



**ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
August 21, 2023**

**PRESENT:** Andrew Taylor, Chair  
June Feswick, Vice Chair  
Councillor Cathy Deagle Gammon  
Councillor Trish Purdy  
Councillor Paul Russell  
Elizabeth Doull  
Kristen Hemming

**REGRETS:** April Adams  
Michelle Mahoney  
Rachele Manett  
Jordan Waterbury

**STAFF:** Melissa Myers, Accessibility Advisor, Office of Diversity & Inclusion/ANSAIO  
Annie Sherry, Legislative Assistant

*The following does not represent a verbatim record of the proceedings of this meeting.*

*The agenda, reports, supporting documents, and information items circulated are online at [halifax.ca](http://halifax.ca).*

*The meeting was called to order at 4:06 p.m., and adjourned at 5:49 p.m.*

**1. CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:06 p.m. and acknowledged that the meeting took place in the traditional and ancestral territory of the Mi'kmaq people, and that we are all treaty people.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – July 24, 2023**

MOVED by Councillor Deagle Gammon, seconded by Kristen Hemming

**THAT the minutes of the July 24, 2023 Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting be approved as presented.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**3. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS**

Additions: None

Deletions: None

MOVED by Councillor Russell, seconded by Councillor Purdy

**THAT the agenda be approved as presented.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES – NONE**

**5. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS – NONE**

**6. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – NONE**

**7. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS**

**7.1 Correspondence – None**

**7.2 Petitions – None**

**7.3 Presentation – None**

**8. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE**

**9. REPORTS**

**9.1 STAFF**

**9.1.1 Voluntary Vulnerable Persons Registry Presentation**

The following was before the Committee:

- Staff presentation dated August 21, 2023

Erica Fleck, Director of Emergency Management gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from the Committee regarding the scope of the program, internal controls for protecting private information, methods for identifying volunteers running the program, and stakeholder engagement in the building of the registry.

In response to the presentation, the Committee suggested using “those who need assistance during an emergency” rather than “vulnerable persons”, and engaging further with CNIB, Independent Living Nova Scotia, the Deaf and Hard of Hearing community, newcomer, and English second language communities.

### **9.1.2 Recreation Funding Access Program Presentation**

The following was before the Committee:

- Staff presentation dated August 17, 2023
- Handout dated August 19, 2023

Cassady Yochoff, Inclusion and Accessibility Specialist, and Angela Green, Director of Recreation Programming gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from the Committee regarding the scope of the program, barriers to access that have been identified over the past year and plans for working groups with the Deaf and Hard of Hearing community.

In response to the presentation, the Committee suggested incorporating calls or emails to families to mitigate no-shows to the program and exploring the inclusion of Multi-District Facilities (MDFs) in the future.

### **9.1.3 2023 Town Hall Planning Discussion**

Melissa Myers, Accessibility Advisor gave an update on the status of planning for the 2023 Annual Town Hall and responded to questions of clarification from the Committee. Myers noted that staff had reached out to potential event locations, asking about technical capacity, accessibility of the space, and for date availability for the weeks of November 13-17 or 20-24, 2023.

### **9.2 COMMITTEE MEMBERS – NONE**

### **9.3 STAFF UPDATES – NONE**

### **10. ADDED ITEMS – NONE**

### **11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – September 18, 2023**

### **12. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 5:49 p.m.

Annie Sherry  
Legislative Assistant