

**Accessibility Committee Meeting
October 2, 2025
Town Council Chambers**

Present

Chair, Councillor P. McKenna
C. Marshall, Community Member
S. Cameron, Mayor

M. Fougere, Deputy Clerk
S. Long, Acting Director of Community Development
N. d'Entremont, Assistant, Marketing & Communications

Absent with Regrets

G. Mattie, Community Member

1. Call to Order

Chair, Councillor P. McKenna called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

2. Approval of the Agenda

One item was added to the agenda:

Under Business Arising from the Minutes:

Item 5.2 – Accessibility Committee Membership and Recommendation

Motion: That the agenda be approved as amended.

Moved by: Mayor Cameron

Seconded by: Community Member C. Marshall

Motion Carried

3. Acceptance of the Minutes

The minutes of the July 17, 2025, meeting were accepted as presented.

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

4.1 Summary of Feedback from Maureen Moynagh

Community Member, C Marshall provided a summary as a follow-up from the July 17th meeting. He noted that he had reached out to Ms. Moynagh for feedback on the Town's Accessibility Plan and subsequently responded to her thoughtful comments, providing additional context regarding the plan's development and the joint efforts between the Town and County Accessibility Committees.

Councillor Marshall also highlighted discussions with Ms. Moynagh related to accessible parking and emergency comfort centres. He extended an invitation for

her to attend the next Accessibility meeting; however, no response has been received.

A discussion took place regarding the addition of new committee members to the Accessibility Committee. P. McKenna spoke to some suggestions for consideration. Further discussion will take place under Item 5.2.

4.2 Katie Aubrecht – StFX

Chair, P. McKenna attempted to connect with K. Aubrecht from StFX to discuss the Accessibility Committee and the Town's Accessibility Plan. He was unsuccessful but will make another attempt to connect and report back at the next meeting.

4.3 Snow Removal Policy

The Committee discussed the Town's lack of a formal Snow and Ice Management Policy and reviewed the Town of New Glasgow's approach for comparison. Mayor Cameron noted he had spoken with New Glasgow's CAO regarding their policy, and C. Marshall circulated a Snow and Ice Management Comparison Table for reference.

Discussion focused on establishing service triggers (e.g., New Glasgow's 5 cm accumulation standard), defining priority areas such as Main Street sidewalks, crosswalks, curb cuts, and bus stops, and considering inclusion of a salt and ice control statement. It was noted that parking lots and fire hydrants are lower priorities compared to ensuring accessibility in the downtown core.

It was agreed that accessibility in the downtown core should be the starting point, with Mayor Cameron bringing this forward to the Infrastructure Committee for further discussion.

4.4 Mayor Parking Spot Update

M. Fougere provided an update, noting that discussions were held with the Town's Building Inspector and the Director of Infrastructure and Engineering to ensure compliance with accessibility parking standards. A new sign has been ordered and is expected to be installed within the week. The line painting will also be updated to include blue accessible markings. The former Mayor's reserved parking space has been converted into an accessible parking spot, approximately 13 to 15 feet wide, with the By-Law Enforcement reserved space adjacent.

M. Fougere also noted that she is working on developing an RFP for a new Town Hall Accessibility Redesign, which will include changes to the back parking lot and parking spaces. The current accessible parking space will serve as an interim solution until the redesign is completed.

4.5 Accessibility Social Media Campaign & Website

C. Marshall suggested creating a social media presence or website page focused on accessibility as everyone's responsibility. This platform could highlight Town initiatives, business and institutional accessibility efforts, celebrate successes, and promote community engagement. The goal is to educate the broader community, encourage participation, and showcase a variety of accessibility initiatives.

Chair, P. McKenna proposed adding an Accessibility page to the Town of Antigonish website, starting with content development prior to its launch. S. Long noted that the Town currently has an accessibility page with engagement summaries and links. She suggested moving this content to a dedicated page, including a link to the Accessibility Complaint Form, with potential updates to enhance functionality.

P. McKenna asked whether an accessibility banner could be created on the main webpage. S. Long responded and will consult with the IT department. It was agreed to begin by adding accessibility to the main Town website banner and linking the Accessibility Plan under it.

S. Long expressed concern about staff capacity to upload stories or complaints. Chair McKenna questioned whether the complaint form could be reviewed by the Committee, noting that the Committee does not meet monthly.

C. Marshall offered to develop a short form and bring it back to the next meeting for review.

4.6 Easement Update – Side of Town Hall

M. Fougere advised the Committee that the easement review has been completed. The original easement, dating back to 1988, remains in effect and covers the area from the roadway to the Town Hall's side accessible entrance. No further action is required.

5. [New Business](#)

5.1 Sidewalk & Crosswalk Improvements

Chair, P. McKenna noted that the new Greening Drive sidewalk is in the early stages of construction, with forms being built and concrete being poured. New crosswalks installed by Shoppers Drug Mart and at St. Ninian's and Hillcrest Street were also discussed; while they are functioning well, pedestrians are still adjusting to the changes.

Mayor Cameron highlighted the need for a crosswalk near Tigo Park, noting it is a busy area with potential safety concerns. This was presented for discussion purposes only, and the Mayor will bring the item forward to the Infrastructure Committee for further consideration.

5.2 Accessibility terms of Reference

Chair P. McKenna discussed bringing forward a recommendation to Council to add additional members to the Accessibility Committee. He will review the submissions originally received by the Nominations Committee, including candidates who were previously not selected. The Chair will follow up with the CAO on this regarding the addition of one member who lives with a disability and two additional community members to the committee.

6. [Adjournment](#)

With no further business it was moved by C. Mashall to adjourn at 2:05 p.m.