

## ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**March 7, 2023**

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 7:00 p.m., in the Conference Room, in the Administrative Centre, in Barrington, N.S., with the following members present:

- Councillor George El-Jakl – Chair
- Denise Nickerson, Resident – Rep. NS Works and Southwest Employment Services – Vice Chair
- Councillor Shaun Hatfield
- Loretta Nickerson, Resident – Representing Shelburne Assoc. Supporting Inclusion
- Boyd Scott – Resident
  
- Warden Lindsay (Eddie) Nickerson; Absent due to illness
  
- Chris Frotten, CAO
- Lesa Rossetti, Accessibility Co-ordinator
- Cameron Whiteway – Director of Property Services

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Being duly moved and seconded that the agenda be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Being duly moved and seconded that minutes of the last meeting held December 1, 2022, be approved as circulated.

Motion carried unanimously.

### NOVA SCOTIA ACCESSIBILITY PLAN 2022-2025

In advance of the meeting, members were provided with a copy of the Nova Scotia Accessibility Plan for 2022-2025 which was released on December 19, 2022. The new plan builds on the 2018-2021 plan and provides a roadmap of what government will do over the next 3 years to advance accessibility.

It was once again suggested that a program to assist individuals in setting up electronics, one on one grocery shopping, etc. would be a benefit to residents facing barriers in these areas. This matter has been discussed with the Senior Safety Co-ordinator. No such service is available at the present time.

### PRIORITY LIST RE: BUILDING ASSESSMENTS

In advance of the meeting, members were provided with a priority list of issues identified during the assessment of buildings. Items have been separated into three categories: Short Term, Medium Term and Long Term.

During review of the information provided, it was noted that concerns relating to crosswalks have been brought to the attention of the Department of Public Works. The need for audible alerts and lights was expressed. No reply has yet been received from the department. This matter will be monitored.

Concerns expressed regarding the discontinuation of the sidewalk in front of the Petro-Canada Service Station, in Barrington Passage, was once again brought forward. Members were advised that this concern has been discussed with the Department of Public Works and it appears that these situations exist in Yarmouth and Bridgewater areas as well. One suggestion put forward was the installation of an island. Previously, a painted line along the front of the property was suggested to provide guidance to individuals with vision impairment. This matter will be further explored.

#### COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Current citizen appointments expire March 31, 2023. Member Boyd Scott decided not to reoffer, but has advised that he would be willing to provide assistance in the future where needed.

The following members have been appointed to serve on the committee for the next two year period commencing April 1, 2023:

- Loretta Nickerson, Representing Shelburne Association Supporting Inclusion
- Denise Nickerson, Representing Southwest Employment Services and Nova Scotia Works
- Mickayla Peters, has extensive experience in representing individuals and organizations who experience disabilities.

Members expressed thanks to Boyd for his involvement and contribution to the committee.

#### AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

It was agreed that the following items be placed on a future agenda:

- Invite citizen representatives to explain roles and responsibilities of the organizations they represent.
- Access Awareness Week – May 29 – June 4, 2023.
- Terms of Reference – youth representative.
- Presentation by Accessibility Directorate.

#### NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Committee be held on April 20, 2023.

#### ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

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Chair

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Secretary for the Meeting