



WHISTLER

TERMS OF REFERENCE MEASURING UP SELECT COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL

**Council Adoption: January 21, 2020
File No. 8320.01**

PURPOSE OF COMMITTEE

The Measuring Up Select Committee of Council (MUSCC) will work collaboratively to assess and improve community accessibility and inclusion focusing on the experiences of people with disabilities, but encompassing the whole community. The Committee will review and improve local access and inclusion as based upon public input and participation on an ongoing basis. People with disabilities will be an active part of this work.

MEMBERSHIP

MUSCC will consist of up to 13 members, representing Whistler's major partners, business and community interests; with preference given to those with knowledge related to disability issues:

- I. One Resort Municipality of Whistler (RMOW) Council member (non-voting)
- II. One representative from the Mature Action Committee
- III. One RMOW staff member from the Planning Department (non-voting)
- IV. Measuring Up Coordinator, RMOW (non-voting)
- V. One representative from the Whistler Chamber of Commerce
- VI. One representative from Tourism Whistler
- VII. One representative from the Whistler Adaptive Sports Program
- VIII. One member of the Senior Leadership Team from Whistler Blackcomb
- IX. One representative from the accommodation sector
- X. One representative from Whistler Community Services Society
- XI. One representative working for Vancouver Coastal Health
- XII. Two members-at-large from the community, representing people with various disabilities and levels of disability.

Members are to be appointed biennially by Council each January and any membership changes will require Council approval. The Committee may invite other stakeholders to meetings as required for discussions from time to time. The Chairperson will be nominated and elected by the Committee.

Meeting quorum shall consist of the appointed or designate majority of the voting members of the Committee. Recommendations of MUSCC shall be made by a majority of members in attendance at a meeting, provided quorum is met at that meeting.

RESPONSIBILITIES

The Measuring Up Select Committee of Council is intended primarily to:

1. Work collaboratively to identify and implement initiatives to enhance accessibility and inclusion across the resort community;
2. Undertake initiatives which help promote and profile Whistler as an increasingly accessible and inclusive four season destination resort;
3. Provide the RMOW guidance and advice regarding accessibility within all of its departments and municipal events, including how the RMOW may become more inclusive in its operations;
4. Establish a reporting process that allows interested members of the public access to the progress of the Committee;
5. Provide an objective view in the public interest and fairly represent this view in RMOW public processes along with the organizations that they represent;
6. Recognize that the comments and recommendations of the Committee represents one of a series of decision-making processes that enable members of Council to fully understand the issues under review, including their policy and budget consequences and potential impact on the public;
7. Receive referrals from Council and its committees for review and recommendations;
8. Investigate funding opportunities available with respect to inclusion and accessibility.

MEETINGS

MUSCC meetings will be scheduled biannually. Special meetings will be scheduled as required.

Meeting locations and times will be posted 72 hours in advance on the RMOW website and public notice boards. All meetings will be open to the public to attend. Meeting minutes will be provided to Committee members and Council.

The proceedings of MUSCC are to be governed by Council Procedure Bylaw No. 2207, 2018 and Committee members are expected to adhere to the RMOW's conflict of interest policies.

BACKGROUND

In 2003, an accessibility audit of Whistler Village was prepared as part of the bid for the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games. Over the corresponding period, 2010 Legacies Now developed the Measuring Up accessibility and inclusivity framework for communities in British Columbia. In 2006 Whistler was approached by Legacies Now to become a Measuring Up pilot community.

Measuring Up promotes active participation of people with disabilities in all aspects of community life. Active participation involves accessibility (addressing barriers) and inclusion (welcoming and enabling participation). Measuring Up provides means to evaluate community progress in enabling people with disabilities to enjoy active participation.

As a Measuring Up pilot community, the RMOW launched an effort to address the barriers identified by the access audit and began developing an accessibility strategy. Community members were invited to form an advisory group to assist staff in identifying priorities and appropriate remedies. The early focus was on pressing needs such as the installation of ramps at the previously un-accessible Whistler Village breezeway and other infrastructure improvements.

The initiative included a community-driven enhancement process as well as the formation of a Measuring Up Select Committee of Council. These initiatives aim to improve the visitor experience and the autonomy and independence of all community members.

Since MUSCC's creation in fall 2009, the Committee has made a number of contributions to improving accessibility in Whistler. This includes advocating for improved accessible transportation options both within Whistler and to and from Whistler. In 2011, the Committee reviewed and approved revisions to the barrier-free Whistler map to the new Access Whistler format, which was subsequently harmonized with the Village Wayfinding project. The Committee has also been involved with a number of planning processes and documents including: the 2013 and 2018 Official Community Plan reviews, the Lakeside Master Plan, the 2012 Parks and Recreation Master Plan, and the Emergency Evacuation Plan. The Committee continues to look at best practice methods to improve the accessibility of municipal practices and procedures and increase social capital.