



The Regional Municipality of Durham Report

To: Finance and Administration Committee
From: Chief Administrative Officer
Report: #2023-A-6
Date: March 21, 2023

Subject:

Durham Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC) membership appointments

Recommendation:

That the Finance and Administration Committee recommends to Regional Council:

A) That the following five people be appointed as community members to the Durham Region Accessibility Advisory Committee:

- i. Aly Beach
- ii. Dawn Campbell
- iii. Rosanne Purnwasie
- iv. Sarah Sones
- v. Wayne Henshall

B) That the following three individuals be appointed as representatives from industry, association and public institutions to the Durham Region Accessibility Advisory Committee:

- i. Doreen Hume-McKenna
- ii. Heather Hall
- iii. Lorrie Houston

Report:**1. Purpose**

- 1.1 The Accessibility Advisory Committee's (AAC) Terms of Reference allow for an eleven-member committee. The purpose of this report is to recommend individuals for appointment to the Durham Region Accessibility Advisory Committee.

2. Background

- 2.1 Under the Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2001 (ODA), Durham Region was obligated to form an Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC). A second piece of legislation, Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 (AODA) was proclaimed in 2005. However, the first Act was not repealed, and therefore, Durham must comply with both pieces of legislation. The requirement to have an AAC is still in effect.

- 2.2 An eleven-person committee may typically be comprised as follows:

a) Six members shall be persons with disabilities. These Committee members shall be representative of gender, ethnicity and different types of visible and invisible disabilities noted in the ODA 2001;

b) Five members shall be persons who may not have a disability. These members shall be comprised of:

- one member of Regional Council,
- two citizen members of which one member shall be a family member of a disabled person, and
- two members who are professionals from the stakeholder community.

3. Appointment of new members

- 3.1 The application process for the current nominees is the same as was for the original committee. After completing an application form an interview was held with each applicant. The selection criteria used to determine suitability to serve on the committee are:

- a. Knowledge of disability issues
- b. Experience with committees, volunteerism, community work
- c. Excellent communication skills
- d. Team building and collaboration skills
- e. Demonstrated commitment to projects/teams
- f. Ability to build trust and relationships.

- 3.2 Every effort is made to ensure that there is representation from people with a variety of disabilities, lived experiences and from different professional bodies.

The term of membership will correspond with the term of Regional Council and if a member resigns the Region will seek a replacement in accordance with the Terms of Reference.

4. Relationship to the Strategic Plan

- 4.1 This report aligns with the following strategic goals and priorities in the Durham Region Strategic Plan:
- a. Goal 2 – Community Vitality, specifically Priority 2.5 – Build a healthy, inclusive, age-friendly community where everyone feels a sense of belonging.

5. Conclusion

- 5.1 It is recommended that the individuals nominated for appointment in recommendations A) and B) be appointed to the Durham Region Accessibility Advisory Committee.
- 5.2 For additional information, contact: Karen Wall, Accessibility Coordinator, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion at 905-668-7711, extension 2009.

6. Attachments

- 6.1 Attachment #1: Confidential Recommended AAC Member Biographies

Respectfully submitted,

Original Signed By

Elaine Baxter-Trahair
Chief Administrative Officer