



**Minutes  
Of a Meeting of the Accessibility Advisory Committee  
Of the City of Kenora  
Wednesday, November 26, 2025  
Lake of the Woods Museum Boardroom  
2:30 p.m.**

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**With** Chad English, Chair, Mary Bawden, Co-Chair, Heather Bird, Peggy Whitta, Jackie Hummelbrunner, Councillor Van Belleghem

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

**Regrets** Greg Breen, Director of Infrastructure & Operations

**1. Call to Order**

Chad called the meeting to order at 2:35 p.m. and delivered a land acknowledgement.

Chad welcomed Jackie to the committee. Jackie shared her experience and background in speech pathology. She is currently the Director of Service Excellence and Partnerships at Firefly.

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

There were none declared.

**3. Adopt Minutes of Previous Meeting – October 30, 2025**

**Moved By Mary Bawden, Seconded by Councillor Van Belleghem and Carried –** That the Minutes of the Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting held October 30, 2025, be confirmed as written and filed.

**4. National AccessAbility Week (May 24-May 30, 2026) – Sticker Contest**

The sticker contest idea for National AccessAbility Week that was presented at the last meeting was discussed. It was decided the group would like to proceed with a community contest rather than strictly a school contest. Jackie shared that Firefly has staff in schools who can help to promote the contest within. Kelly will also send the information to the schools as she has in the past. The City’s Communications department will help to promote the contest on the City’s website and social media channels. Kelly will share the contest with the Library, MUSE and Moncrief Construction Sports Centre as they run various classes and day camps. The contest details will be as follows:

Theme: Accessibility Matters (this must be included on the sticker)  
Age categories (3): 0-10, 10-18 and 18+

Sticker style: Round

Deadline for Entires: March 23, 2025 (after Spring Break)

Prizes: Will be awarded to the winner of each category – City swag.

Kelly will confirm with the Communications department the appropriate length of time to run the contest. Too long can lose interest and too short can draw less submissions. It was suggested that the contest information also include an education piece on types of accessibility, accessibility symbols, etc. to help inspire creativity. A newspaper advertisement and an article on the winners was discussed. Councillor Van Belleghem will reach out to the local media to carry the story. Jackie shared that FireFly can also help raise the profile.

The group was encouraged to keep brining ideas forward for National AccessAbility Week.

### **5. Roundtable**

Kelly shared that Bloorview Research Institute has reached out to the City looking for volunteers to participate in research exploring the lived experience of accessible and affordable housing among children and youth with disabilities. She will circulate the information to the group which can be shared within their networks.

It was suggested that with some of the new developments happening in Kenora, the Building and Planning departments could attend an AAC meeting in the new year to see how we can encourage accessible builds in the community.

### **8. Next Meeting – Thursday, January 22, 2026**

The group agreed that there would be no meeting in December. The next meeting has been set for Thursday, January 22, 2026 at 4:00pm in Council Chambers. Kelly shared that as per the committee's terms of reference we will review the meeting frequency, day, time, etc. at the first meeting of the new year. The election for Chair and Co-Chair will also be done at the January meeting.

### **9. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:40pm.