

**THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA  
ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
ONTARIANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT**

**REPORT 2-2010**

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Minutes of a meeting of the Region of Niagara Accessibility Advisory Committee (RNAAC), Ontarians with Disabilities Act held in the Regional Municipal Building, Thorold, Ontario, on Tuesday, February 16, 2010, commencing at 12:30 p.m. in Committee Room 4.

**ATTENDANCE**

Committee: Geoff Eden; Chair, Jean Bennett, Ian Greaves, Christine Keith, Diann Krieger, Anita MacKenzie, Griz Witlib

Committee Krystine Donato, Councillor Cindy Forster, Jocelyne Gagne, Carol Walker, Mary Lou Whitty

Regrets:

Staff: Mary Eagles, Steve Murphy, Accessibility Advisory Coordinator, Zeau Ismail, Penny Pitt, Administrative Assistant,

Guests: Renee McKinley, Oral Interpreter, John Williams, Brain Injury Community Re-entry

**Quorum**

There being a lack of ordinary quorum, Chair Eden determined that the ordinary quorum for the meeting be reduced to six members, pursuant to Section 22.10 of the Procedural By-law 96-2007.

Chair Eden welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.

Introductions were made around the table for the benefit of everyone in attendance.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

9. Moved by Diann Krieger  
Seconded by Ian Greaves

That Agenda 2-2010 being the agenda for the Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting of Tuesday, February 16, 2010 be approved as amended to include a Wainfleet update by Griz Witlib.

Carried.

## **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

10. Moved by Jean Bennett  
Seconded by Anita MacKenzie

That Report 1-2010, being the minutes of the Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting of January 5, 2010, be approved as distributed.

Carried.

## **ACCESSIBILITY FOR ONTARIANS WITH DISABILITIES UPDATE**

11. Alternate Format Notice for Public Meetings

Steve Murphy informed the committee that there were a number of legal requirements under the standard. To comply, businesses and organizations (providers) must:

- Communicate with a person with a disability in a manner that takes into account his or her disability
- Provide this information to a person with a disability in a format that takes into account his or her disability

A committee discussion ensued in regards to the amount of time required for the alternate format (5 days), meeting accommodations (10 days), and interpreters (minimum of two weeks). Mr. Murphy will take the committee's input back to the Communications and Legal Departments to assist in defining the wording to be placed on future documents. Mr. Murphy will also compile a list of services and persons available to contact when needed to comply with the standard requiring an alternative format as noted above.

12. Committee Comments – CCMTA Best Practices for Managing MPMDs

Committee members were previously emailed and asked to provide comment on the draft copy for consultation on the Canadian Council of Motor Transport Administrators (CCMTA) Best Practices for Managing Motorized Personal Mobility Devices (MPMDs). Mr. Murphy has forwarded the comments to the Transportation Department and they will forward the comments appropriately.

13. Committee Vacancy Strategy

At this time, due to vacancies on the committee, committee members are encouraged to invite guests to attend committee meetings for the balance of this year and term of Council. Potential guests should include persons that we are providing service to, persons or family members that have expertise or unique situations, persons representing a variety of disabilities and a variety of municipalities should be represented. Guests attending these meetings will have the opportunity to determine if there is an interest before committing to membership on this board. Committee members were advised not to make promises of a place on the board.

14. Process of Choosing Locations for Audio Pedestrian Signals (APS)

Steve Murphy apprised the committee that a meeting that will include Geoff Eden, Chair of AAC, Eric Flora and Nick Rosati from the Transportation Division, Adam Dupuis, Canadian Institute for the Blind (CNIB) and himself. The discussion will centre on who is responsible for making the decision of the location of the APS; AAC or CNIB, the best way to choose these intersections and the priorities guidelines. Mr. Murphy will report back to the committee following this meeting.

Further discussion about the APS took place among the committee members. The traditional method currently in use for safely crossing the road was explained as listening for the flow of traffic. The APS will have an activation button that will sound "chirp" (north/south traffic) and "cuckoo" (east/west traffic) sounds. The following comments were made:

- Pre wiring all new cross walks for future APS installations if needed
- APS could be retrofitted at a lesser cost with pre wiring
- Will APS installed in larger communities first?
- APS needed at the corner of Wintermute St. in Fort Erie

15. Wainfleet Town Hall Update

Griz Witlib provided a status update of the Wainfleet Town Hall. There are three or four regular parking spots and one handicapped spot in front of the building. Ramps have been installed in front of the building and at the back entrance where the elevator has yet to be installed, continuing to the front of the building to the parking lot.

**NIAGARA SPECIALIZED TRANSIT (NST) UPDATE**

16. The NST update was deferred to the next meeting.

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

17. The following Information Items were reviewed and received.

- AAC 19-2010 A New Hamburg Independent article dated Jan. 20, 2010 entitled- Accessibility debate stalls Phase 2 Planning
- AAC 20-2010 A Perth EMC article dated Jan. 21, 2010 entitled – Project Managers chosen for Perth Community Centre Rehabilitation
- AAC 21-2010 A Guelph Tribune article dated Feb. 4, 2010 entitled – New buses aid accessibility
- AAC 22-2010 A Kirkland Lake Northern News article dated Feb. 8, 2010 entitled – Trillium Fund supports renovations to Chamberlain Township Hall
- AAC 23-2010 A Chatham Daily News article dated Feb. 9, 2010 entitled – Chatham-Kent improving on accessibility

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

### 18. **Municipal Election**

Due to the upcoming Municipal Election, all meetings scheduled after October 25, 2010, will be cancelled. Advertisement for volunteers on all advisory committees will be published in local newspapers starting July or August and current members will have to reapply for a place on the committee.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Diann Krieger  
Seconded by Anita MacKenzie

That the Committee be adjourned at 2:45 p.m. to meet again on Tuesday, March 30, 2010 .at 12:30 p.m. in Committee Room 4.

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Geoff Eden  
Chairperson

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Penny Pitt  
Administrative Assistant  
Council Support