



Accessibility Committee – Orientation - Minutes
Tuesday, June 19, 2023 7:00 PM
Prestige Hotel Prince Rupert (118 6 St, Prince Rupert BC)

Chair V. Stewart, City of Prince Rupert

Members: V. Wiley
A. Falvo
E Landrath
S. Small
G. Barthe
E. Skelton

Regrets: K. Millar

Staff: M. Taylor, Prince Rupert Library
H. Tsang, North Coast Regional District

Public Media: 0

1. CALL TO ORDER / INTRODUCTIONS

1.1. *The Accessibility Committee acknowledges the traditional territory of the Ts'msyen on which this meeting takes place.*

1.2. Call to Order at 7 p.m.

2. ELECTION OF CHAIR

2.1 V. Stewart called for nominations for the position of Chair of the Prince Rupert & Area Accessibility Committee for 2023.

The Committee nominated V. Stewart as Chair; V. Stewart accepted the nomination.

Nominations were called for a second time.
Nominations were called for a third and final time.
There being no further nominations, nominations were closed.

V. Stewart was declared Chair of the Prince Rupert & Area Accessibility Committee for 2023 by acclamation.

3. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR & SECRETARY

- 3.1 V. Stewart called for nominations for the position of Vice Chair & Secretary of the Prince Rupert & Area Accessibility Committee for 2023.

V. Stewart nominated H. Tsang as Vice Chair & Secretary; H. Tsang accepted the nomination.

Nominations were called for a second time.
Nominations were called for a third and final time.
There being no further nominations, nominations were closed.

H. Tsang was declared Vice Chair & Secretary of the Prince Rupert & Area Accessibility Committee for 2023 by acclamation.

4. BOARD MINUTES & BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

- 4.1. Adoption of Minutes

That the Prince Rupert & Area Accessibility Committee resolves to adopt the May 16, 2023 Prince Rupert & Area Accessibility Committee minutes as presented.

Wiley/Landrath

001-2023

CARRIED

5. TERMS OF REFERENCE

5.1. Adoption of Terms of Reference

That the Prince Rupert & Area Accessibility Committee resolves to adopt the Terms of Reference as presented.

002-2023

**Barthe/Wiley
CARRIED**

6. Review ‘Understanding Barriers to Accessibility’ Handout

6.1. V. Stewart reviewed the ‘Understanding Barriers to Accessibility’ handout.

7. Defining Accessibility/Community Vision for Accessibility

7.1. V. Stewart asked the Committee that when it comes to defining accessibility, which words come to mind?

The Committee responded with the following words: unencumbered, freedom, unintimidating, equality, stress free, open for business, accommodating, welcoming, easy to understand, open mindedness, and not more work than the average person.

V. Stewart also shared technical definitions of accessibility from the B.C. government.

V. Stewart noted that a SPARC BC Grant is now accepting one-time applications from local governments, for up to \$25,000 and that the Committee can contemplate any suitable projects.

8. Provision of Measuring Up Report from 2008 as Background/Research

8.1. V. Stewart presented the Prince Rupert Measuring Up report from 2008 and the Committee had a discussion on outstanding items from the report:

- Traffic light on 3rd and Fulton is really old and does not have a push button. The Lions Club is applying for a vision grant and may be interested in contributing to this project;
- The small sidewalk offset near the Pavilion Restaurant parking lot / explore support from the Pavilion Restaurant;
- V. Stewart noted that a mechanism for feedback will be developed to hear from the community about other accessibility issues within Prince Rupert & Area. The Committee noted that while an online mechanism is useful, other useful methods include newspaper advertising, presentations to local community groups, feedback boxes at local community

organizations, information booths at events, and questionnaires at civic facilities;

The Committee also discussed:

- Calling the Committee the Prince Rupert & Area Accessibility Committee; and
- Using 16 point font for all Prince Rupert & Area Accessibility Committee communications materials moving forward.

The Committee discussed priorities for action:

Delivery of Services

- Review a demonstration of the new WCAG 2.0 draft City of Prince Rupert website;

Civic Facilities

- Viewing ramp at the ice rink is overly cold / explore funding via Prince Rupert Port Authority Community Investment Fund;
- Explore accessible seating at Lester Centre to coincide with installation of new seats;

The Built Environment

- Explore marked wheelchair accessible loading areas, such as in front of the Second Avenue Medical Clinic (330 2nd Ave W, Prince Rupert);

Employment

- The Rupert Square Mall should explore wheelchair accessible bathrooms on the top floor;

- The Rupert Square Mall should place a written notice by the elevator as it is required to access Home Hardware; the notice should include information on how to contact security, which is required to use the elevator. The Prince Rupert & Area Accessibility Committee will write a letter to the Rupert Square Mall on this matter;

Transportation

- The Prince Rupert & Area Accessibility Committee will send a letter to Skeena Taxi to inquire about the process to book accessible taxi's;
- Explore availability of information regarding taxi saver programs;

Other

- Talk to Citywest to see if there is a larger font version of the phone book; and
- Publicize 311 telephone number to access a directory of City of Prince Rupert services.

7. ADJOURNMENT

7.1 Adjournment

"That the Accessibility Committee adjourns the Accessibility Committee meeting held June 19, 2023, the time being 8:17 p.m."

Approved and adopted:

Certified correct:

Chair

Secretary