

THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA

**ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
ONTARIANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT**

REPORT 6-2011

Minutes of a meeting of the Region of Niagara Accessibility Advisory Committee, held in the Regional Municipal Building, Thorold, Ontario, on Tuesday, October 25, 2011, commencing at 12:35 p.m. in Committee Room 4.

ATTENDANCE

Committee: Messrs. Eden (Chair); Greaves; Kon; Williams;
Ms. Isaak; Ms. Keith; Ms. Krieger, Ms. Morabito;
Ms. Whitty.

Staff: Messrs. Murphy, Accessibility Advisory Coordinator; Herstek,
Manager, Facility Management; Ward, Corporate Health and
Safety Advisor; Ms. Reilly, Legislative Assistant.

Other: Ms. McKinley, Interpreter.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

53. Accessibility Advisory Committee
September 13, 2011 Minutes

Moved by Ms. Keith
Seconded by Ms. Isaak

That Report 5-2011, being the minutes of the Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting of September 13, 2011, be approved as distributed.

Carried.

CONSENT ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

54. Moved by Ms. Keith
Seconded by Mr. Greaves

That the following reports and correspondence items be received for information:

AAC 84-2011 A memorandum from Mr. Steve Murphy, Accessibility
Advisory Coordinator (October 13, 2011) respecting TTY
Lines

- AAC 85-2011 A memorandum from Mr. Steve Murphy, Accessibility Advisory Coordinator (October 13, 2011) respecting Pedestrian Crossing Signals
- AAC 86-2011 A memorandum from Mr. Steve Murphy, Accessibility Advisory Coordinator (October 13, 2011) respecting Paperless Meeting Format
- AAC 87-2011 A memorandum from Mr. Steve Murphy, Accessibility Advisory Coordinator (October 13, 2011) respecting AAC Minute Approval Process
- AAC 88-2011 The ultimate in accessible living; in ensuring their home meets everyone's needs, one family makes a Vancouver Special truly special
Vancouver Sun – Fri Aug 26 2011
- AAC 89-2011 Chambers makeover would cost \$350,000
The Peterborough Examiner – Thu Sep 8 2011
- AAC 90-2011 'Accordion' buses hit the road
Niagara This Week – Wed Sep 7 2011
- AAC 91-2011 CRTC tells broadcasting industry to turn down the volume on loud television commercials
CNW Group – Tue Sep 13 2011
- AAC 92-2011 DARTS blind to needs of potential riders
Hamilton Spectator – Thu Sep 15 2011
- AAC 93-2011 Comox park path plan changed at 11th hour; Asphalt topping abandoned after residents protest
Comox Valley Echo – Fri Sep 9 2011
- AAC 94-2011 Prime (Play) Time
The Magazine of the American Planning Association – October 2011

Carried.

(Refer to Information Requests.)

OTHER BUSINESS

55. Cogeco Request

Mr. Kon advised that he has partnered with Cogeco to provide 10 six minute segments (over a two week period) and asked Committee for their ideas on issues to be featured. Some suggestions were:

- Provide information to households on how to modify their homes to address accessibility issues

- Employment opportunities (Public & Private) for persons with accessibility issues - advice for successful employment/highlight success stories
- Challenges within the Community

56. Age Friendly and AAC Matters

Mr. Murphy commented that the AAC and Age Friendly Program have some common issues and inquired as to whether the Committee would like to circulate their minutes to them as a method for sharing information. Committee members advised that they do not have a problem with circulating the minutes or receiving information from them as well. Mr. Eden, Chair, suggested another method of sharing information would be to have IT set up a page that can be accessed by a password.

57. Other Issues

Mr. Murphy asked whether there was any person or organization that they would like to hear from regarding a specific issue or concern. Members expressed their concerns relating to recent elections and accessibility problems when trying to reach the voting venues (Roads with no sidewalks-areas for scooters-wheelchairs/long distances to walk). One suggestion was for Internet Voting which is currently being explored.

58. Facilities Representative

Mr. Murphy introduced Chris Herstek, Manager, Facility Management, who expressed his interest in attending the Accessibility Advisory Committee meetings. Committee members introduced themselves and welcomed Mr. Herstek to the Committee.

INFORMATION REQUESTS

That staff:

- (i) Contact Nick Rosati regarding the challenges with the MTO standards with respect to Pedestrian Crossing Signals. Two specific areas to address are the 4th Avenue/Louth (Martindale area) crossing and the Broadway/Prince George crossing. It was suggested that consideration be given to adjusting the meter crossing as low as 0.5 meters per second. Refer to minute item 54 - Correspondence item AAC 85-2011.
- (ii) Provide paper agenda pkgs. for Ms. McKinley (or other interpreter) and Ms. Krieger. Refer to minute item 54 - Correspondence item AAC 86-2011.
- (iii) Send minutes to Committee members electronically as soon as completed (approximately two days) and request their review and approval within one working week in order to accelerate the minute approval process through Committee and Council. Refer to minute item 54 – Correspondence item AAC 87-2011.

ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 1:50 p.m. to meet again on Tuesday, December 6, 2011 at 12:30 p.m. in Committee Room 4.

Geoff Eden
Chair

Gail Reilly
Legislative Assistant

Kevin Bain
Regional Clerk