



Accessibility Advisory Committee

**Monday, February 26, 2024
4:00 PM**

Darlene Hincks Meeting Room, Main Floor, City Hall



OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

**Public Agenda
Accessibility Advisory Committee
Monday, February 26, 2024**

Approval of Public Agenda

Adoption of Minutes

Minutes of the meeting held January 23, 2024

Communications

ACC24-2 Inclusive Hiring

Recommendation

That the Accessibility Advisory Committee receive and file this communication.

ACC24-3 2024/2025 Recreation Facility Accessibility Improvements

Recommendation

That the Accessibility Advisory Committee receive and file this communication.

Adjournment

AT REGINA, SASKATCHEWAN, TUESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2024

AT A MEETING OF ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
HELD IN PUBLIC SESSION

AT 4:00 PM

These are considered a draft rendering of the official minutes. Official minutes can be obtained through the Office of the City Clerk once approved.

Present: John Bishop
Michelle Busch (Videoconference)
Patrick Chubb (Videoconference)
Dylan Morin
Sandra Palandri (Videoconference)
Mindy Strom (Videoconference)
Allard Thomas
Jonathan Tremblay
Councillor Lori Bresciani

Regrets: Kelsey Culbert
Bonnie Cummings-Vicaryous
Quinn Wilton

Also in Attendance: Council Officer, Martha Neovard
Manager, Paratransit & Accessibility, Lynette Griffin
Interpreter, Saskatchewan Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services, Karen Nurkowski
Interpreter, Saskatchewan Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services, Shayna Hoggarth

APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRPERSON AND VICE CHAIRPERSON

The Secretary called the meeting to order and following nomination procedures for the position of Chairperson, Sandra Palandri was declared Chairperson of the Accessibility Advisory Committee for 2024.

Following nomination procedures for the position of Vice-Chairperson, Jonathan Tremblay was declared Vice-Chairperson of the Accessibility Advisory Committee for 2024.

(Jonathan Tremblay took the Chair.)

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Dylan Morin moved, AND IT WAS RESOLVED, that the agenda for this meeting be approved, as submitted.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Sandra Palandri moved, AND IT WAS RESOLVED, that the minutes for the meeting held on November 14, 2023, be adopted, as circulated.

CITY CLERK'S REPORT

ACC24-1 2024 Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting Dates and Nominating Subcommittee Appointments

Recommendation

That the Accessibility Advisory Committee:

1. Approve its 2024 meeting dates to be held at 4:00 p.m., on the following dates:
 - Monday, February 26th, 2024
 - Tuesday, March 19th, 2024
 - Tuesday, May 14th, 2024
 - Tuesday, August 20th, 2024
 - Tuesday, October 8th, 2024
2. Approve its first meeting in 2025 to be held on Tuesday, January 28th, 2025 at 4:00 p.m.
3. Appoint two Committee members to the nominating subcommittee as outlined under the Discussion section of this report: and
4. Approve its Nominating Subcommittee meeting to be held on a specified date and time, between October 1st to 11th, 2024.

Mindy Strom moved that the Accessibility Advisory Committee:

1. Approve its 2024 meeting dates to be held at 4:00 p.m., on the following dates:
 - **Monday, February 26th, 2024**
 - **Tuesday, March 19th, 2024**
 - **Tuesday, May 14th, 2024**
 - **Tuesday, August 20th, 2024**
 - **Tuesday, October 8th, 2024**
2. Approve its first meeting in 2025 to be held on Tuesday, January 28th, 2025 at 4:00 p.m.
3. Appoint the following two Committee members to the nominating subcommittee as outlined under the Discussion section of this report: and

4. **Approve its Nominating Subcommittee meeting to be held on a date between October 1st to 11th, 2024, to be determined by the nominating subcommittee members.**

The motion was put and declared CARRIED.

RESULT:	CARRIED [Unanimous]
MOVER:	Member: Strom
IN FAVOUR:	Members: Bishop, Busch, Chubb, Morin, Palandri, Strom, Thomas, Tremblay

ADJOURNMENT

Sandra Palandri moved, AND IT WAS RESOLVED, that the meeting adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Chairperson

Secretary



Memo

February 26, 2024

To: Members,
Accessibility Advisory Committee

Re: Inclusive Hiring

RECOMMENDATION

That the Accessibility Advisory Committee receive and file this communication.

BACKGROUND

On January 24, 2023, the Talent Acquisition team presented to the Accessibility Advisory Committee and shared information on the new Talent Acquisition structure within the People & Organizational Culture department. The intent at that time was to share the information regarding the re-alignment of the recruitment function internally and the focus of inclusive hiring with the new team.

On February 26, 2024 the Talent Acquisition team will present an overview of our progress and strategic plans to further increase the diversity within our organization. A number of initiatives and action items have been achieved in 2023 in relation to hiring persons experiencing a disability. Talent intends to share information regarding the current state, future goals and achievements in the past year.

Respectfully submitted,

Ted Schisler
Deputy City Manager, Corporate Services



Memo

February 26, 2024

To: Members,
Accessibility Advisory Committee

Re: 2024/2025 Recreation Facility Accessibility Improvements

RECOMMENDATION

That the Accessibility Advisory Committee receive and file this communication.

BACKGROUND

On December 14, 2022, City Council passed a motion directing Administration to return to the Executive Committee with a report in Q1 2023 outlining options and associated cost implications of installing a chair lift or elevator at the new Wascana Pool to make the high waterslides more accessible.

Subsequently, on March 22, 2023, City Council approved a motion to fund these upgrades at an estimated capital cost of \$550,000, utilizing funding approved as part of the 2023 budget process to enhance the City's recreation facilities' accessibility and to augment that planned capital funding allocation from \$2.5 million over five years to \$3.1 million over six years. This would allow for the planned facility upgrades to be completed a year later. As part of this approval, Council requested Administration engage with the disability community on the safe operation of the solution.

In accordance with the recommendations approved on March 22, 2023, Administration engaged with the Accessibility Advisory Committee on November 14, 2023. Additional information was requested as part of the discussion. This information was provided via email following the meeting and is included as Appendix A for reference.

Administration provided an update to Council during its 2024 budget deliberations that the accessibility upgrades for the high waterslides are now estimated at \$1 million. In response, Council

directed Administration to perform broader engagement with the disability community and bring back a report to City Council in Q1 of 2024 that includes the engagement feedback and a recommendation for allocation of the 2024 and 2025 adapted recreation capital funding.

In response to Council's December 2023 direction, Administration developed an engagement plan that included a public survey and two focus groups with the disability community. The public survey was open from February 8 to 18, 2024. The focus groups occurred on February 6 and 7, 2024, with the City's Sector Reference Group, a group of representatives from organizations who provide services to people experiencing a disability in Regina, and the Disability Reference Group, a group of individuals with disabilities and caregivers who advise the City on recreation opportunities.

DISCUSSION

Administration will utilize a presentation to:

1. Share the outcomes of these engagements;
2. Share the potential 2024/2025 recreation capital upgrades (see Appendix B); and
3. Gather the AAC's feedback on the above.

This information will contribute to a report to Council, scheduled for the end of March, which will provide a recommendation on how the 2024/2025 funding for accessibility improvements should be utilized.

Respectfully submitted,



Bobbie Selinger
Manager, City Projects

Attachments:

Appendix A – Information Provided in Follow-up to Nov 14

Appendix B – Prioritization Information

cc: Laurie Shalley, Director, Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services
Shauna Bzdel, Director, Land, Real Estate & Facilities
Jamie Hanson, Manager, Facilities Engineering
Leah Goodwin, Public Engagement Advisor

ATTACHMENTS

Appendix A - Information Provided in Follow-Up to Nov 14

Appendix B - Prioritization Information

Appendix A – Information provided to the AAC following Nov 14, 2023, meeting

Administration provided the following information via email after the Nov 14, 2023, meeting. It is included here for easy reference:

In response to the Accessibility Advisory Committee's request for further information on the Panorama Facility just outside of Victoria, BC, below are some links that provide further information on that facility as well as a video that shows the process for using the accessibility equipment and a patron using that equipment to ride the waterslide:

<https://www.crd.bc.ca/panorama/about-us/inclusion-and-accessibility>

<https://www.google.ca/maps/@48.6244559,-123.4204452,3a,75y,214.62h,74.37t/data=!3m7!1e1!3m5!1sjLAPPYG7YOUAAQfDoKvXg!2e0!3e2!7i13312!8i6656>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4jMs4ltXYXg>

In addition, the Committee had requested that information regarding the costs for the project be brought back to the Committee for further discussion prior to information being shared with City Council. Unfortunately, timing did not permit for another meeting prior to information being shared with City Council. The City's 2024 budget is being released today and within that budget there is an update on the project. The update reads as follows:

In March 2023, City Council approved utilizing \$550,000 in funding from the Adapted Recreation Plan to improve accessibility of the high waterslides at Wascana Pool. Administration was intending to add an additional year of funding for that program to allow those items deferred to be completed. Since that time, further engagement, research, design and costing work has been completed on the solutions that will be implemented, including the 3 types of elevator and lifts that will be used for accessing and exiting the open flume high waterslide. The cost to implement the solution approved by Council is higher than anticipated, resulting in additional funding being required. Administration is recommending that up to an additional \$450,000 be allocated from the Adapted Recreation Plan to cover the additional costs anticipated and to extend that program accordingly to allow the full scope of that program to be implemented.

City Council will deliberate the 2024 budget on December 13 to 15, 2023.

Appendix B - 2024/2025 Prioritization of Facility Accessibility Improvements

Introduction:

The City of Regina is committed to reducing barriers to accessibility in our recreation facilities and has committed \$3.1 million over six years for facility accessibility upgrades.

Council is looking for feedback on how the disability community would prioritize planned accessibility investments across facilities and proposed accessibility upgrades to the high waterslides at the Wascana Outdoor Pool.

Background:

Audits to assess the accessibility of City public facilities were completed from 2021 to 2023 and led to recommended capital investments to address a range of accessibility issues at our recreation facilities. The recommended upgrades will improve how residents can enter facilities – e.g., better vehicle and sidewalk access and automated entrances as well as how residents can better experience the facilities – e.g. wayfinding and accessible washrooms.

The information provided in this handout provides a high-level overview of the proposed accessibility upgrades for the high waterslides at Wascana Outdoor Pool and for facility upgrades to help inform a discussion on prioritization.

Accessibility upgrades for the high waterslides at Wascana Outdoor Pool

Proposed Improvements:

- Install ramp or elevator to access the top waterslide platform
- Modify and extend top platform to accommodate wheelchair use
- Lifts at the top and bottom of the open waterslide to assist with entering and exiting the open waterslide
- Handrail installed at the top of the open waterslide
- Handrails installed at the bottom of the waterslides
- Contrasting colours added to slides, stairs and rails

Photos/Renderings (these are for illustration purposes only and not the final design):

Image 1 – Elevator



Description: Beside the stairs there is an elevator that takes patrons to the top of the waterslide platform. The elevator cab will be sized to accommodate one wheelchair and at least one more passenger and would be considered a standard passenger elevator. The following features have been requested: large braille buttons and audio/voice features.

Image 2 – Bottom of the Slide



Description: Monorail lift system is shown running the length of the waterslide runout with a designated wheelchair area at the end. As shown in the photo, colour contrasting will be added to the nosing of the stairs and railings will be added.

Image 2 – Top of the Waterslide Platform



Description: The top of the waterslide platform will be extended for wheelchair use. A lift is shown that will be used to assist patrons getting into the waterslide. Colour contrasting will be added to each of the waterslides as well as the railing above the opening. A railing will also be added to assist patrons entering the open slide.

DRAFT Process Description (these are subject to change):

The City will make every effort to describe the ride in terms of speed, turns and likely provide video to ensure a potential rider can assess their comfort with riding the waterslide. It's likely we would also have a video/explanation of the elevator, lift process and ride online to ensure patrons can be informed prior to visiting Wascana Pool.

Patrons will have access to both waterslides provided they can ride independently following the rules of the slides (as shown below) and do not need a lift.

Patrons requiring use of the lift (and double riding) will use the open waterslide

1. Elevator Process

- Patrons will be required to talk to a lifeguard prior to getting a code to access the elevator. Rules of the elevator and slide would be discussed. Any need for assistance would be identified (if required). No one will be refused access to the elevator.
 - We would have a waterproof item (lanyard, wristband, etc) for the patron to have for the day to assist with remembering the code.
- Patrons would line up and be permitted entry onto the slide in the groups of 10-15 people as per the standard process
- Patrons will use the code (numerical PIN) to enter the elevator
NOTE – while an elevator was originally approved, Administration is exploring if a ramped option would be more economical and closer to the original budget. If a ramped option appears to be viable it would be presented to Council for consideration as part of the report.

2. Lift Process

- Patrons who require use of the lift will be required to ride double unless they are able to fulfill all the rules of the slide (see below).
 - Maximum combined weight for double riding is 300 lbs for safety reasons and as per waterslide manufacturer's requirements
 - Patrons riding double will be required to follow all of the rules that are bolded in rules section (this is subject to change and clarification).
 - If any protective equipment is required (protective headwear or lifejacket) it would be provided by the City
- Patrons will use the lift to be lifted into the opening of the waterslide. It's likely that at least two attendants will be required to help with the lift, with one riding the slide as support. Assistance would also be required to take the wheelchair down to ground level.
 - A patron would remain connected to the lift until they are positioned into place and while an attendant moves in behind them to assist with riding double.
 - The patron would then be disconnected from the lift. Patrons MAY ride with their sling/ slipsheet provided it does not have any metal pieces.
 - The sling/slipsheet would be gathered and secured to minimize the risk of shifting or it coming loose while riding down the slide
- At the bottom of the ride; the overhead lift would be used to move the patron to the end of the waterslide where they would be lifted over the end of the waterslide and placed in a wheelchair waiting in the loading zone

- The intention is that this process will accommodate use of the City's Water Wheelchair or a patron's chair.

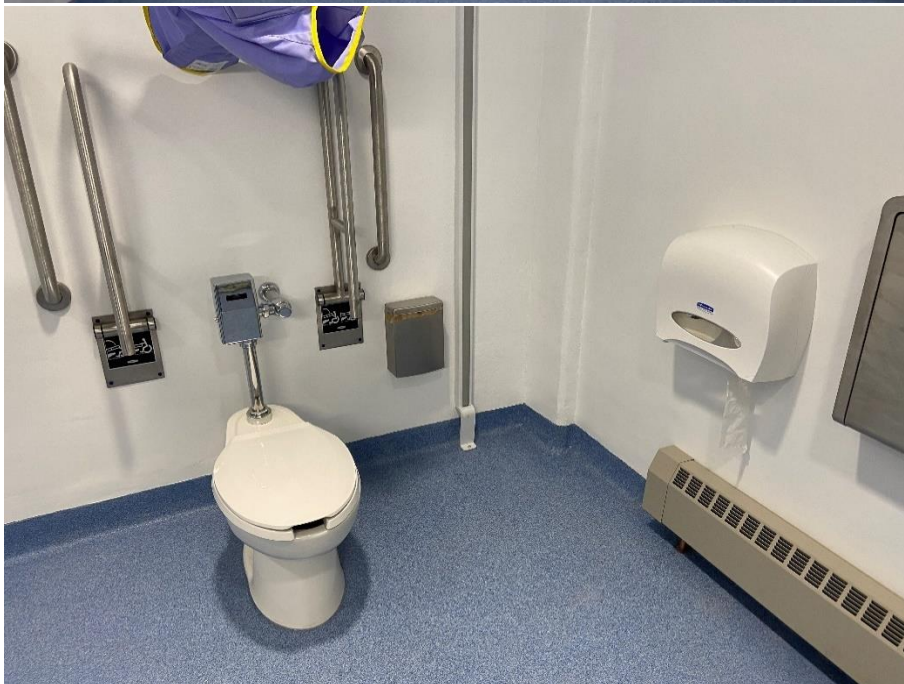
Waterslide Rules (Bolded rules would apply to double riding).

- **All riders must be at least 107 cm (42") tall.**
- **Maximum weight is 137 kg (300 lbs).**
- **Non-swimmers are not permitted.**
- **Riders must enter the slide in a sitting position and wait for permission to go.**
- Do not propel yourself into the ride.
- Ride feet first while laying on your back with arms crossed on your chest.
- Only one rider at a time (unless you are using the accessible lift method). No trains or chains of riders.
- **No running, standing, kneeling, rotation, tumbling or stopping in the flume. Arms and hands must always remain inside the flume.**
- Remain in proper riding position until forward movement is terminated. Never attempt to stand up while on the slide or prior to coming to a complete stop in the run-out area.
- **No tubes, mats or lifejackets are permitted on the waterslide. (LIFE JACKETS WILL BE PERMITTED PROVIDED THEY MEET CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS).**
- **No foreign objects are allowed in pockets and no jewelry can be worn while riding the slide. No cutoff jeans or swim wear with exposed zippers, buckles, rivets or metal ornamentation.**
- **Elderly persons, those suffering from heart disease, high blood pressure, epilepsy, or persons using prescription medication should consult their physician before using the waterslide.**
- **Individuals with medical conditions including, but not limited to, pregnancy, heart or back problems should not ride.**
- **Users with serious medical conditions are requested to notify the lifeguard.**
- Leave the run-out area immediately.

The following is an overview of other planned improvements for 2024 and 2025:

Facilities	Accessibility Improvements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cathedral Neighbourhood Centre 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Replace exterior ramp to bring it to current code Upgrade external bench to include back and arm support Assistive listening technology Signage/wayfinding improvements for accessibility Upgrade exit signs, revise height of fire alarm pull stations and access to first aid and fire extinguishers Upgrade all gender washroom to meet modern accessibility standards and include lift & plinth
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Doug Wickenheiser Arena & North West Leisure Centre 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upgrade parking signage to better identify parking and drop-off Upgrade external bench to include back and arm support Assistive listening technology Provide colour-contrast strip and edge protection to exterior ramp Provide power operated door to north entrance Install power operators on two main washrooms (Wick) Upgrades to the all gender washroom including adding power-operated door, signage, slide lock for stall door, grab bars, toilet paper dispenser, counter space (NWLC) Signage/wayfinding improvements for accessibility Add visual fire alarm devices in the washrooms, upgrade exit signs, improve access to first aid and fire extinguishers
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sandra Schmirler Leisure Centre 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase visibility on exterior pathway Upgrade external bench to include back and arm support Assistive listening technology Increase high visual marking on all glazed walls Install power door operators on the designated accessible lobby washrooms, hallway to pool and universal family washroom/changeroom Upgrade existing accessible washrooms with appropriate door hardware, grab bars, washroom fixtures Signage/wayfinding improvements for accessibility Upgrade exit signs, revise exterior exit concrete and access to first aid and fire extinguishers
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Al Ritchie Arena 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide power door for entrance leading to washroom hallway Upgrade external bench to include back and arm support Assistive listening technology Upgrade interior ramp slip resistance, add colour contrast strips and fill in gaps to create even surface Upgrade existing accessible washroom with accessible door hardware, grab bars, washroom fixtures Signage/wayfinding improvements for accessibility Revise height of fire alarm pull stations and access to first aid and fire extinguishers

Photos/Renderings (these are for illustration purposes only and not the final design):
Images 1-3 – Example of the City's standard all gender accessible washroom with lift and plinth





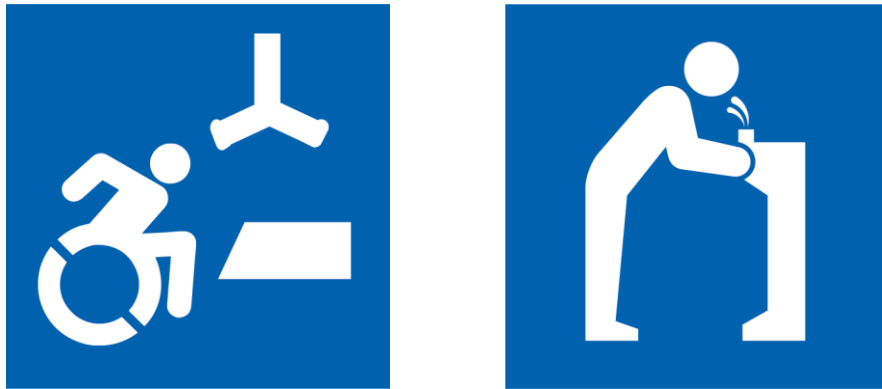
Description of Image 1-3: An all gender washroom with toilet and accessibility features, lift that can travel between toilet and shower, a plinth and accessible shower area and accessible sink. All features are at accessible heights.

Image 4 – Assistive listening system



Description: The City will be installing assistive listening devices and denoting it with an icon from our standardized signage policy. This photo is included for illustration purposes only to help describe the upgrade; the actual system is subject to further engagement.

Image 5 – Example of icons from the City’s new Accessible Signage Policy



Description: The City’s Accessible Signage policy follows the guidance of the Province of Saskatchewan’s Building Standards Guide for Barrier-Free Design and the Canadian Standards Association’s Accessible Design for the Built Environment and was also informed by Rick Hansen Foundation’s Accessibility Certification program.