

**Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting  
Agenda**

Wednesday, April 26, 2023, 5:30 p.m.

Open to public attendance in Committee Room G

Lower Level, City Hall

Committee members may attend electronically

We recognize and respect that New Westminster is on the unceded and unsurrendered land of the Halkomelem speaking peoples. We acknowledge that colonialism has made invisible their histories and connections to the land. As a City, we are learning and building relationships with the people whose lands we are on.

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Pages

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The Chair will open the meeting and provide a land acknowledgement.

2. **INTRODUCTIONS**

3. **CHANGES TO THE AGENDA**

Additions or deletion of items.

4. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

4.1 March 22, 2023

3

5. **REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS**

Staff and guest reports and presentations for information, discussion, and/or action

5.1 Organization Accessibility Plan: Next Steps

6. **NEW BUSINESS**

Items added to the agenda at the beginning of the meeting.

7. **END OF MEETING**

8. **UPCOMING MEETINGS**

Remaining scheduled meetings for 2023, which take place at 5:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted:

May 24

June 28

July 26

August 23

September 27

October 25

November 22



**Accessibility Advisory Committee**

**MINUTES**

**Wednesday, March 22, 2023**

**Open to public attendance in Committee Room G**

**Lower Level, City Hall**

**Committee members may attend electronically**

**PRESENT:**

Councillor Jaimie McEvoy  
Karen Basran\*

Chair  
Committee Member  
Human Resources Business Partner  
Committee Member  
Committee Member  
Committee Member  
Committee Member  
Committee Member  
Committee Member  
Committee Member  
Committee Member  
Committee Member

Anne Bélanger  
Taryn Bruckshaw\*  
Iris Cheng  
Shannon Dolton  
Hazel Fitzpatrick\*  
Nancy Kato  
Vic Leach  
Susan MacAndrew\*  
Karla Olson  
Julia Schoennagel

**ABSENT:**

Wendy Parry  
Committee Member

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Mike Anderson  
Zaria Alibhai  
Jennifer Miller  
Shelly Schnee  
Carilyn Cook  
Manger of Transportation  
Coordinator, Public Engagement and Communications  
Manager of Public Engagement  
Program Coordinator, Seniors  
Committee Clerk, Legislative Services

\*Denotes electronic attendance

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**1. CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Councillor McEvoy opened the meeting at 5:35 p.m. and recognized with respect that New Westminster is on the unceded and unsundered land of the

Halkomelem speaking peoples. He acknowledged that colonialism has made invisible their histories and connections to the land. He recognized that, as a City, we are learning and building relationships with the people whose lands we are on.

## **2. INTRODUCTIONS**

Introductions took place.

## **3. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA**

Addition of New Business Item 5.1 – Election of Alternate Chair by Carilyn Cook, Committee Clerk.

## **4. REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS**

### **4.1 Orientation and Oaths of Office Presentation**

Carilyn Cook, Committee Clerk, commenced with her presentation which included the role of advisory committees, the terms of reference, meeting attendance and quorum, meeting conduct, City policies and freedom of information, and, lastly, oaths of office.

### **4.2 September 26, 2022 Council Report: City's Response to Accessible British Columbia Act – For Information**

No discussion.

## **5. NEW BUSINESS**

MOVED AND SECONDED

**THAT** Anne Belanger be elected as the Alternate Chair for the Accessibility Advisory Committee for the 2023 Committee year.

**CARRIED.**

All members of the Committee present voted in favour of the motion.

In response to questions from Committee members, Councillor McEvoy provided the following comments:

- Staff will conduct background work to determine quick wins that could be met;
- Once the Organizational Accessibility Plan and development feedback mechanisms are complete, we can determine where to go from there;
- Committee members are welcome to submit for follow up any items from the City's previous Access Ability Advisory Committee; and,
- City Council is very supportive and responsive to accessibility work.

Discussion ensued and Committee members made the follow suggestions for upcoming committee meetings;

- Have a walk with a person who is sight-impaired around the challenging areas of the City, including high-traffic areas where it is hard to hear the audible crosswalk notifications; and,
- Quick win items could include:
  - Addressing parking, including from a poverty aspect, increasing the number and width of accessible parking stalls, parking enforcement, and working with merchants regarding the use of accessible stalls for snow storage during snow events; and,
  - Looking at past success and how we can build upon them.

**6. END OF MEETING**

The meeting ended at 6:51 p.m.

**7. UPCOMING MEETINGS**

April 26  
May 24  
June 28  
July 26  
August 23  
September 27  
October 25  
November 22

Certified correct,

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Councillor McEvoy

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Carilyn Cook  
Committee Clerk