

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS OF THE
INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION
STANDARD DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
9:30 A.M. – 12:00 P.M., WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10, 2017
DXC TECHNOLOGY, 6TH FLOOR, 200 GRAHAM AVENUE**

Present: Lisa Snider (Chairperson), Tanis Woodland, Jeff Buhse, Jim Hounslow, Carol Bartmanovich, Doris Koop, Paul Knapp, Allen Mankewich, John Wyndels (DIO)

Regrets: Chris Bohemier

Lisa reiterated that the next two meetings are crucial portion of the standard development. The next meeting will be Wednesday, January 31 at DXC Technology.

One of the attachments was the notice forwarded to individuals and organizations from the disability community to the public input session at the Union Centre on Broadway on Wednesday, January 24. The document lays out the format of the session and what we hope to achieve through the information gathering event.

Lisa mentioned that the definition of Information and Communications was taken from the Terms of Reference for our Committee to be consistent.. The issues of ‘why’ people find there are barriers, future barriers, ensuring that both physical and digital barriers are mentioned and including attitudes and awareness in barriers will be dealt with by the facilitators at the event, when possible. As well, some of these issues were mentioned in the notice.

Also included in the distributed materials was the final report from Pitblado Law of a jurisdictional scan regarding information and communications. The executive summary provided a good global perspective of the information and communications standard.

Lisa and John would like to establish a sub-committee made up of interested members of the committee to develop a draft of the proposed standard. The committee has covered most of the areas within a proposed standard and following the next committee meeting, the sub-committee will be tasked with putting together a lot of the language and requirements contained in the proposed information and communications standard.

Section 15-19 of the Information and Communications standard in Ontario apply to educators, libraries and trainers (called ‘three areas’ below). This was used in Ontario to develop champions for this standard.

Should these particular organizations be parsed out and have specific requirements assigned just to their work and materials? Do we need these champions? There was a long discussion about this topic.

Through documents provided to committee members, the committee spoke about the basis of how a proposed information and communication standard would work. Ontario is suggesting using Functional Accessibility Requirement rather than Functional

Performance Requirements. It is suggested that we follow their lead if they use Functional Accessibility Requirements.

The words 'creating, providing and receiving information and communications' were added to indicate to everyone that information and communications go both ways, from an organization to the public and vice versa. Use Alternative Formats and/or Communication Supports, which includes reasonable efforts, taking into account barriers, taking reasonable time to respond, no cost, consult and tell public about the alternative formats available, and/or Applicable Standards such as WCAG 2.0 AA, and subsequent versions, if applicable.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m. The next meeting of the Information and Communications Standard Development Committee is Wednesday, January 31 at 9:30 a.m. at DXC Technology, 6th Floor, 200 Graham. There was a reminder to all committee members of the Public Input Session on Wednesday, January 24 at 1:30 p.m. at the Union Centre, 275 Broadway.