

## Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee Meeting

### Minutes

February 18, 2026, 3:00 p.m.

District Office, 1 Mackenzie Boulevard

Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/93635016031?pwd=RmxjRVBBWGt2SnBGT1hwVnZ4OGlrQT09>

Phone: 1-855-703-8985 (Toll-free)

Meeting ID: 936 3501 6031 Passcode: 939381

Committee Present: Chair E. Blackburn, Joy Davy, Ivan Suski, Gina Johnson, Karen Tinsley

Staff Present: Director of Corporate Services E. Kaehn, Legislative Clerk/Executive Assistant, C. Smith

Visitors Present: Alice Pritchett, Director, Mackenzie Public Library, Councillor Jesse Wright

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### 1. **CALL TO ORDER**

CALLED TO ORDER AT 3:00 PM.

*Chair Blackburn acknowledged the land on which we gather is within the traditional territory of the Tse'khene People of the McLeod Lake Indian Band.*

### 2. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

2.1 AIAC Committee Meeting - December 17, 2025

### 3. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

**Resolution: AIAC65**

**Moved by:** Joy Davy

THAT the Agenda be adopted as presented.

**CARRIED**

### 4. **REPORTS AND DISCUSSION TOPICS**

4.1 Welcome and Introductions

Chair Blackburn commenced the meeting with formal introductions among members, staff, and Council Liaison.

4.2 Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee Terms of Reference

Director of Corporate Services Emily Kaehn reviewed the Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee Terms of Reference and asked members if there were any organizations or businesses they would like to add to the standing invitation list.

4.3 Nominating the Chair

**Resolution: AIAC-66**

**Moved by:** Joy Davy

THAT Elizabeth Blackburn is appointed Chair of the Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee effective January 1, 2026, until April 30, 2026. As of May 1, 2026, Joy Davy will assume position of Chair of the Access and Inclusion Advisory until December 31, 2026.

**CARRIED**

4.4 January Quarterly Report

Chair Blackburn and Director Kaehn reviewed the Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee Quarterly Reports to Council, outlining how it comes together including activity reports and recommendations.

4.5 Kate Milne Report - Review and Update

This item was tabled for discussion at the April 15, 2026, Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee meeting.

4.6 Mackenzie Chamber of Commerce Spring Expo

The Committee discussed the potential themes for the Mackenzie Spring Exposition, as well as volunteer days and times.

4.7 Walk and Roll - Hub International, follow-up Mackenzie Museum

Chair Blackburn updated the committee on meeting with HUB insurance and that the Walk and Roll report had been sent to the main office.

Chair Blackburn provided an explanation to new committee members of a business Walk and Roll. An update on the District & Mackenzie Museum Walk and Roll was also given.

Councillor Wright asked if a Walk and Roll could be done for places like Powder King. Director Kaehn said that Powder King would fall under the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George Accessibility but if Powder King could extend and invite to the Mackenzie committee.

4.8 Beach Project Update

Economic Development Coordinator Rachelle Richman gave an update on the accessible projects for Morfee Lake. Projects include a MobiMat installation at first beach, accessible handles for outhouses, and portable Trax Mats that can be utilized at District events for better accessibility.

4.9 Winterquest Participation

As of meeting, the Rec Centre had not received any requests for accessible tours for Winterquest.

4.10 Enabling Accessibility Fund 2026 Call for Proposals

The committee discussed a need for an accessible District website, and sign language training. Members of the committee also expressed a need for sidewalk repairs at the Mackenzie Hospital as well as the Mackenzie Recreation Centre. Director Kaehn responded that there is a 5-year paving plan in place and that some of these issues have been addressed in the paving plan. Chair Blackburn added that communicating these needs to Northern Health Authority helps ensure they are recognized and repaired.

4.11 Tip of the Week

Chari Blackburn suggested tips of the week focus on inclusive language and highlighting photos that showcase people with disabilities. The committee also highlighted that April 24 - April 30 will be Global Intergenerational Week.

4.12 Rick Hansen Foundation Training

Chair Blackburn shared ways to use the Rick Hansen grant funding and provided staff with a document outlining these ideas.

4.13 Age-Friendly Business in BC

Chairperson Liz shared a document with the committee titled Accessibility Starts with People that can also be found online.

**5. NEXT MEETING DATE**

3:00 pm Wednesday April 15, 2026

**6. ADJOURNMENT**

**Resolution: AIAC-67**

**Moved by:** G. Johnson

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 4:20 pm.

**CARRIED**

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Chair

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Corporate Officer