

DATE OF MEETING 2023-NOV-08

AUTHORED BY LAARA CLARKSON, MANAGER, RECREATION SERVICES

SUBJECT ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ACCESSIBILITY AND INCLUSIVENESS WORKPLAN

OVERVIEW

Purpose of Report:

To provide an overview of the updated workplan for the Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusiveness.

Recommendation

To recommend that the Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusiveness endorse the ACAI 2023-2026 workplan as presented, and forward to Council for approval.

BACKGROUND

The purpose of the Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusiveness (ACAI) is to promote social and political equity within existing and proposed City plans, policies, bylaws and infrastructure; and make recommendations to ensure that they are inclusive and accommodating to citizens of all ages, abilities and walks of life.

The workplan outlines how the ACAI will meet its mandate and offer input and advice on accessibility and inclusiveness to Council during the 2023-2026 term.

DISCUSSION

An Information Report outlining a draft workplan was presented at the Special Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusiveness meeting held 2023-OCT-11. At that meeting, committee members discussed the various workplan topics and had the opportunity to give feedback, share ideas, and offer suggestions. Since that time, staff have updated the workplan to reflect the feedback accordingly.

ACAI WORKPLAN:

The goal of the workplan is to reduce barriers and improve equity and access to City residents in alignment with City Plan, the Integrated Action Plan priorities, and the terms of reference of the ACAI committee.

Topic	Overview
Accessibility in City Parks, Facilities & City Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rick Hansen Foundation priorities for allocation of funds for the audited facilities. • Determine priority for accessibility audits for other City facilities • Advise City staff on procedures and best practices for reducing barriers in facilities & infrastructure • Advise City staff on specific projects as needed
City Plan: Nanaimo Reimagined	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Input on internal style guide for inclusive language for municipal communications internally & externally • Statement on Accessibility, Equity and Inclusion • Input on other Integrated Action Plan items as needed
Resource	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Serve as a resource for City of Nanaimo projects • Receive presentations to advance awareness & share knowledge
Items referred by Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review & provide recommendations on issues and projects as directed by Council

OPTIONS

1. That the Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusiveness endorse the ACAI 2023-2026 workplan as presented, and forward to Council for approval.

- The advantages of this option: That the ACAI will have an established workplan in place for the 2023-2026 committee term.
- The disadvantages of this option: None.
- Financial Implications: None.

2. That the Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusiveness provide additional feedback for staff to revise ACAI 2023-2026 workplan.

- The advantages of this option: Additional revisions to workplan from ACAI committee members would be captured in revised ACAI 2023-2026 workplan.
- The disadvantages of this option: This option would delay the endorsement of the ACAI 2023-2026 workplan.
- Financial Implications: None.

SUMMARY POINTS

- The ACAI 2023-2026 workplan is intended to illustrate how the Committee will meet its mandate and offer recommendations and advice to Council.
- The Special Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusiveness meeting held 2023-OCT-11 provided the opportunity for committee members to provide feedback, share ideas, and offer suggestions towards the ACAI 2023-2026 workplan.
- The ACAI Committee recognizes that in addition to this proposed workplan, additional topics that fall under the Committee's mandate may come up that require Council's attention or may be referred by Council for the Committee to consider.

Submitted by:

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