



WEST HANTS REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT FOR Accessibility Advisory Committee

Submitted by: Chrystal Remme, Councillor District 3

Meeting Date: January 29, 2026

Meeting Location: Hybrid meeting, with in-person at Windsor Elms

SUMMARY/UPDATE OF THE COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES:

The Accessibility Advisory Committee met this month at the Windsor Elms. I joined the meeting online, as members were asked not to attend in person if they were feeling unwell.

We reviewed the Committee work plan and discussed the progress that has been made so far.

The Committee spent time talking about accessibility considerations related to WinterThing. We have been contacted to provide accessibility tips, but it is not yet clear what specific guidance is being requested. The Chair, Michel, will follow up to get clarification before the Committee provides input. As part of that discussion, members raised concerns from past WinterThing events, including the use of fire pits and the difficulty this creates for people using wheelchairs.

The Committee also spent time talking about accessibility and special events more broadly. I'm particularly excited about the opportunity to build accessibility considerations directly into the Municipality's special event application. Adding simple prompts or a checklist would make it easier for organizers to think about accessibility early and to clearly communicate accessible features. This has real potential to strengthen events across the region and help bring more people out. The idea of temporary accessible parking passes or designated accessible parking spaces for events was also discussed.

The Committee discussed the importance of following up on items already identified in the work plan adopted by Council, including the addition of an accessibility lens to staff reports.

An update was provided on an EDIA grant that the Municipality received to support sledge hockey. Equipment is available, and community members are able to try it on Sunday evenings.

As part of the meeting, an accessibility walk-through was completed at the Windsor Elms. Although I participated virtually, these tours continue to be an important part of the Committee's work and help ground discussions in real spaces. We also talked about continuing to rotate meeting locations and are exploring the possibility of holding a future meeting at the Hantsport Fire Department.

The next meeting of the Accessibility Advisory Committee is scheduled for February 26.

ACTION ITEMS:

Councillors are encouraged to consider community spaces or facilities in their districts that may be interested in hosting a future Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting or having an accessibility audit.