

CITY OF
LANGLEY



MINUTES OF THE ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS
LANGLEY CITY HALL
20399 Douglas Crescent

APRIL 3, 2025
AT 4:30 P.M.

- Present: Councillor Delaney Mack, Chair
Councillor Leith White, Co-Chair
Kirsten McKitterick, Representative of a Person with Disabilities
Ron Bergen, Senior Representative
Diane Sugars, Member Representing Indigenous People
Ty Ankerholm, Inclusion Langley Representative
Paul Dostal, Support of a Person with Disabilities
Wendy Rachwalski, Member at Large
Jaclyn Edwards, Member at Large
Andrea Castro, Support of a Person with Disabilities
- Staff: Kim Hilton, Director of Recreation, Culture & Community Services,
Michele Payne, Recreation Supervisor
Beckett Zeller, Manager of Human Resources
- Regrets: Ardee Sharma, Member at Large; Zosia Ettenberg, Representative of a Person with Disabilities; Shawn Peters, Support of a Person with Disabilities
- Guests: Councillor Rosemary Wallace; Cecilia Reekie
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The Chair began by acknowledging that the land on which we gather is on the traditional unceded territory of the Katzie, Kwantlen, Matsqui and Semiahmoo First Nations.

Prior to the meeting, a welcome and introduction of new committee members took place.

1. **AGENDA**

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the April 3, 2025, agenda be adopted as amended with the addition of Discussion Item 3A – Indigenous Task Group introduction and feedback.

CARRIED

Ms. Rachwalski entered at 4:37pm

2. MINUTES

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the March 6, 2025, Accessibility Advisory Committee minutes be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

3. FOR DISCUSSION

a. Indigenous Task Group introduction and feedback

Ms. Reekie was introduced as a consultant to the Indigenous Task Group. A discussion on the direction and/or information the committee members would like to receive from the Task Group on accessibility and inclusion took place.

Committee members asked for guidance on how to take the correct steps to grow, learn and participate positively as some need help in knowing how to move forward.

Ms. Reekie mentioned that territory acknowledgments show recognition and respect, and while it is welcomed, we should consider structuring our land acknowledgment in order of the streams and the connection of the four nations. We could consider changing the order to Matsqui, Kwantlen, Katzie, and Semiahmoo First Nations.

Ms. Reekie explained that reconciliation is complicated and there is not a check box of steps to take. It is important to recognize that people are all in very different places of understanding. Working as a committee, it was suggested that members have a good history of indigenous peoples in this country; residential schools are just one part of that. Continuous learning of indigenous peoples will guide our principals to move us forward. It is also important to recognize that we are visitors unless we belong to one of the four nations. Our work should be done with that that understanding.

The Director of Recreation, Culture and Community Services reviewed the mandate of the committee and stated that these are the areas in which indigenous consultation and suggestions are needed to be included in our strategy. This includes:

- Employment
- Delivery of Service
- The Built Environment
- Information and Communications
- Transportation, and
- Procurement;

Ms. Edwards entered at 4:50pm.

Ms. Sugars suggested attending National Indigenous People's Day at Douglas Park to speak with Indigenous Peoples to gather thoughts and provide a condensed survey to gather feedback.

b. May meeting

The May 1st meeting overlaps with the LMGA conference. The meeting will be moved to May 8th. Ms. Sugars will be unable to attend.

c. 2025 Workplan

2025 Workplan was discussed and approved.

Objective 1: Develop an Accessibility Strategy.

Scheduled to complete a draft strategy by October 2025 and then present to council in November 2025.

Ms. Sugar's discussed large accessible washrooms and will provide staff a contact to connect.

Objective 2: Public Feedback

Create an email and written feedback mechanism.

Objective 3: Education.

Attend a variety of events throughout the year to help educate the public and garner feedback.

Objective 4: Advocacy

Task Group to review and report on accessible versus adaptable housing and suggest ways to increase the number of accessible housing.

Task Group to review and strategize on encouraging rentals to people with disabilities.

Objective 5: Indigenous consultation

The committee to determine clear expectations and needs for the Task Group.

Objective 6: Communication Strategy

Create a flyer that can be handed out at community events promoting accessibility in Langley City.

MOVED BY

THAT the Accessibility Advisory Committee recommend that council consider approving the 2025 workplan.

CARRIED

SUBCOMMITTEE BREAK OUT SESSION

Communication and Promotion Subcommittee

Ron Bergen, Jaclyn Edwards, Kirsten McKitterick, Andrea Castro

Accessible Advocacy Subcommittee

Zosia Ettenberg, Ty Ankerholm, Wendy Rachwalski, Paul Dostal

Indigenous Consultation Subcommittee

Diane Sugars, Kim Hilton

4. ROUNDTABLE

Ms. Castro discussed wanting to see PECS available in all parks. PECS are Picture Exchange Communication Systems that use pictures or symbols to help individuals communicate, especially those with limited verbal skills. Ms. Castro will bring a sample to the next meeting.

5. ADJOURNMENT

It was MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT the meeting adjourns at 6:30pm

CARRIED

Certified Correct:
mlp


CHAIR


RECREATION SUPERVISOR