



**Minutes  
Of a Meeting of the Accessibility Advisory Committee  
Of the City of Kenora  
Thursday, June 19, 2025  
City Hall, Council Chambers  
4:00 p.m.**

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**With** Chad English, Chair, Mary Bawden, Co-Chair, Peggy Whitta, Councillor Van Belleghem

**Staff** Kelly Galbraith, Customer Services Manager/Deputy Clerk

**Regrets** Heather Bird, Greg Breen, Director of Engineering & Infrastructure

**1. Call to Order**

Chad called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and delivered the land acknowledgement.

Round table introductions were done. Staff members Kayla and Akbar were introduced to the group.

**2. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof**

There were none declared.

**3. Adopt Minutes of Previous Meeting – April 17, 2025**

Moved By Mary Bawden, Seconded by Peggy Whitta, and Carried –

That the Minutes of the Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting held April 17, 2025, be confirmed as written and filed.

**4. National AccessAbility Week – Debrief**

The flag raising was held on May 30<sup>th</sup>, with the class from Tracy Knopf's grade 5/6 class. There was a good turn out at the flag raising. The point was really made, and accessibility was driven home. The parents attended and it was very well received. A Pizza party was held in Council Chambers for the class, with the Mayor and members of the AAC in attendance.

It was noted that the committee would like to have the submissions submitted earlier so they can be viewed in person. It is important to start leaning about accessibility from a young age. It was requested that we invite the superintendent of the school boards to an AAC meeting to discuss how we can work with schools and have the young generations be an advocate for accessibility.

## **5. Norman Park Accessible Path and Upgraded Playground - June 26, 2025**

A media release for a celebration at Norman Park in recognition of the accessible path and upgraded playground was shared with the committee. The celebration will be held on Thursday, June 26 at 5 p.m. Committee members were encouraged to attend. It was commented that the media release was very well written with an emphasis on the importance of accessibility, inclusivity and community spirit.

## **6. Roundtable**

The remaining two Accessible Lake Living videos were played for the group. Tourism Kenora has begun the promotion of the videos on their sites and they will run for the summer.

Mary shared that the Kenora Age Friendly Committee will be hosting another older adults expo on September 25<sup>th</sup> at Seven Generations. The event will include exhibits, presentations on technology, cooking and shopping on a budget, etc.

Budgetary ask to Council for National AccessAbility Week projects were discussed. Similar projects to this year's project do not require a budgetary ask to Council. The group was encouraged to think about new ideas to bring forward. Council will begin budgets in the fall. If an idea is brought forward at the committee level, it could then be brought forward to Council during budgets.

Mary shared with the group that she is reading the book *Swimming Up Niagara Falls, the battle to get disability rights added to the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*, by M. David Lepofsky. It is a good read, and the group was encouraged to add it to their reading list.

## **7. Next Meeting – Thursday, September 18 at 4:00 p.m.**

## **8. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:51pm.