moore indicated that the legislation now formalizes recognition of National AccessAbility Week, to start on the last Sunday in May of each year.

4.3.2 Accessibility Standards for Information and Communications

S. Moore provided an overview of the Review of the Information and Communication Standards 2019 Initial Recommendations Report. She noted that all AODA standards are to undergo required review every five years by a Standards Development Committee. The report outlines thirty recommendations in two phases:

- Phase 1: focuses on the Information and Communications Standards outlined in the Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation
- Phase 2: calls for a new model for regulations – Accessibility Ecosystem model

She provided a summary of staff comments to be submitted to the Ministry. Members were encouraged to [review the online report](#) and submit independent comments. The deadline for comments has been extended to October 18, 2019

4.3.3 David Onley Report: Third Review of the AODA

S. Moore reviewed the 15 recommendations included in the Third Review of the AODA report by David Onley.

S. Conboy exited the Meeting (7:40pm).

4.5 CMHA Online Learning Course

S. Moore shared information about a new online free educational portal from the Canadian Mental Health Association that provides a series of mental health training modules. Details are available by visiting: <https://moodle8.camhx.ca/moodle/>.

5. Correspondence

5.1 Greater County of Sudbury Correspondence (June 26, 2019) Re: Onley Report Recommendations

As follow-up to Councillor Khan's report (Item 6) and the Review of the Onley Report (Item 4.3.3), S. Moore sought the Committee's feedback on the item of correspondence included in the agenda package. Members expressed interest in possibly preparing a letter on behalf of the Committee to send to the Province. Interest in a coordinated response from all AACs in the Region was also discussed. Members agreed to review the report and provide comments to S. Moore in advance of the next meeting for discussion.

7. Standing Items

7.1 Work Plan

S. Moore provided updates to several work plan items. She sought feedback on the latest draft edition of the Accessibility Buzz Newsletter. Member interest in a monthly subcommittee meeting for site plan review was sought. S. Moore informed the Committee that the annual report to Council is scheduled for the evening of Monday, November 18, 2019. Members were encouraged to brainstorm content to be included. S. Moore shared with the Committee that after the success of a sensory zone at the Canada Day community waterfront event, Inclusion Services will be looking to hold sensory zones at future community events, including Pumpkinville.

8. New/Other Business

8.1 Upcoming Events

S. Moore provided details of several upcoming events and opportunities of interest:

- Movies at the Main – Meet & Greet a Guide Dog – Sunday, September 22, 2019
- Family Story Time – Meet & Greet a Guide Dog – Tuesday, September 24, 2019
- Pumpkinville – Saturday, October 19 at Ajax Downs
- Regional AAC Forum – Wednesday, October 30, 2019 at Regional Headquarters
- Diversity Conference – Saturday, November 19
- Let's Do Lunch 55+ Event with Unstoppable Tracy – Tuesday, November 26, 2019

Members were encouraged to check their schedules and identify if they are available to help at the Pumpkinville Information Station, before S. Moore commits to event staff.

8.2 Videos of Interest

In the interest of time, S. Moore agreed to circulate links to the videos of interest via email:

- The Bench: <https://vimeo.com/134892175?ref=em-share>
- The Power of Words: <https://www.youtube.com/embed/Hzgzim5m7oU>

8.3 Holland Bloorview Dear Everybody Campaign – Phase 2

In the interest of time, S. Moore agreed to circulate information via email for the Committee's interest regarding the new phase of the [Holland Bloorview Dear Everybody communications campaign](#).

8.4 Free Access to Blood Glucose Monitoring

S. Deonarine shared information about the province's approval of the FreestyleLibre sensor-becoming the first sensor-based glucose monitoring system to be fully covered by Ontario health plans.

9. Adjournment

Moved By: H. Steeves
Seconded By: D. Mullings

That the September 18, 2019 Meeting of the Accessibility Advisory Committee be adjourned.
(8:10p.m.)

CARRIED

DRAFT