

CITY OF
LANGLEY



MINUTES OF THE ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS
LANGLEY CITY HALL
20399 Douglas Crescent

December 5, 2024
AT 4:30 P.M.

- Present: Councillor Delaney Mack, Chair
Councillor Rosemary Wallace, Co-Chair
Zosia Ettenberg, Representative of a Person with Disabilities
Kirsten McKitterick, Representative of a Person with Disabilities
Ty Ankerholm, Inclusion Langley Representative
Ron Bergen, Senior Representative
Diane Sugars, Member Representing Indigenous People
Wendy Rachwalski, Member at Large
- Staff: Kim Hilton, Director of Recreation, Culture & Community Services,
Beckett Zeller, Manager of Human Resources
Michele Payne, Recreation Supervisor
- Regrets: Jaclyn Edwards, Member at Large
Anthony Ormrod, Representative of a Person with Disabilities
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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.

1. AGENDA

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the December 5, 2024, agenda be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

2. MINUTES

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the November 7, 2024, Accessibility Advisory Committee minutes be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

3. PRESENTATION

SPARC BC – Louise O'Shea, Director of Accessibility and Inclusion. Ms. O'Shea presented an overview of the of the priorities of accessibility audit and a history of SPARC BC and the work they do to meet the social development needs of people and communities across British Columbia.

When working on our audit, SPARC BC is guided by the universal design principles as well as the social and demographic characteristics of our community and who we serve. Additionally, SPARC BC has been provided with the survey results and the work done by the sub-committee. All of these will be included in the audit report.

Under the principles of universal design, there are seven key elements or areas of focus that can be used to help guide and inform decision making. They include:

1. **Equitable use:** The design recognizes that different individuals will have different needs. Equitable use means that the design is useful to people with diverse abilities.
2. **Flexibility in use:** The design accommodates a wide range of individual preferences and abilities with different individuals having different needs depending on their circumstances.
3. **Simple and intuitive use:** The design is easy to understand, regardless of the user's experience knowledge, language skills or concentration level.
4. **Perceptible information:** The design communicates necessary information effectively to the user, regardless of the user's cognitive or sensory abilities.
5. **Tolerance for error:** The design minimizes hazards or the adverse consequences of accidental or unintended actions.
6. **Low physical effort:** The design can be used efficiently and comfortably with minimal effort.
7. **Size and space for approach and use:** The design is appropriate in terms of approach, reach, and manipulation regardless of user's body size, posture, or mobility.

The audit is focusing on Al Anderson Memorial Pool, Timms Community Centre and City Hall. The priorities have been identified as:

- Outdoor/ Exterior space, doorways, ramps, surfaces, signage, parking
- Inside/Interior spaces – Service counters, entrances, washrooms, automatic doors, signage, sensory zones
- Transport – parking, safe path of travel, accessible transport, drop off zones, bicycles lanes
- Procurement - construction mitigation plans, temporary ramps, signage, and audible signals

SPARC BC uses the Accessibility Standards to evaluate the site providing the guideline, observation, pictures and the use of a color-coding system to assess the accessibility of the facilities. Green: the accessibility standards have been met; Yellow: low to medium priority accessibility improvement is recommended and Red: high priority accessibility improvement is recommended.

SPARC BC works closely with individuals with lived experience to assess the accessibility of a site, we regularly contract members from South Fraser Active Living, EAC and other community partners with lived experience. The committee noted that it is important that neurodivergent spaces be considered within the audit.

Once the audit is complete, a presentation will be arranged for SPARC BC to review the results.

4. STANDING ITEMS

- a) AAC Workplan 2024. No update at this time.
- b) Indigenous Consultation Sub-Committee – Ms. Sugars stated that she was able to connect with Ms. Reekie who has agreed to join the sub-committee. Ms. Sugars is hoping for 4 to 5 people to be able to meet in January. An honorarium will be provided, and the meeting dates and location will be determined once they have discussed. The focus will be on inclusion and accessibility, however, there will be no set agenda to allow for fluid discussions.

Ms. Sugars exited at 5:30pm

- c) Communication and Promotion Sub-Committee. No update at this time. It was discussed and decided that beginning in February 2025, the agenda will include a Sub-Committee break out session to provide an opportunity for sub-committees to have a 30-minute meeting.
- d) Accessible Advocacy Sub-Committee. No updates currently. Ms. Rachwalski would like to join this sub-committee.

ACTION: Staff will send a committee contact list with phone numbers so sub-committee members can also connect with each other outside of the meetings.

5. FOR DISCUSSION/INFORMATION

- a) Magic of Christmas. We will strive to have a table set up for Family Day.
- b) Open House Survey Results and survey review. Ms. Ettenberg had Mayor Pachal and a staff representative from Development Services visit her home so she could show them what adaptable versus accessible space is. Ms. Ettenberg is in an adaptable apartment. One of the things that was discussed was that if you wanted to put a railing in to be lifted from the bed to toilet for example, how many owners of the apartment would allow you do that? Also, who pays for it – the tenant, or the owner? It was an information gathering meeting and they could see some of the challenges such as getting around corners.

Mayor Pachal stated that he would be happy to come to a committee meeting and report back on conversations that he has been having around accessibility.

ACTION: Staff to invite Mayor Pachal to a future meeting to discuss accessibility.

Results of the open house surveys have been compiled and presented for information. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

- c) BC Electric Scooter Pilot Project Update. Deferred to the next meeting.
- d) Accessible guidelines for developers. This was included in the agenda package to review. It was suggested that this could be a good item for the advocacy subcommittee to review and address.

6. ROUNDTABLE

Councillor Wallace shared that she will not be on the committee next year due to scheduling conflicts. We will welcome Councillor White to the committee next year.

Ms. McKitterick discussed the challenges in this weather in navigating trails and walkways that are wet or grassy and therefore hard to use a scooter or chair. The accessibility map will be beneficial in addressing things like this.

Ms. Ettenberg asked about reporting issues in the city. The City has an online service request that can be used for non-emergency issues.

Ms. Zeller presented the new City of Langley website and the accessibility tools that are available including language, font size and contrast. It was noted that the accessible symbol used is not the standard symbol and perhaps there could be a pop up or something on the home page that promotes that this feature is available.

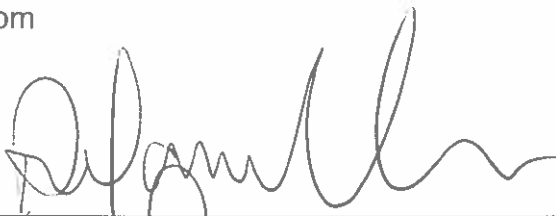
7. ADJOURNMENT

It was MOVED AND SECONDED

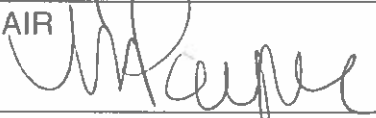
THAT the meeting adjourns at 6:15pm

CARRIED

Certified Correct:
mlp



CHAIR



RECREATION SUPERVISOR

