



WHISTLER

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF MEASURING UP SELECT
COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL (MUSCC)
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 01, 2021, STARTING AT 9:00 A.M.
Remote Meeting held Via Zoom

PRESENT	Mtgs. YTD (3)
Accommodation Sector, D. Andrews	3
Member at Large, O. Rey	3
Member at Large, S. Lawther	3
Tourism Whistler, M. Kunza	3
Vail Resorts, L. Fowler	3
Whistler Adaptive Sports Program, C. Walker	3
Whistler Community Services Society, J. Dickinson	3
Whistler Mature Action Community, D. Ashton	3
Resort Municipality of Whistler (RMOW) Councilor, J. Ford	3
RMOW Manager of Planning – Policy and MUSCC Secretary, C. Beaubien	3
RMOW Accessibility Coordinator, S. Tipler	1
RMOW MUSCC Recording Secretary, D. Taveira	3

REGRETS	
Vancouver Coastal Health, D. Glover	0
Whistler Chamber of Commerce	0

CALL TO ORDER

MUSCC recognized the Resort Municipality of Whistler is grateful to be on the shared, unceded territory of the Lil'wat People, known in their language as Liíwat7úl, and the Squamish People, known in their language as Sk̓wx̓wú7mesh. We respect and commit to a deep consideration of their history, culture, stewardship and voice.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by D. Andrews
Seconded by D. Ashton

That MUSCC adopt the Regular Committee Agenda of Wednesday, December 01, 2021.

CARRIED

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved by O. Rey
Seconded by J. Dickinson

That MUSCC adopt the Regular Committee Minutes of Wednesday, August 04, 2021 as circulated.

CARRIED

PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

MUSCC Name
Change

The RMOW's Accessibility Coordinator, Sarah Tipler, gave a presentation regarding a new name for MUSCC:

1. A number of potential new Committee names were reviewed by the RMOW's Senior Management Team.
2. The original MUSCC name came from the 2010 Legacies Now Measuring Up program, which is still in effect, but there is no longer any funding. As such, this name is not as recognized as it once was.
3. There is a desire to change the name to better express the Committee's purpose and objectives.
4. The new name should convey that the Committee provides advice on how to eliminate barriers to participation in public life by focusing on the experiences of people with disabilities.
5. The three potential names are: a) Accessibility Advisory Committee; b) Accessibility and Inclusion Committee; and c) Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities.

The Committee commented as follows:

1. On the whole, the Accessibility and Inclusion Committee name includes more people and is more inclusive.
2. The name Accessibility and Inclusion Committee states the Committee's purpose and allows the Committee to grow within the name.
3. The MUSCC name is now outdated and involved too much explaining. The Accessibility and Inclusion Committee name is more self-explanatory.

Moved by D. Ashton
Seconded by D. Andrews

THAT MUSCC recommends to Council that the Committee's name be updated to the Accessibility and Inclusion Committee.

CARRIED

MUSCC Terms of
Reference

The RMOW's Accessibility Coordinator, Sarah Tipler, gave a presentation regarding proposed revisions to the MUSCC Terms of Reference. The purpose of the proposed changes is to have organizations manage their own representation so when a member cannot attend the Committee meeting, an alternate can stand in and be able to vote. This will reduce administrative time

for both the RMOW and the representative organizations. The proposed revisions to the Terms of Reference were summarized as follows:

1. The representation of the Whistler Mature Action Community will increase from one member to two members.
2. Although not currently applicable to the RMOW, the *Accessible British Columbia Act* requires that an accessibility committee have a least one Indigenous representative. The RMOW recognizes its connections with the Squamish Nation and Lil'wat Nation and sees the value in having the perspectives from the elders and younger members of the Nations who may be living with disabilities.
3. The revised Terms of Reference more clearly define the roles, responsibilities and expectations of membership and include seeking gender equity and diversity on the Committee.
4. Vancouver Coastal Health has been removed as a voting member at this time, although the RMOW encourages them to attend as a non-voting member.
5. In summary, the Committee will include 15 total members. There will be 11 voting members representing Whistler's major partners as well as business and community interests. There will also be four non-voting members.

The Committee commented as follows:

1. There was support for two representatives from the Whistler Mature Action Community.
2. There was a suggestion to keep the Committee size not much bigger than this so that it will be more manageable.
3. It is necessary to be cautious that the Committee's mandate and focus do not change with the new name and with the gender equity and diversity piece.
4. There was support for having First Nations representation on the Committee.

RMOW staff provided the following comments:

1. The purpose of the Committee is still to focus on providing advice to Council on strategies to reduce social, physical and sensory barriers that prevent people from fully participating in all aspects of community life. Hopefully this addresses concerns on potential overlaps between this Committee and other initiatives that are happening in the community.
2. With regard to gender equity and inclusion, this only applies when selecting the two members-at-large. This would be where Council gives consideration to the balance of the Committee.
3. We are not looking to change the Committee mandate. Diversity, equity and inclusion are being addressed through the new DRIVE working group and other initiatives throughout the municipality. We are looking at ensuring that the appropriate people are participating and that no one is being missed.

Moved by S. Lawther
Seconded by O. Rey

That MUSCC recommend that staff provide the proposed revisions to the MUSCC Terms of Reference to Council for consideration.

CARRIED

Planning Update

The RMOW's Accessibility Coordinator, Sarah Tipler, provided an update regarding recent accessibility initiatives:

Changing Signage to New Dynamic Wheelchair Icon:

1. The change to the new active wheelchair icon is to reframe the conversation around ability, promoting access and inclusion for people of all abilities.
2. This will be applied to all RMOW signage through the renewal program.
3. This includes line painting of accessible parking stalls, accessible parking signs, ramp access signs, accessible washroom signs and the RMOW's GIS.
4. These changes will start immediately as the RMOW is out of inventory of accessible parking signs and is in the process of creating more accessible parking signs.
5. The dynamic wheelchair icon started in the United States and the organization in Canada is called the Forward Movement. It is a free icon that anyone can use. It creates conversations around ability and moves away from the idea of persons with disabilities being passive.

Whistler Age-friendly Assessment and Action Plan Project:

1. It will be important to align the Accessibility Action Plan with the Whistler Age-friendly Assessment and Action Plan Project.
2. Staff have compared the age-friendly report with the preliminary Accessibility Action Plan. The final report for the Whistler Age-friendly Assessment and Action Plan Project includes a number of strategies and actions that are relevant to the Accessibility Action Plan.

GIS Mapping of Accessible Infrastructure:

1. The RMOW is continuing GIS data collection of all accessible infrastructure, which includes accessible parking, accessible curb cuts, tactile pads, pedestrian crossings, accessible signage, barrier free routes, stairs, and washrooms (including accessible and gender-neutral). This includes hours, accessible entries and elevators.
2. This is ongoing work that involves a number of RMOW departments collecting assets through their regular work programs.

The Committee commented as follows:

1. It is important to have change tables in all public washrooms in the Village and at an accessible height for people using mobility aids or people of small stature.
2. It is suggested to have a button to open doors automatically within the Village.
3. There was discussion about the RMOW having limited mechanisms to require private businesses to initiate these accessibility improvements.

Access Whistler Map Update and Reprint:

1. Parks Planning is currently updating the Access Whistler map including:
 - a) adding the new dynamic wheelchair icon; b) identifying pedestrian

activated signals at intersections; and c) identifying passenger drop-off zones.

2. Printed maps will hopefully be available before year-end.
3. In the future, the map will identify the gender-neutral washrooms.

Inclusive Washrooms Project:

1. Parks Planning is currently working with the LGBTQ2S+ community to determine the best symbol for signage for new gender-neutral washrooms.

Whistler EV:

1. An analysis of accessible EV guidelines, standards, regulations and articles was conducted, along with the ratios of the number of spaces that should be dedicated as accessible EV charging stations.
2. Staff have considered that no accessible parking spaces be lost to these accessible EV charging stations. This will be a consideration in the formation of the E-mobility Strategy.
3. Accessible EV charging stations will be included in the installation program for next summer.

Review of Interpretive Signage/Public Art:

1. To increase accessibility for people with vision loss, an accessibility audit was conducted by a consultant on all public art signage and some of the interpretive sign panels.
2. The project is looking to improve the signage and self-guided tours for people with visual impairments. The project is looking at adding braille numbering and QR codes to allow screen readers to dictate the information from the sign to the individual, as well as potentially having additional information on the associated webpages.

Development of Accessibility Action Plan:

1. The strategic priorities from the Accessibility Action Plan that address the seven areas of focus of the *Accessible Canada Act* are: a) improve inclusive service design and delivery; b) enhance built environment accessibility; c) continue equitable employment practices; d) improve information and communications technologies accessibility; e) foster accessible communications; f) reduce transportation barriers; and g) support accessible procurement.
2. Staff will return to the Committee in 2022 with the opportunity for the Committee to provide feedback on the refined draft Accessibility Action Plan.

Member Updates

Councillor J. Ford provided the following information:

1. Regionally, the area is under a state of emergency. The Red Cross is doing excellent work with the flooding and evacuation orders. They will connect individuals with the services they need.
2. December 3, 2021 is the International Day of Persons with Disabilities.

OTHER BUSINESS

There were no items of other business.

MOTION TO TERMINATE

Moved by D. Ashton
Seconded by D. Andrews

That the MUSCC meeting of Wednesday, December 01, 2021 be terminated at 10:15 a.m.

CARRIED

S. Lawther
Chair

D. Taveira
Recording Secretary