

Regional Accessibility Advisory Committee

Date: April 4, 2025
Time: 9:00 am
Location: CSRD Boardroom
555 Harbourfront Drive NE, Salmon Arm

Members Present J. Paul^ Committee Member

C. Sebelius^ Committee Member
R. Harris^ Committee Member
M. Reynard^ Committee Member
A. Khan Chair

Members Absent J. Casey Committee Member

Staff Present J. Sham General Manager, Corporate Services (Corporate Officer)

^electronic participation

1. Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that we are meeting in service to the Columbia Shuswap Regional District which is on the traditional and unceded territories of the Secwepemc, Syilx Okanagan, Sinixt and Ktunaxa Nation. We are privileged and grateful to be able to live, work and play in this beautiful area.

Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act

Article 40: Indigenous peoples have the right to access to and prompt decision through just and fair procedures for the resolution of conflicts and disputes with States or other parties, as well as to effective remedies for all infringements of their individual and collective rights. Such a decision shall give due consideration to the customs, traditions, rules and legal systems of the indigenous peoples concerned and international human rights.

2. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:02 AM.

3. Adoption of Agenda

Moved By J. Paul

Seconded By M. Reynard

THAT: the Regional Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting agenda be adopted.

CARRIED

4. Adoption of Minutes

Moved By J. Paul

Seconded By R. Harris

THAT: the amended minutes for the Regional Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting be adopted.

Add in the introductions from the meeting.

CARRIED

5. Discussion

5.1 Examples of Accessibility Surveys

Attached are: Regional District of North Okanagan's blank survey and Thompson Okanagan Regional District's survey results

Item brought forward from the March 21, 2025 meeting for discussion.

R. Harris asked if the Committee needs a survey and suggested that if they do, it should be clear who is answering the survey. Suggested that the questions not include how many people are disabled. The surveys attached seem to have too much detail and include out-of-scope items.

M. Reynard agreed with R. Harris. She spoke with a local architect about BC Building Code requirements versus the usability, such as number of parking stalls but that there is no requirement for it to be a flat spot. Suggested that if they do a survey, it should be focussed.

Chair suggested the Committee think about the purpose of the survey and the target audience. He asked what format the survey should be in: online, paper, phone call, in-person; the length of the survey; and the timeline - when it should launch and how long will the be out there.

M. Reynard said that this is a regional approach and they should start with general questions.

J. Paul, likes question 9 regarding building access, washroom, seating area. Asked the group where the focus is. She likes the question rather than tick marks on the survey.

Shared that people without disabilities do not think the same way about access and the Committee members can bring that experience.

M. Reynard said that regarding question 9 and expanding on that, to add seasonal events like the fair.

Chair asked about a broader disabilities beyond physical, such as language barriers, financial, attitude, programming, inclusive, mental, indigenous, etc.

J. Paul asked about sub-committees.

J. Sham explained committees cannot strike other committees. Offered direction on the survey being general and then narrowing the scope. Suggested a short survey.

Chair, yes/no questions can be useful. Quantitative data is helpful.

R. Harris said there are other organizations that have information and we are worrying too much about the survey. There are certain things we can do now and take action.

Chair the purpose of the committee is to do this regionally and creation of an accessibility plan.

J. Sham asked if the Committee would like a survey or would like to start filling out the plan.

Chair suggests we have a survey with a purpose and that will guide the discussion.

M. Reynard agrees with doing a survey with a grouping of questions. For example, communications with a check box and comment section.

R. Harris agrees with that approach to break the categories out. Identify the people we are getting information from. The question could be do you have a disability? Yes or no, comment box. Suggests a maximum of 10 questions. He is unsure the Committee has the expertise to tackle all the barriers.

Chair asked the Committee to think about the survey questions and bring it back to the Committee.

Committee members to send their ideas to J. Sham by April 17 deadline who will then share the collected information to the Committee via email.

Moved By J. Paul
Seconded By R. Harris

THAT: the Committee recommend to the CSRD Board to direct staff to conduct an accessibility survey, in consultation with the Committee, to seek input from the general public regarding accessibility in the communities.

CARRIED

6. Next Meeting

Friday, April 25, 2025 at 9:00 AM.

7. Adjournment

Moved By J. Paul
Seconded By R. Harris

THAT: the Regional Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

9:48 AM

Corporate Officer

Chair