Accessibility, Inclusion, Diversity and Equity Committee
Minutes

Date: **October 29, 2026**
Time: **4:30 pm**
Location: **Council Chambers, Town Hall**

Members Present
Councillor Kathy Wells, Chair
Vanessa Jones, Citizen Representative, Vice Chair
Councillor, Hal Davidson
Clifford Pinchbeck, Citizen Representative
Jim Prendergast, Citizen Representative
LJ Barquilla, Citizen Representative
Marina Godfrey, Citizen Representative
Victoria Vance, Citizen Representative

Members Regrets Ava Tooley, Youth Town Council Representative

Members Absent Tammy Gero, Citizen Representative

Staff Present
Aaron Bourgeois, Director of Operations
Mallory Klooster, Community Well-Being Manager
Marc Buske, Building Official
Natalie LeBlanc, Municipal Clerk
Cindy Brown, Administrative Assistant

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1. Call to Order
The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:30 PM.

1.1 Territorial Acknowledgement
The Chair gave the Territorial Acknowledgement.

1.2 Approval of Agenda
Moved By Clifford Pinchbeck
Seconded By Marina Godfrey
That the agenda be approved as circulated.

Motion Carried

1.3 Acceptance of Minutes - May 13, 2026
The Chair called for any errors or omissions in the minutes. There being none, the minutes of the May 13, 2026, meeting of the Accessibility, Inclusion, Diversity and Equity Committee were accepted as included in the agenda package.

1.4 Election of Vice Chair
The Clerk reviewed her memo included in the agenda package regarding the election of Vice Chair from the May 13, 2026, meeting. At that time, Vanessa Jones was nominated however she was not present to accept the nomination. The Clerk asked Vanessa Jones if she would like to accept the position of Vice Chair. Vanessa Jones accepted the position of Vice Chair.

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2. Anti-Racism Application Update

Mallory Klooster reviewed her memo, included as part of the agenda package, noting this application will help fund a full-time term position who would lead the collaborative project with youth and community partners. Mallory said they are expecting a decision next month.

3. Accessible Playground Update

Mallory Klooster reviewed her memo, included as part of the agenda package, noting that the Accessible Playground project, located at 51 Beacon Street, is underway, and the old equipment has been removed.

Councillor Kathy Wells suggested that an update be provided through Community Living social media of the playground progress.

4. Stadium Built Environment Assessment

Mallory Klooster reviewed the Amherst Stadium built environment assessment, included as part the agenda package.

Aaron Bourgeois said that he believes most of the list of recommendations can be handled through operations, but the power doors and handrails will have to be added to next year's capital budget.

Marc Buske explained why some areas of the stadium can not have handrails as they can impede an evacuation in case of a fire.

Councillor Davidson asked about the status of the elevator at the stadium. Aaron Bourgeois replied that it is back in operation as of today.

Moved By Marina Godfrey
Seconded By Clifford Pinchbeck
That the Accessibility, Inclusion, Diversity and Equity Committee recommends to Council that funds be included in the 2027/28 capital budget to review opportunities to install or improve power-operated doors to support independent access throughout the Stadium facility and also to assess the need for additional or improved handrails along the main entrance route to the change rooms and on stairways to improve safety and accessibility.

Motion Carried

5. Next Meeting Date

The committee will be contacted in the New Year to choose a meeting date.

6. Adjournment

There being no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting.

Natalie LeBlanc
Municipal Clerk

Councillor Kathy Wells
Chair

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