

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS
ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING
FRIDAY, MARCH 5, 2021
1:00 – 3:00 PM

(ONLINE FORUM)

Present: Honourable Rochelle Squires (Minister of Families and Minister responsible for Accessibility), Heidi Wurmman (Assistant Deputy Minister), John Graham (Chairperson), Scott Jocelyn, Kelly Cook, Josh Watt, Laurel Repski, Kris Cowley, Dianna Scarth, John Wyndels, Emily Walker and Colleen Watters (Manitoba Accessibility Office)

Absent: Brad Robertson

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and participants introduced themselves. Minister Squires thanked the Council and the Assistant Deputy Minister for their work and discussed the Customer Service Standard Review. The Assistant Deputy Minister updated the Council on the development of the three remaining standards. Council discussed a Customer Service Standard Review survey, developed and launched on the EngageMB platform for April 2021.

Action: Council will draft survey questions and forward to EngageMB for comment.

The Chair welcomed Kelly Cook, a new Council member from the Association of Manitoba Municipalities to the meeting. The Chair also noted that Saskatchewan is the fourth province to develop accessibility legislation, and public consultations are currently taking place.

The Chair asked Council if they agreed with the proposed May timeline for receiving written submissions from the public, as well as the proposed timelines for public consultation sessions and sector-specific focus groups.

Agreement: Council agreed with the May timelines for receiving written feedback from the public.

Agreement: Council agreed to hold two webinars, one during the day and the other in the evening.

Agreement: Council agreed that an external vendor facilitate webinars and sector-specific focus groups.

Action: The Chair and the MAO will seek out an external facilitator for public consultations and focus groups.

Council discussed logistical issues including the formats of consultation activities and the draft document for the Customer Service Standard Review. Following the focus

groups, public consultation sessions and the deadline to submit written feedback, the MAO will compile a report summarizing the feedback and recommendations. Council's role will be to streamline and summarize the final report for the Minister.

Action: Council will submit feedback on the draft document to the secretary by Wednesday, March 10, 2021.

The next Accessibility Advisory Council meeting will take place on Tuesday, April 6, 2021 from 9:00 - 11:00 am. The meeting adjourned at 3:00 pm.