

ACCESSIBILITY & EQUITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of the Accessibility & Equity Advisory Committee is to advise City Council on how to remove and prevent barriers to individuals in or interacting with the City. The Accessibility & Equity Advisory Committee will provide a forum where accessibility and equity related issues can be discussed with other agencies, committees and interest groups.

2. AUTHORITY

Community Charter, Accessibility British Columbia Act, Abbotsford City Council.

3. MANDATE

The mandate of the Accessibility & Equity Advisory Committee is to make recommendations on accessibility and equity matters, more specifically:

- a) provide recommendations to Council on the development and updates to the City's plan to identify, remove and prevent barriers to individuals in or interacting with the organization (the "Accessibility Plan"),
- b) review and provide recommendations to Council regarding the Accessibility Plan's incorporation of inclusion, adaptability, diversity, collaboration, self-determination and universal design principles, and
- c) advise the City on how to remove and prevent barriers to individuals in or interacting with the City.

4. MEMBERSHIP

1. Appointments, and removal, of members to the Accessibility & Equity Advisory Committee will be made in accordance with the City's Committee Protocol Policy.
2. Terms of appointments will be in accordance with the City's Committee Protocol Policy.
3. The Accessibility & Equity Advisory Committee will be comprised of up to nine (9) voting members appointed by Council:
 - a) one (1) member of Council, and an alternate;
 - b) up to five (5) members who are persons with disabilities or who support persons with disabilities, and who reflect the diversity of persons with disabilities in British Columbia; and
 - c) up to three (3) members at large.



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4. To the extent possible, the Accessibility & Equity Advisory Committee will have members who are selected in accordance with the following goals as set out in section 9(2) of the *Accessible British Columbia Act*:
 - a) at least half of the members are
 - i) persons with disabilities, or
 - ii) individuals who support, or are from organizations that support, persons with disabilities;
 - b) the members described in paragraph (a) reflect the diversity of persons with disabilities in British Columbia,
 - c) at least one of the members is an Indigenous person;
 - d) the committee reflects the diversity of persons in British Columbia.
5. The Chair of the Accessibility & Equity Advisory Committee will be the appointed Council representative.
6. The staff liaisons to the Accessibility & Equity Advisory Committee be appointed by the City Manager.
7. From time to time, other City staff members may be required to attend to provide technical advice and assistance.
5. RELATED PROCEDURES, GUIDELINES AND PUBLICATIONS
 1. The Accessibility & Equity Advisory Committee will operate in accordance with the *Community Charter*, the City's Council Procedure Bylaw, the City's Committee Protocol Policy, and any other applicable enactments, bylaws or policies, as amended or replaced from time to time.
 2. Meetings will normally be held quarterly, or at the call of the Chair.
 3. Quorum will be determined in accordance with the City's Committee Protocol Policy. Vacancies (but not absences) are excluded when counting the voting members in order to establish the quorum.
 4. Committee members must avoid conflicts of interest, in accordance with the *Community Charter* and the City's Committee Protocol Policy.
 5. The Committee will report to Council, in accordance with the City's Committee Protocol Policy.