



SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS

MEETING OF THE ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COUNCIL

ONLINE - ZOOM

THURSDAY, JANUARY 11, 2024, Meeting TIME: 10:00 AM - 12:05 PM

Present: John Graham (Chairperson), Dianna Scarth, Kris Cowley, Shawna Joynt, Scott Jocelyn, Josh Watt, Laurel Repski, Ray Schirle (Future Association of Manitoba Municipalities Representative to Council - replacing Kelly Cook), Darren Macdonald, Emily Walker, and Colleen Watters (MAO), Two ASL Interpreters (ECCOE)

Regrets: None

The chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and Council members introduced themselves. The chair made a land acknowledgement.

The chair reported the availability of a January 10, 2024 [news release](#) announcing the release of the Accessible Transportation Standard. The Standard comes into force on January 1, 2027.

Action: The secretary will send a copy of the news release to Council members. Complete.

By way of Manitoba Accessibility Office updates, the secretary provided updates around the Design of Outdoor Public Spaces Standard. As of January 1, 2024, Manitoba is following the 2020 National Building Code.

A five-year review of the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) has just been completed, and several media articles about the AODA have been published by CBC. There were also articles in the Winnipeg Free Press about Manitoba's Five-Year Review and a recent visit to Manitoba by David Lepofsky of the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities (AODA) Alliance.

Action: The secretary will send links to the above-mentioned media articles to Council members. Complete.

The 2024-25 Manitoba Accessibility Fund intake opened on January 8 and will close on February 16, 2024. The intake is being publicized through media release, Accessibility News, and a MAO email distribution list. A MAF webinar will take place on January 18, 2024 from 1:30 to 2:30 PM by zoom.

The chair and secretary presented a slide deck containing the recommendations from the AMA Five-Year Review and Council discussed the recommendations.

Discussion of the Accessible Customer Service Standard progress report and the Five-Year Review of the Accessible Employment Standard were tabled until the next meeting.

Council members discussed preparation for a meeting with the Minister to be held on February 20, 2024. The Council meeting adjourned at 11:55 AM.