



CITY OF HAMILTON
CORPORATE SERVICES DEPARTMENT
Customer Service, Access & Equity Division

TO:	Mayor and Members General Issues Committee
COMMITTEE DATE:	February 17, 2016
SUBJECT/REPORT NO:	2016 Budget Request - Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities (FCS16014) (City Wide)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
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SUBMITTED BY:	Mike Zegarac General Manager Finance & Corporate Services Department
SIGNATURE:	

RECOMMENDATION

That the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities (ACPD) 2016 base budget submission in the amount of \$1,500 be approved and referred to the 2016 budget process for consideration.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In accordance with the process for submission of budgets for the Sub-committees of Council, the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities budget for 2016, in the amount of \$1,500, is being submitted with the recommendation that it be approved.

ACPD at their November 10, 2015 meeting approved a motion to be sent to Council to request a budget of \$1,500 each year to cover the cost for two members to attend a yearly accessibility conference, usually held within Ontario. The committee does not have a pre-existing base budget to draw on to cover such costs.

Alternatives for Consideration – See Page 2

FINANCIAL – STAFFING – LEGAL IMPLICATIONS (for recommendation(s) only)

Financial: This is a new request and does have financial implications of \$1,500 yearly that requires identification of a sustainable funding source.

Staffing: N/A

Legal: N/A

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND (Chronology of events)

The Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities is a sub-committee of Council providing advice and making recommendations to Council and city staff regarding City policies, procedures and guidelines that address the needs and concerns of persons with disabilities, including providing input regarding the preparation, implementation and monitoring of the Ontarians with Disabilities, 2001 Act and the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act and its regulations.

Each year there are several accessibility conferences and/or seminars that the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities members have expressed interest in attending so that they can participate in these valuable learning and input sessions. The membership feels that the City of Hamilton has made great strides in some areas and have many successes and best practices that should be shared with other provincial counterparts. In order for this to become a reality the committee will develop a yearly plan for participating in these opportunities.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS AND LEGISLATED REQUIREMENTS

There are no policy implications and legislated requirements.

RELEVANT CONSULTATION

The Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities discussed their 2016 budget needs at their November 10, 2015 meeting.

ANALYSIS AND RATIONAL FOR RECOMMENDATION (Include Performance Measurement/Benchmarking Data if applicable)

The recommendation will provide funding for two members of the Advisory For Persons with Disabilities, to attend a yearly accessibility conference and thus enable them to fulfil their terms of reference. The ACPD is asking for a base budget of \$1,500.

ALTERNATIVES FOR CONSIDERATION

(Include Financial, Staffing, Legal and Policy Implications and Pros and Cons for each alternative)

The alternative would be not to fund the request made by the ACPD. However, this is not recommended. The ability for two members each year to attend an accessibility conference has a multitude of benefits to the advisory committee members and the Committee overall because they are accessing educational, networking and knowledge exchange opportunities. This is a valuable service where Committee members bring voices and lived experiences to the table that might otherwise not be heard.

ALIGNMENT TO THE 2012 – 2015 STRATEGIC PLAN

Strategic Priority #1

A Prosperous & Healthy Community

WE enhance our image, economy and well-being by demonstrating that Hamilton is a great place to live, work, play and learn

Strategic Priority #2

Valued & Sustainable Services

WE deliver high quality services that meet citizen needs and expectations, in a cost effective and responsible manner.

Strategic Objective

2.2 Improve the City's approach to engaging and informing citizens and stakeholders.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

Appendix "A" to Report FSC16014 – Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities