



Essex County Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

**Thursday, October 3, 2024
5:00 PM
Council Chambers, 2nd Floor
360 Fairview Avenue West
Essex, Ontario N8M 1Y6**

**Committee
Members:**

Dennis Sanson, Chair
Debbie Alexander, Vice Chair
Sherri Currie
Kimberly DeYong, Deputy Mayor - Town of Kingsville
Rachel Jewell
Diana Kirkbride
Julie Miles

Administration: Katherine Hebert, County Clerk / Manager, Records and Accessibility
Crystal Sylvestre, Coordinator, Legislative and Community Services

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:02 PM.

2. Land Acknowledgement Statement

We acknowledge the land on which the County of Essex is located is the traditional territory of the Three Fires Confederacy of First Nations, comprised of the Ojibway, Odawa and Potawatomie Peoples.

We specifically recognize Caldwell First Nation and other First Nations which have provided significant historical and contemporary contributions to this region.

We also value the contributions of all Original Peoples of Turtle Island, who have been living and working on this land from time immemorial.

3. Recording of Attendance

All members of the Essex County Accessibility Advisory Committee were present in the Council Chamber.

4. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest declared.

5. Adoption of the Minutes

Moved By Sherri Currie

Seconded By Julie Miles

That the minutes of the September 10, 2024 meeting of the Essex County Accessibility Advisory Committee be adopted as presented.

Carried

6. Delegations and Presentations

There were no Delegations or Presentations for October 3, 2024.

7. Communications

Moved By Sherri Currie

Seconded By Debbie Alexander

That items listed on the Essex County Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting agenda, as items 7. Communications, be received and that any noted action are taken.

Carried

7.1 Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA)

[AODA Toolbox Latest Edition and Archives](#)

7.2 Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act Alliance

[AODA Alliance, What's New in Our Program?](#)

7.3 CNIB News

[CNIB News](#)

7.4 Autism Ontario

[September 2024 Newsletter](#)

7.5 Ontario Today with Amanda Pfeffer

September 26, 2024: [When it comes to disability accessibility, what barrier is making life more difficult where you live?](#)

8. Unfinished Business

8.1. 2024 Workplan

The ECAAC Workplan consisted of reviewing compliance related matters to the end of 2024 including discussions on the Annual MYAP report and the ECAAC end of year delegation to Essex County Council.

9. Reports from Administration

9.1. Outdoor Accessibility Fest-for-All After Event Report

Report 2024-1003-LCS-R02-CS from Crystal Sylvestre, Coordinator, Legislative and Community Services regarding information regarding the 2024 Outdoor Accessibility Fest-for-All.

Crystal Sylvestre provided the ECAAC with an overview of feedback received from exhibitors and other participants; noting that the feedback received was very positive and there was a strong appetite amongst the exhibitors to participate in other ECAAC events in the future. The Town of Amherstburg had contacted Administration and expressed interest in being the next municipal host should the event become an annual event.

The Committee agreed that the event was a success and met the goal of increasing awareness around accessibility in the community. The Committee was supportive of Administration connecting with Amherstburg to gather information regarding their facilities to begin plans for the 2025 Accessibility Fest-for-All.

Moved By Sherri Currie

Seconded By Julie Miles

That the Essex County Accessibility Advisory Committee receive report number 2024-1003-LCS-R02-CS, 2024 Outdoor Accessibility Fest-for-All After Event Review as information.

Carried

9.2. WE Check the Trails feedback

Katherine Hebert reviewed the feedback provided through the WE Check the Trails tool. The suggestions would be relayed to the most appropriate trail authority.

Moved By Kimberly DeYong
Seconded By Debbie Alexander

That Essex County Accessibility Advisory Committee receive report number 2024-1003-LCS-R03-CS WE Check the Trails Feedback as information and forward the information to the most appropriate trail authority.

Carried

9.3. 2025 ECAAC Meeting Schedule

Moved By Debbie Alexander
Seconded By Sherri Currie

That the Essex County Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting schedule for 2025 be approved as presented.

Carried

9.4. Civic Centre Renovations Phase 3

Crystal Sylvestre outlined the design plans for Phase 3 of the Civic Centre renovations. The phase included remodelling the meeting spaces on the upper floor. It was discussed that automatic door openers on all of the access points in the public spaces should be recommended to the design team.

Moved By Sherri Currie
Seconded By Rachel Jewell

That the Essex County Accessibility Advisory Committee submit the recommendation of automatic door openers to the Civic Centre Phase 3 design team.

Carried

9.5. Annual Multi-Year Accessibility Plan Review

Katherine Hebert reminded the Committee that the annual review of the Multi-Year Accessibility Plan would be included in the November 2024 agenda. Members were asked to review the plan ahead of time to prepare for the discussion.

10. New Business

There was no New Business brought forward on October 2, 2024.

11. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting of the Essex County Accessibility Advisory Committee is scheduled for Thursday, November 7, 2024 at 5:00 PM at the Essex County Civic Centre Council Chambers.

12. Adjournment

Moved By Debbie Alexander

Seconded By Kimberly DeYong

That the October 3, 2024 meeting of the Essex County Accessibility Advisory Committee be adjourned at 5:47 PM.

Carried