



SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

SEPTEMBER 23, 2024

MEETING HELD IN THE DISTRICT OF SECHELT COMMUNITY MEETING ROOM AT 5797 COWRIE STREET, SECHELT, B.C. AND VIA ZOOM

PRESENT:

(Voting Members)

W. Conway
E. Eaton
L. Forrest
A. Gursche
R. Kiewitz
A. Lattanzi
B. Straw
S. Tompkins (. Pirillo, SCACL)

ALSO PRESENT:

(Non-Voting)

Councillor, TOG
Councillor, DOS
SCRD Director, Electoral Area B
D. Croal
D. Inkster
J. Gabias

REGRETS:

Member
Member
Member
D. Dutto
Student Representative
K. Cramer

STAFF

Corporate Officer, DOS
Staff, SCR D
Staff, DOS
Staff, TOG
Recorder
K. Poulsen
R. Porte
M. Stjepovic
K. Thomas
C. Kidd

CALL TO ORDER

The Corporate Officer assumed the Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:37 pm. and acknowledged traditional lands of the shíshálh Nation, sharing her gratitude for the privilege of being able to work, live and raise a family within the swiya.

INTRODUCTIONS

Committee members participated in a round table of introductions.

AGENDA

Recommendation No. 1

Moved/Seconded

That the agenda be amended to add an item for discussion on the Accessibility Advisory Committee Student Council representative seat; and

That the September 23, 2024 agenda of the Sunshine Coast Regional Accessibility Advisory Committee be adopted as amended.

CARRIED

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

Recommendation No. 2

Moved/Seconded

That the June 25, 2024 Sunshine Coast Regional Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes be approved.

CARRIED

The Corporate Officer provided an overview of Sunshine Coast local governments and reviewed the Committee Terms of Reference.

NEW BUSINESS

ELECTION OF THE COMMITTEE CHAIR AND ALTERNATE CHAIR

The Corporate Officer called for nominations for SCRAAC Chair. W. Conway was nominated, and accepted the nomination.

The Corporate Officer called for nominations for the position of SCRAAC Alternate Chair. B. Straw was nominated and accepted the nomination.

Recommendation No. 3

Moved/Seconded

That W. Conway be elected as Chair and that B. Straw be elected as Alternate Chair for the Sunshine Coast Regional Accessibility Advisory Committee for a one-year term.

CARRIED

ACCESSIBILITY PLAN FRAMEWORK

The Corporate Officer provided a brief overview of the legislation requiring the creation of the Accessibility Plan and explained that copies of Accessibility Plans from other municipalities had been shared with the Committee for reference. Staff provided an overview of potential timelines for creation of the framework, public engagement and the resources required for the development of a Plan.

The Committee discussed the following topics:

- Process for identifying barriers and opportunities in the most efficient means possible.

- Options for the scope of the Accessibility Plan.
- The possibility of funding to hire a consultant to assist with creation of the Accessibility Plan.

Recommendation No. 4

Moved/Seconded

That staff representatives apply for grant funding to support Sunshine Coast Accessibility Advisory Committee initiatives including, but not limited to, hiring a consultant to create the Accessibility Plan and projects that reduce or eliminate accessibility barriers on the Sunshine Coast.

CARRIED

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Councillor Croal explained that the student representative appointed to the Sunshine Coast Accessibility Advisory Committee had graduated and that a new student had been appointed to the Town of Gibsons Council in their place. The Councillor informed the Committee that:

- The student representatives have proven valuable on the Town of Gibsons Council to be able to highlight the needs of youth and children on a variety of topics.
- The student representative in Gibsons communicates with leadership groups from other schools in Sechelt, Pender Harbour and Powell River to help ensure they are aware of student perspectives across the upper and lower Sunshine Coast.
- A motion to appoint the Town of Gibsons student representative each year to the SCRAAC would allow the appointment to automatically transfer to the new grade 11 or 12 student that had been appointed by the Town of Gibsons, without the need to have the District of Sechelt Council, Town of Gibsons Council and SCRD Board to each pass a resolution to appoint a new student each year.

Recommendation No. 5

Moved/Seconded

That the Town of Gibsons student representative be appointed to the Sunshine Coast Regional Accessibility Advisory Committee each year.

CARRIED

Recommendation No. 6

Moved/Seconded

That a letter be sent to School District 46 to inquire about the implementation of their accessibility plan and to inquire about opportunities for collaboration; and

That the letter be approved by the Chair before it is sent.

CARRIED

COMMITTEE VISION

The Committee discussed options for a vision statement.

ACCESSIBILITY BARRIERS AND OPPORTUNITIES ON THE SUNSHINE COAST

The Committee discussed barriers that they have faced and a list of these barriers was recorded. Processes for creating a list of barriers and opportunities, prioritizing this list and ensuring alignment with the accessibility plan were discussed.

Committee members will send additional accessibility barriers and opportunities for improvement to legislative@scrd.ca, where staff will consolidate all of the Committee suggestions into a list for review the next meeting.

NEXT MEETING

Options for the next meeting were discussed, including accessible locations and time of day. The Town of Gibsons will circulate options for the next meeting, to take place in October 2024, to the Committee by email.

ADJOURNMENT

Recommendation No. 7

Moved/Seconded

That the September 23, 2024 Sunshine Coast Regional Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting be adjourned at 7:38 pm.

CARRIED

Certified Correct:

William Conway, Chair

Kerianne Poulsen, Corporate Officer