



WEST HANTS REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY REPORT

Information ☐	Recommendation ☒	Decision Request ☐	Councillor Activity ☐
--------------------------------------	--	---	--

To: Mayor Zebian and Members of West Hants Regional Municipality Council

Submitted by: _____
Deanna Snair, Clerk

Date: January 14, 2025

Subject: 2025 Resident Appointments to the Accessibility Advisory Committee

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Municipal Government Act – Section 24 Standing, Special and Advisory Committees

RECOMMENDATION

... that Committee of the Whole recommends Council appoint the following resident members to the Accessibility Committee beginning January 14, 2025 and ending October 31, 2026.

- Michel Bourgeois
- Amie Deleavey
- Denise Long

... that Committee of the Whole recommends Council appoint the following resident members to the Accessibility Committee beginning January 14, 2025 and ending October 31, 2027.

- Jordan Stephens
- Roseanna Boyd

BACKGROUND

Property ☐	Public Opinion ☐	Environment ☐	Social ☒	Economic ☐	Councillor Activity ☐
-----------------------------------	--	--------------------------------------	--	-----------------------------------	---

The Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC) provides advice to Council on identifying, preventing and eliminating barriers to people with disabilities in municipal programs, services, initiatives and facilities and plays a pivotal role in helping to become a barrier-free community and ensuring obligations under “An Act Respecting Accessibility in Nova Scotia (2017)” are met.

The committee consists of no less than seven (7) members as follows:

- One (1) members of Council and One (1) Alternate – Two (2) year term
- No less than Four (4) Resident members – Two (2) year term

- No less than Two (2) Resident members – Three (3) year term

Ms. MacAskill's term will not expire until January 31, 2026, and Ms. Davison's appointment does not expire until January 31, 2027 which leaves up to three (3) - two (2) year term vacancies to be filled and one (1) – three (3) year term vacancy to be filled.

As identified in the Terms of Reference, at least one half of the members of the AAC must be persons with disabilities or representatives from organizations representing persons with disabilities.

DISCUSSION

Members were notified of the approaching end of their term and were encouraged to apply for the upcoming term.

Public advertisement for resident members was placed in the local paper (the Valley Journal Advertiser), on the Municipal website and Facebook page on October 15, 2024. Applications to be a resident member of the Accessibility Advisory Committee were accepted until 12 p.m. (noon) October 30, 2024.

A total of six (6) expressions of interest were received, including former members who wished to reapply for an additional term. All applications were reviewed by Kevin Waters, the Active Living Coordinator who is the staff person responsible for leading the committee.

NEXT STEPS

Once approved by Council, all applicants will be contacted to notify them of whether or not they were appointed. Required additional information will be sent to new members.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Resident members appointed to a Committee of Council will receive remuneration in accordance with the Council Remuneration Policy, which is identified in the annual Operating Budget.

ALTERNATIVES

Council can direct staff to readvertise for expressions of interest.

ATTACHMENTS

None

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER REVIEW

I support the recommendations.

Report Prepared by: _____
Deanna Snair, Clerk

Report Reviewed by: _____
Deanna Snair, Clerk

Report Approved by:  _____
Mark Phillips, Chief Administrative Officer