



# Minutes

## Of a Meeting of the Accessibility Advisory Committee Of the City of Kenora Thursday, March 10, 2022 – Virtual Attendance 4:00 p.m.

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**With** Councillor Sharon Smith, Ruth Bowiec, Mary Bawden, Chad English

**Staff** Stace Gander, Director of Community Services, Kelly Galbraith, Deputy Clerk

**Regrets** Diane Pelletier, Councillor Rory McMillan (alternate)

### 1. Call to Order

Chad called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m.

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

There were none declared.

### 3. Adopt Minutes of previous Meeting – February 10, 2022

**Moved by Mary Bawden, Seconded by Councillor Smith and Carried;**

That the Minutes of the February 10, 2022 Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting be confirmed as written and filed.

### 4. Beyond Minimum Letter

The Beyond Minimum letter drafted in 2018 was circulated to the committee for their review. Stace will bring it back to Adam Smith, Director of Development Services and Kevin Gannon, Director of Engineering and Infrastructure Services. The group discussed ways to expand on examples of going beyond the building code and Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) requirements. Examples include reducing the rise in stairs, grab bars, widening doorways, door levers rather than knobs, etc. It was suggested that the back of the document include photos. Once the letter has been updated it was suggested that it be sent to the Kenora Builders Association to be circulated amongst their membership. Councillor Smith suggested the document also be included in the Lake of the Woods Cottage Guide.

## **5. Committee Recruitment Update**

The call for members advertisement was published in the Municipal Memo and on the City of Kenora's website and social media. Chad and Diane circulated to their networks as well. To date no applications have been received.

## **6. Roundtable**

Councillor Smith extended her condolences on the passing of Denise Miault, former AAC Chair and committee member. Denise was a great liaison between the committee and staff. She was an incredible advocate for the committee and community.

Mary shared she has listened to some great documentaries related to disability on CBC radio's Doc Project. The term "differently abled" is the term commonly used throughout the broadcasts.

Ruth spoke on Canada's Paralympics teams and how well they are doing. She had the opportunity to watch sledge hockey and it was wonderful to see how the sport is being recognized.

Chad shared that he and Natalia Debbo attended the high performance sledge hockey camp with the Women's National Para Hockey Team in Saskatoon. Chad was named as a guest coach for the event which provided Natalia exposure and experience to national level sledge hockey. Sophie English also attended the Grassroots Camp that was coached by the National coaches and a few of their players. Craig Debbo also joined and participated in a coaching clinic.

Stace shared that an application to the Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility Inclusive Community Grants Program was submitted. If successful the grant will provide \$60,000 to be used for accessible upgrades to Coney Island.

## **7. Next Meeting – April 14, 2022 at 4:00pm**

## **8. Adjourn Meeting**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.