

## Transportation Standard Development Committee – Summary of Discussions

Date: February 14, 2019

Time: 10:00-11:40

Location: 114 Garry

Present: Liam Black, Grant Heather, Samantha Rodeck, Patrick Stewart, Jesse Turner (Chair), Zach Fleischer, Bjorn Radstrom, Rick Penner, Scott Suderman

Absent: Josee Fernandes

This was the third meeting of the Transport Committee. The Transport Committee continued its assessment of the Ontario Transportation Standard. The Transport Committee reviewed sections 44 to 64 of the Ontario Transportation Standard. Special consideration was given to the fact that transit drivers do not currently provide assistance to individuals with disabilities. Most other major cities require drivers to help individuals and Winnipeg is an outlier on this matter.

Special attention was also paid to the concept of “priority seating”. The term “priority seating” is more appropriate because “courtesy seating” implies that individuals have the option of giving up their seat to an individual with a disability. The Transport Committee recognized that this is a contentious area. Sometimes there are conflicts between individuals with disabilities and individuals who have strollers or carts. Attention will need to be paid on how to ensure that individuals with disabilities have access to priority seating (including individuals with invisible disabilities) while preventing conflict between riders.

The Transport Committee also considered a number of other issues, including accessible announcements on buses, additional push-stop buttons on bus stanchions that are also more accessible, and the process for being deemed eligible for Handi-Transit services.