



Accessibility Advisory Committee Minutes

June 3, 2025, 7:00 p.m.
Virtual Meeting

Present: Larry Brual
Liam Lacy, Vice-Chair
Adam Lamplugh
Michael Richards
Marta Swirydowicz
Rony Mathew

Regrets: Paul Scott, Chair
Magda Madsen
Elizabeth Bryant

Also Present: Michele Cotton, Staff Liaison, Accessibility Coordinator
Heather Ellis, Council and Committee Coordinator (Recording Secretary)

1. Call to Order

2. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

3. Approval of Previous Minutes

Recommendation:

Moved by Adam Lamplugh

That the Accessibility Advisory Committee minutes of May 6, 2025 be approved.

Carried

4. Delegations

There were no delegations.

5. General Business and Reports

5.1 2024 Accessibility Plan Update

Michele Cotton provided an update regarding the 2024 Accessibility Plan achievements which included:

- details about the Staff Working Group activities;
- the new Whitby Sports Complex;
- ongoing partnerships between advisory committees;
- the Wayfinding and Signage Project;
- the Accessibility Improvement Grant;
- collecting data on bench locations along Whitby's trail networks;
- the Home Sweet Home Festival;
- the Brock Street Redesign Project;
- a proposed seasonal tourism building and seating area at the Whitby Waterfront; and,
- installing electric vehicle charging stations at Town facilities.

5.2 Durham Region Accessibility Award Nominee

Michele Cotton provided details about the Durham Region Accessibility Award. Ms. Cotton requested feedback from the Committee regarding recipient nominations for Whitby's Durham Region Accessibility Award.

Discussion ensued regarding the criteria for nominating a business, person, or not-for-profit organization.

Michele Cotton advised that a list of nominees, including details about the businesses, persons, or not-for-profit organizations, would be circulated to Members for consideration.

5.3 National AccessAbility Week Update

Michele Cotton provided an update regarding National AccessAbility Week activities including the flag raising event, the Durham Accessibility Conference - Fostering an Accessible and Inclusive Durham Region: Employment and Beyond, and the Traveling Roadshow activity.

5.4 Accessibility Improvement Grant Application Update

Michele Cotton provided an update regarding the Accessibility Improvement Grant Application for Landmark Cinemas Whitby. Ms. Cotton stated that under the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, Landmark Cinemas Whitby did not qualify as a small business and was therefore not eligible to receive the Accessibility Improvement Grant.

5.5 Summer Events Schedule

Michele Cotton requested feedback from the Committee regarding the Town of Whitby's Home Sweet Home Festival and whether Members would be available to assist with the Sensory Room. Ms. Cotton stated that additional events included the Brooklin Harvest Festival, Whitby Lights the Night, and the Whitby Christmas Market.

5.6 Subcommittee Updates

Michele Cotton provided an update regarding the Site Plans and Built Environment Subcommittee which included finalizing the Park Audit and planning the next steps in the ongoing park evaluation process.

Marta Swirydowicz provided an update regarding the Communication and Customer Service Subcommittee which included reviewing the Accessibility Improvement Grant Application.

6. Council Update

There was no Council update.

7. Other Business

7.1 Accessibility Improvement Grant Promotion Update

Adam Lamplugh requested an update regarding whether the Committee would partner with the Whitby Chamber of Commerce to promote the Accessibility Improvement Grant.

8. Next Meeting

Tuesday, September 2, 2025 - 7:00 p.m.

9. Adjournment

Recommendation:

Moved by Marta Swirydowicz

That the meeting adjourn.

Carried

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.