

Toronto Accessibility Advisory Committee – Appointment of Public Members to Fill Three Vacancies

Date: March 30, 2021

To: Civic Appointments Committee

From: Chief People Officer, People & Equity Division

Wards: All

REASON FOR CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

This report deals with personal information about identifiable individuals who are being considered for appointment to the Toronto Accessibility Advisory Committee.

SUMMARY

The Toronto Accessibility Advisory Committee is composed of 12 members of the public and one Member of Toronto City Council. There are currently three public member vacancies due to the resignation of three Committee members. The Toronto Accessibility Advisory Committee is a legislated requirement under the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA).

The purpose of this report is to have City Council appoint three members of the public to the Toronto Accessibility Advisory Committee (TAAC).

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Chief People Officer, People & Equity Division recommends that:

1. City Council appoint the individuals outlined in Confidential Attachment 1 to the Toronto Accessibility Advisory Committee, at the pleasure of Council, for a term of office ending on November 14, 2022, and until successors are appointed.

2. City Council direct that the balance of Confidential Attachment 1 remain confidential as it relates to personal information about identifiable individuals who are being considered for appointment to the Toronto Accessibility Advisory Committee.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There are no financial implications arising from this report, as funds to pay annual honorariums to all 12 members of the Toronto Accessibility Advisory Committee from the general public are already included in the 2021 Operating Budget of the City Manager's Office.

DECISION HISTORY

At its meeting of March 27, 2019, City Council established the Council Advisory Bodies for the term ending November 14, 2022 which included the Toronto Accessibility Advisory Committee.

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2019.EX3.4>

At its meeting of March 27, 2019, City Council appointed twelve members to the Toronto Accessibility Advisory Committee.

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2019.CA4.5>

COMMENTS

The Toronto Accessibility Advisory Committee (TAAC) is a Council Advisory Body that is required under the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act* (AODA). TAAC provides advice to City Council on:

- The requirements and implementation of AODA accessibility standards, the preparation of accessibility reports, and other matters for which Council may seek advice.
- All other functions of TAAC as specified in the Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation (O. Reg. 191/11 under the AODA), including consultation on:
 - The City's Multi-Year Accessibility Plan
 - The proportion of on-demand accessible taxicabs required in the community
 - Recreational trails
 - Outdoor play spaces
 - Rest areas along exterior paths of travel
 - On-street parking spaces
- The prevention and elimination of barriers faced by persons with disabilities, in order to achieve accessibility with respect to City by-laws, policies, goods, services and programs, employment, facilities, buildings, and structures and premises.

- Identifying, preventing and removing barriers to the participation of persons with disabilities in public life.
- Advancing the social, cultural, and economic well-being of persons with disabilities.

The Toronto Accessibility Advisory Committee (TAAC) is composed of 12 members of the public and one member of City Council, who serves as the Committee Chair. These appointments are for a term of office ending on November 14, 2022, and until successors are appointed.

In addition to the general eligibility requirements, set out in the Public Appointments Policy, and their availability to participate in meetings during business hours, the TAAC members were recruited and selected to collectively bring the following skills and expertise to the committee:

- A strong dedication to the inclusion of persons with disabilities throughout all aspects of society.
- A strong understanding of the needs and concerns of a broad spectrum of persons with disabilities and seniors, gained through personal or professional experience.
- Knowledge of accessibility requirements and/or best practices, as they relate to, policies and procedures, service planning and delivery, employment, the built environment and public spaces, and accommodations for persons with disabilities.
- Experience in decision-making, communication, and citizen advocacy, gained through involvement with organizations and local initiatives that support persons with disabilities.

Following a month-long recruitment campaign, staff from the Accessibility Unit reviewed all eligible applications. Qualified applicants were short-listed and interviewed by staff from the Accessibility Unit, Equity & Diversity Unit and the Indigenous Affairs Office. The recommended candidates were chosen based on their personal and/or professional experience, as well as their ability to represent the needs and interests of a broad cross section of persons with disabilities.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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ATTACHMENTS

Confidential Attachment 1 - List of Recommended Candidates, Qualifications, and Confidential Voluntary Diversity Information Summary, and Applications for Appointment to the Toronto Accessibility Advisory Committee