

# **Proposed Changes to the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities Terms of Reference 2022 – 2026 Term of Council**



Hamilton

## **ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES**

### **Mission Statement:**

The Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities (ACPD) in the City of Hamilton assists the work of City Council by identifying accessibility barriers and making recommendations with regard to barrier removal and prevention in compliance with the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act and the Ontario Human Rights Code.

The work of Committee encompasses the broadest possible scope of services, facilities, policies and practices affecting the lives of all persons with disabilities in the City.

### **Vision Statement**

Hamilton is an inclusive community where ALL people can live, work, play and participate fully, free from barriers or discrimination.

## **Values**

Accountability  
Cooperation  
Dignity  
Equity  
Excellence  
Honesty

Inclusiveness  
Innovation  
Leadership  
Respect  
Teamwork  
Tolerance

## **Mandate:**

The Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities advises Council on providing full accessibility and inclusion of persons with disabilities in the City related to City goods and services and City-owned facilities and spaces and recommends to the City of Hamilton policies, procedures, standards and guidelines.

## **Composition:**

The Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities shall be comprised of up to 18 citizen members and two Members of Council.

The ACPD shall be comprised of membership in accordance with the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA), 2005, including that the majority of the members shall be persons with disabilities.

The membership should reflect a wide range of disabilities and and represent the interests of all persons with disabilities.

Membership should fully represent the community arising from an equity, diversity, and inclusive lens.

## **Terms of Reference:**

1. In accordance with the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005* (AODA), Ontario Human Rights Code (OHRC), and all applicable legislation, regulations, standards, policies and guidelines:
  - (i) Advise Council and staff on barriers affecting full participation of persons with disabilities in the City.
  - (ii) Advise Council and staff, annually about the preparation, implementation, and effectiveness of its accessibility plan required pursuant to the AODA.
  - (iv) Ensure that the right of access for persons with disabilities to programs and services provided by the City is sustained, maintained, and/or improved.
  - (v) Review and comment to Council and other levels of government on pertinent reports, proposed legislation and studies which affect all persons with disabilities, where appropriate.
  - (vi) Provide a forum where persons with disabilities and service representatives can express their concerns, identify barriers, share information and recommend improvements to the existing level of City services, goods, facilities and spaces, for persons with disabilities, while taking into consideration a wide spectrum of disabilities in discussions and decision making.
  - (vii) Educate and increase awareness to City Council and staff on issues which affect people with disabilities.

- (viii) Regularly review the progress and measure the success of the committee and its activities.
- 2. The Chair and Vice-Chair of the Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities may serve for more than one year in a Council term.
- 3. Members are expected to attend all meetings. If a member misses more than three consecutive (3) meetings during their term, the Chair, after hearing and considering any explanation provided by the member, may ask the member to resign, or request that Council remove the member.
- 4. Members are to adhere to the Procedural Handbook for Citizen Appointees to City of Hamilton Local Boards.

**Working Groups:**

The ACPD shall consider establishing, at the outset of each four-year term, Working Groups tasked with the conduct of much of the work of the ACPD.

The ACPD may establish, from time to time any Working Group tasked to complete specific business on behalf of the ACPD and may be established for a time limited period.

Every member of the ACPD is expected to be a member of no less than one (1) Working Group and encouraged to limit membership to no more than three (3) Working Groups.

Members are strongly encouraged to fully participate and contribute to discussion and debate at the full ACPD and its Working Groups.