

Accessibility Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes
May 12, 2025
5:00 pm
Virtual only

Invited Attendees

Attendance: D. Achuroa, D. Antaya-Moore, C. Brenneis, M. Dancsok, D. Davis, K. Ewig, T. Joyce, T. LaRiviere, S. Leach, S. Mason, D. Rudolph, K. Thomas, Z. Weeks, K. Wood
Council Reps: Clr. K.Tang
CoE Staff: C. Lamoureux, S. Parkinson
Guests: N. Djokic, Y. Subramonian, R. Lockwood, J. Smid, M. Risling, C. Heywood
Regrets: Daniel Purcell

1.0 Introductions and Welcome

2.0 Review	
2.1 Agenda Review/Approval	<p>Call to order at: 5:02 pm</p> <p>MOTION: Approve the May 13, 2025 AAC Agenda Carried (U)</p>
2.2 Review/Approval of Previous Minutes	<p>MOTION: Approve the March 10, 2025 AAC Minutes Carried (U)</p>
2.3 Indigenous Land Acknowledgement	
2.4 Voting	<p>MOTION: To accept D. Antaya-Moore as the Chair of the AAC 2nd D. Rudolph Carried (U)</p> <p>MOTION: To accept S. Mason as the Policy Review subcommittee Chair 2nd M. Dancsok Carried (U)</p> <p>MOTION: To accept Z. Weeks as the Community Engagement subcommittee Chair 2nd K. Ewig Carried (U)</p>
2.5 Ice Breaker - Introductions	Introductions were made

3.0 New Business	
3.1 Chat about Elections and Accessibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - City of Edmonton (CoE) updated the Bylaw to amend the legislation that was passed to ensure equitable voting for all Edmontonians - Will be moving this to Council on June 10 - C. Heywood and J. Nutbrown will be attending the June 9, 2025 meeting to discuss the changes in more detail. Also they are looking for feedback on ballot design, etc.
3.2 Council Advisor Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All Committees of Council have Council members to act as liaison. Councillor Tang is the Accessibility Advisory Committee liaison. - This relationship between Councils of Committees and Council has changed council decisions. - D. Anatya-Moore spoke at Council on updates for C602a. Policy C602 draft actions. This is ongoing work for the CoE and AAC. - CoE is looking at the Abilities at Work program which was a city program that employed adults with developmental disabilities for the CoE. Preliminary conversations with city admin are revisiting the program to see if it can be revitalized - Treat Accessibility is seeking to have a proclamation at the event this year. Councillor Tang is working with the Mayor's Office.
3.2 Presentation - Sustainable Procurement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Looking at ensure partnerships - will have good contacts/contracts with agencies - Looking to make more products/services will improve the lives of a broader population. The CoE is putting a focus on accessibility with training. Ensure that accessibility is more front of mind - Will pass on feedback to ensure Policy C602 to ensure there is a focus on accessibility throughout the procurement process: if accessibility can be used as a metric -The CoE is still learning as they continue to make improvements to make the most impact

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Trying to ensure to take accessibility into consideration before hand than rather to review after (moving from awareness to understanding)
3.3 Presentation - Vehicle for Hire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Feedback on the training was built in. There has been some push back with dispatchers, but there has also been some positive feedback. Would like to speak to individual drivers to get more detailed feedback - An audit will be implemented later this year or early next year with dispatchers to see how the training is progressing. Then modifications can be made as required - Would like to direct the public to make complaints through 311 as well as the company. Companies do not share complaints with the city. Unless a complaint has been made with the city, Administration cannot follow up with taxi companies to improve on issues. The City of Calgary's Council made a decision to reroute all the vehicle for hire complaints issues to the city. Edmonton will be watching what happens next. - There are no refresher courses at the moment, but Vehicle for Hire will keep an eye on any potential issues - Service dog refusals in vehicles for hire continue to be a big issue. Enforcement team is exploring changes to make stronger ramifications if they refuse a ride based on service animals
3.4 Memo to Council Accessible Parking Inquiry from the Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In March, members of the public came to an AAC meeting to discuss the issues with accessible parking. The AAC wrote a letter to city administration to request that the city designate one accessible stall near businesses for wheelchair users only. This is not to create a hierarchy of disabilities
4.0 Standing Items	
4.1 Chair Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Administration and AAC Chair will

- Participation review	<p>determine onboarding in the near future and reach out to new members.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AAC members have a commitment of 8 - 10 hours per month (i.e. preparing for meetings, attending meetings, attending a subcommittee meeting, etc) - Ensure members confirm attendance to meetings as it affects AAC budget and quorum of meetings. If there is no quorum, members who are in attendance do not receive honouraria and no meeting minutes will be taken.
4.2 Policy Subcommittee Update	- S. Mason to send out an email with updates
4.3 Community Engagement Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Main focus will be AAC social media (instagram and facebook) - Look for an email to come from Z. Weeks on information on Community Engagement subcommittee - New members have attended both committees and then decide which subcommittee to participate on, but AAC Exec hopes new members join community engagement to continue their work
4.4 Administration Update - COE Information Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Administration will email their update - The update link contains a list of upcoming AAC meeting minutes and what council reports are coming up <p>Adjournment 7:00 pm</p>

Next Meetings

Date: June 9, 2025	Time 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm	Location Edmonton Tower
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