

# Minutes from the Education and Awareness Sub-Committee

Date: Oct. 9, 2018

Time: 6 p.m.

Location: ACCAC Chair's house

## AGENDA

### 1. Review of primary asks from Open Houses and prioritizing next steps.

The sub-committee reviewed our prioritized list of accessibility requests, gleaned from our open house efforts and previously presented to CAPS. Though some steps have been taken, the desire of the committee was to ensure that momentum and attention has not been lost, identify some key next phases, and ensure consideration for key elements is included in the mandate of the incoming council. We also wanted to ensure that discussions have commenced in preparation for the next four-year budget cycle.

The committee reviewed our prioritized list of existing requests:

#### TRANSIT

- Reduction of wait time from three days to a maximum of one day
- Improvement of service call times to match call/wait/response times of that of the larger transit system
- Improve booking system to meet today's standards
- Increase of availability of accessible spaces on LTC busing or increasing paratransit rides
- Appropriate training and education of transit providers to assist in the respectful and appropriate interaction with people with disabilities, both visible and invisible.

#### EMPLOYMENT

- Removing artificial, non-job-essential requirements from all postings (CPR, driver's license, vehicle)
- Improving transit to ensure that people are able to get to interviews or jobs throughout the city
- Providing examples to the community of successfully employed PWD to provide visual representation for youth career aspirational goals
- Work with unions to remove systemic barriers to hiring people with disabilities (flexible hours, work from home, ergonomic issues, breaking up a full-time job into two part-time jobs)
- Working with community partners to improve awareness of accessible hiring best practices and tangible improvements to employment issues, including that the application process is fully accessible

## INFRASTRUCTURE

- Improve notification of construction projects, blocked passages, and road work, bus route changes. Review timing of pedestrian crossovers
- Work with heritage departments to find a human-focused solution to promote accessibility in heritage-designated buildings
- Snow removal -- change snow removal minimums and prioritize pedestrian pathways, bus access when it comes to snow removal.
- Commit to gathering areas and parks be fully accessible
- Ensure that City-funded housing programs live up to AODA compliance metrics and that accessibility is a key component in the approval of development projects, both residential and commercial. Accessibility loans.

From this we have identified the following motions:

“Be it resolved that, in order to adequately prepare for the upcoming four-year budget preparations, the accessibility advisory committee formally requests representation from the London Transit Commission’s commissioners at an upcoming ACCAC subcommittee meeting. Upon notification of attendance, ACCAC will provide a list of questions to the representative in order to provide the attendee with adequate time to prepare responses.”

“Be it resolved that the accessibility advisory committee formally request representation from the City of London’s union representative(s) at a future meeting, to discuss options for inclusion in employment, including but not limited to job sharing and flexibility that extends beyond the parameters of existing union contracts and defined job positions, in order to better facilitate hiring of people with disabilities.”

“Be it resolved that the City of London, in order to improve its notification of construction projects, blocked passages, road work, and public transit route changes, promote its reporting mechanisms to the general public and implement a public accountability measure, present on the City’s website, which allows for not only the display of reported issues, but assigns responsibility, and includes resolutions and/or projected timelines.

Be it further resolved that the City of London further mandates that every construction project has a pedestrian plan that prioritizes accessibility and notification.”

“Be it resolved the accessibility advisory committee formally requests that the City of London review its snow removal policy to reduce its mandated snow removal minimums and clearing thresholds in order to prioritize pedestrian pathways, access to bus shelters, and ensure that people with mobility challenges or requiring wheelchairs are able to navigate the city, even in inclement weather. The committee recommends reducing the threshold to the same as street level -- one inch of accumulation.

Be it further resolved that the City prioritize clearing of bus stops and accessible parking areas.

Be it further resolved that the City implement a public-awareness campaign, designed to reach out to members of the general public and local businesses, encouraging them to clear sidewalks, with an understanding that accumulation or post-clearing compacted snow and

ice poses significant barriers to accessibility. We recommend encouraging citizens to clear and salt/sand the sidewalks and entryways in their general vicinity.

**2. Next Meeting Date.**

Tuesday, Nov. 6, 2018 Location TBD  
7 p.m.