



## **Administrative Report**

### **Office of the Director of Council & Community Services/Clerk**

**To:** Warden Gary McNamara and Members of Essex County Council

**From:** Mary Birch  
Director of Council & Community Services/Clerk

**Date:** Wednesday, September 16, 2020

**Subject:** Appointment to the ECAAC for the Remainder of the Term ending in 2022

**Report #:** 2020-0916-CCS-R006-MB

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#### **Purpose**

To recommend an individual to fill a vacancy on the Essex County Accessibility Advisory Committee (ECAAC), for the remainder of the term ending in 2022.

#### **Background**

The County of Essex is committed to ensuring our buildings, services and programs are accessible to all residents. The ECAAC is continually working to identify accessibility barriers in order to remove them.

#### **Discussion**

The ECAAC is typically very active in its advisory role and works year-round to promote inclusiveness, awareness and to share information regarding accessibility.

The advisory committee, among other tasks, also:

- Reviews policies and procedures for accessibility;

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- Reviews blueprints and designs;
- Tours existing facilities and suggests improvements;
- Organizes and promotes accessibility awareness events;
- Initiates discussions on social media and elsewhere and attends public events.

In accordance with the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA), a majority of the members of the Accessibility Advisory Committee shall be persons with disabilities. As such, the ECAAC is composed of seven members; one member of County Council, four members who have disabilities and two members from the community at large. At the first meeting of each year, the Chair is elected from among its' members as is the Vice-Chair.

## **Striking Committee**

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Early in 2020 a call for applicants was issued to fill a vacancy on the Essex County Accessibility Advisory Committee. Applications were received until Friday March 13, 2020. Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, a postponement in the review and selection process was appropriate.

On September 2, 2020 the Striking Committee convened to review applications and recommend an individual to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the current term. Six applications were received in total for the one vacancy. After a review of eligibility criteria, qualifications and references the Striking Committee is recommending the appointment of Rachel Jewell to fill the vacancy.

## **Financial Implications**

The County of Essex budget includes the required funds for this committee member expense.

## **Recommendation**

That the minutes of the Striking Committee for September 2, 2020 be adopted and that Essex County Council approve the appointment of Rachel Jewell to the Essex County Accessibility Advisory Committee for the remainder of the current term, ending in 2022.

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Respectfully Submitted

*Mary Birch*

Originally Signed by

Mary Birch Director of Council & Community Services/Clerk

Concurred With,

*Robert Maisonville*

Originally Signed by

Robert Maisonville, Chief Administrative Officer

<b>Appendix No.</b>	<b>Title of Appendix</b>
Appendix A	Striking Committee Minutes of September 2, 2020