

## **Appointment of Public Members to the Toronto Accessibility Advisory Committee**

**Date:** September 13, 2024

**To:** Civic Appointments Committee

**From:** Chief People Officer, People & Equity Division

**Wards:** All

### **REASON FOR CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION**

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

### **SUMMARY**

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The purpose of this report is to have City Council appoint two public members to the Toronto Accessibility Advisory Committee to fill two mid-term vacancies.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

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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 pleasure of Council, for a term of office ending on November 14, 2026, and until successors are appointed.
2. City Council direct that the balance of Confidential Attachment 1 and Confidential Attachment 2 in its entirety remain confidential as they relate to personal information about identifiable individuals who are being considered for appointment to the Toronto Accessibility Advisory Committee.

### **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

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There are no financial implications arising from this report. The Terms of Reference for the Toronto Accessibility Advisory Committee adopted by the City Council on February 7 and 8, 2023 provide for an honorarium of \$125.00 per public member per meeting attended. The funds to pay annual honorariums to all 12 members of the Toronto Accessibility Advisory Committee from the general public are included in the Office of the City Manager's 2024 Operating Budget.

The Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer has reviewed this report and agrees with the financial impact information.

## **DECISION HISTORY**

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At its meeting of February 7, 2023, City Council re-established Council Advisory Bodies for the 2022-2026 Council term, which included the Toronto Accessibility Advisory Committee. As part of this item, Council also adopted a revised composition for the committee including two members who are youth members between the ages of 18-29 years and two members who are to be elder members (self-identified).

<https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2023.EX2.1>

## **COMMENTS**

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### **Mandate of the Toronto Accessibility Advisory Committee**

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 to achieve accessibility with respect to City by-laws, policies, goods, services and programs, employment, facilities, buildings, 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.

## **Composition of the Committee**

The TAAC is comprised 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 November 14, 2026, and until successors are appointed.

Two of the 12 community members resigned since the start of this term leaving two vacant seats on the committee.

In compliance with legislated requirements under the AODA, the majority of members are to be persons with disabilities.

In compliance with City Council's decision of February 7, 2023, two members are to be youth members between the ages of 18-29 years and two members are to be elder members (self-identified).

## **Recruitment and Selection of Nominees**

In addition to the above requirements, and their availability to participate in meetings during business hours, TAAC members are 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, digital accessibility 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 recruitment campaign, staff from the People and Equity Division reviewed eligible applications. Qualified applicants were short-listed and interviewed. The recommended nominees 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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**Mary Madigan-Lee**  
Chief People Office  
People & Equity Division

## **ATTACHMENTS**

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Confidential Attachment 1 - Nominees for Appointment to the Toronto Accessibility Advisory Committee

Confidential Attachment 2 - List of Candidates, Qualifications, Confidential Diversity Information Summary, and Applications for Appointment to the Toronto Accessibility Advisory Committee