



**Prince Rupert & Area Accessibility Committee - Minutes**  
**Tuesday, August 15, 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 (via teleconference)  
S. Small  
E. Skelton  
V. Fraser (via teleconference)

Regrets: G. Barthe

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

Public Media: 0

**1. CALL TO ORDER / INTRODUCTIONS**

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

1.2. Call to Order at 7:01 p.m.

**2. CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA  
(ADDITIONS/DELETIONS)**

2.1. Adoption of Agenda

That the Prince Rupert & Area Accessibility Committee resolves to adopt the August 15, 2023 Prince Rupert & Area Accessibility Committee agenda as amended to include:

- 6.1 - Wheelchair accessible decals; and
- 6.1 - Seniors Centre.

**006-2023**

**Falvo/Skelton  
CARRIED**

### **3. BOARD MINUTES & BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

#### 3.1. Adoption of Minutes

That the Prince Rupert & Area Accessibility Committee resolves to adopt the July 18, 2023 Prince Rupert & Area Accessibility Committee minutes as presented.

**Falvo/Wiley**

**007-2023**

**CARRIED**

### **4. WORKSHOP ON ACCESSIBILITY PLAN**

#### 4.1. Workshop on Accessibility Plan

The Prince Rupert & Area Accessibility Committee reviewed existing actions and additions relating to Outdoor Recreation, including parks, fields, and recreational spaces as follows:

- V. Stewart reviewed priorities relating to “Outdoor Recreation.” The Committee discussed:
  - Considering new accessible washrooms for outdoor recreational areas;
  - Promoting Seal Cove Salt Marsh as an accessible trail;
  - Exploring Christmas trolley bus tours for residents of Acropolis Manor;
  - Promoting Bocce as an accessible sport;
  - Examining accessibility of Victoria Field and George Casey Park;

- Highlighting that the swinging gate at Charles Hays Secondary School is locked and prevents access for wheelchairs;
- Considering the spread of accessible spaces across the City; and
- Exploring accessible picnic tables at parks; and
- Supporting the development of Cloud Berry Trail.

The following items were also discussed and will be included under the Transportation topic:

- Exploring HandyDart operating hours and whether it can be used to bring people to visit recreational areas; and
- Supporting the purchase of wider bus shelters.

The following items were also discussed and will be included under the Civic Facilities topic:

- Installing handheld showers in the Earl Mah Aquatic Centre changing rooms as well as the shower beside the sauna.

## **5. DISCUSSION OF GRANT OPPORTUNITY**

- 5.1 The Prince Rupert & Area Accessibility Committee discussed the \$25,000 grant offered through SPARC BC and V. Stewart asked the Committee to identify ideas to improve accessibility that may currently be cost-prohibitive.

The Committee also discussed looking into other grant opportunities at Elks of Canada, Rick Hansen Foundation, and the Lions Clubs International.

That the Prince Rupert & Area Accessibility Committee directed staff to investigate applications to the SPARC BC Local Community Accessibility Grant Program for the following items:

- An aluminum wheelchair ramp for the Lester Centre of the Arts;
- A stainless steel pool lift for The Earl Mah Aquatic Centre;
- An audio-visual system for hearing impaired for the Lester Centre of the Arts; and
- A video magnifier device and an assistive reading pen for the Prince Rupert Library;

And that staff report back to the Prince Rupert & Area Accessibility Committee at a future meeting.

**Falvo/Landrath**

**008-2023**

**CARRIED**

## **6. Community Engagement**

6.1 The Prince Rupert & Area Accessibility Committee discussed community engagement. The Committee discussed:

- Developing a full list of actions before beginning community engagement;
- Engaging the Seniors Centre in Fall 2023 / Winter 2024 and review handicap parking at the Seniors Centre;
- Reviewing designated handicap parking measurements and condition of handicap parking;
- Exploring customized ramps with the School District;
- Exploring wheelchair accessible decals to be used on Facebook pages of local businesses and restrooms; and
- Sending a thank you note to the group that created the Measure Up Prince Rupert report, published in 2008.

## **7. Next Meeting**

7.1 The Prince Rupert & Area Accessibility Committee discussed the location of future meetings:

- Tuesday, September 12, 2023 at 7 p.m.;
- Tuesday, October 17, 2023 at 7 p.m.; and
- Tuesday, November 14, 2023 at 7 p.m.

## **8. ADJOURNMENT**

8.1 That the Prince Rupert & Area Accessibility Committee adjourns the Prince Rupert & Area Accessibility Committee meeting held August 15, 2023, the time being 8:28 p.m.

*Approved and adopted:*

*Certified correct:*

---

***Chair***

---

***Secretary***