



Burlington's Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting
Agenda

Date: April 10, 2025

Time: 7:00 pm

Location: Room 305, City Hall, third floor

Contact: Committee Clerk, Suzanne.Gillies@burlington.ca, 905-335-7600, x 7862

Pages

1. Land Acknowledgement

Burlington as we know it today is rich in history and modern traditions of many First Nations and the Métis. From the Anishinaabeg to the Haudenosaunee and the Métis – our lands spanning from Lake Ontario to the Niagara Escarpment are steeped in Indigenous history.

The territory is mutually covered by the Dish with One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant, an agreement between the Iroquois Confederacy, the Ojibway, and other allied Nations to peaceably share and care for the resources around the Great Lakes.

We acknowledge that the land on which we gather is part of the Treaty Lands and Territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit.

2. Declarations of Interest:

3. Approval of Minutes:

3.1 Approve the minutes from the meeting held March 20, 2025

1 - 3

4. Delegation(s):

5. Regular Items:

5.1 National AccessAbility Week (NAAW)

a. Information for Councillor newsletter (DRAFT) - Cheryl

4 - 5

b. Accessible Art and Sport Fair update

c. Read-ability update

d. Proclamation and Flag Raising update

5.2 Accessibility Award update - Emily 6 - 8

5.3 Comment Card - daft - Jill 9 - 9

5.4 Other workplan updates

5.5 Updates from Committees:

a. Seniors' Advisory Committee - Jill

b. Integrated Transportation Advisory Committee - Garth 10 - 11

c. Inclusivity Advisory Committee - Tammy

5.6 Coordinator's report - Judi

6. Other Business:

7. Adjournment:



Burlington Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting

Minutes

Date: March 20, 2025
Time: 7:00 pm
Location: Room 305, City Hall, third floor

1. Members Present:

Cheryl Hurst (Chair), David Quezada, Deb Strum, Amy DeHueck, Emily Stillwell, Lucy Nixon, Tammy Lyle-Gravlev, Doug Benton, Garth Napier

2. Member Regrets:

David Owen, Sona Rai, Jill Randall, Councillor Sharman

3. Others Present:

Judi Lytle (Accessibility Specialist), Suzanne Gillies (Clerk)

4. Land Acknowledgement

The Chair read the Land Acknowledgement.

5. Declarations of Interest:

None

6. Approval of Minutes:

6.1 Approve the minutes from the meeting held February 13, 2025

On motion the minutes from the February 13, 2025 meeting were approved as presented.

7. Delegation(s):

None

8. Regular Items:

8.1 National AccessAbility Week

The committee discussed the following items regarding NAAW:

- Garth advised the committee that the outreach working group is taking the lead on participation at the Accessible Sport and Art Fair if the committee agrees to participate on May 31 at Tansley Woods Community Centre from 1pm to 4pm
- Can participate for free and will be provided a table
- committee members agreed that they should participate, Lucy, Garth, Amy, Cheryl and Deb agreed to volunteer on the day of the event
- Jill and Deb agreed to work on a comment card that could be used at the event
- Tammy volunteered to help with activation ideas
- Judi suggested that if there is a schedule for the volunteers that a new member should be paired with an existing member when possible
- Suzanne to provide swag and information pamphlets

Readability:

- Deb volunteered to do the Readability event at Tansley Woods Library on May 31 at 10:30 am if no other members are interested
- Emily also volunteered to do the event with the possible topic of neurodiversity
- David Q will summarize the details of what is required and send it to the committee

Flag Raising and Proclamation:

- Suzanne will request the flag raising for May 23, and request it be up for a week

Communication:

- Suzanne to look into deadlines to submit to Councillor's newsletters to promote NAAW events
- Cheryl will put together a draft blurb to be included in newsletters and social media

8.2 Workplan updates

Doug volunteered to look into the committee participating at the Farmer's Market. Doug will work with the outreach working group to look into participation at the market.

Emily will share her proposal for the accessibility award with Suzanne again and we will discuss at the next meeting. Judi will send Emily some information regarding past accessibility awards.

8.3 Updates from Committees:

a. Seniors' Advisory Committee - Jill

No update

b. Inclusivity Advisory Committee - Tammy

No update

c. Integrated Transportation Advisory Committee - Garth

No update

9. **Other Business:**

9.1 Coordinator's report

Judi advised the committee of 3 new accessible parking spaces that are being created at Angela Coughlan Pool. There is also work being done at parking lot 4 (downtown between Elizabeth and John) to relocate accessible parking spaces closer to the identified pedestrian crossing, with a barrier free EV charging station being added as well.

10. **Adjournment:**

Chair adjourned the meeting at 7:46 p.m.

Hello Councillor's,

The Burlington Accessibility Advisory Committee (BAAC) has a few engagement events coming up that we are hoping you can share in your communications, emails, socials, or newsletters with Burlingtonians!

Celebrating National AccessAbility Week

Every year, starting on the last Sunday in May, Canadians celebrate National AccessAbility Week (NAAW). Founded as 'National Access Awareness Week' in 1988 and inspired by Rick Hansen's Man In Motion World Tour, this week is an opportunity to celebrate Canadians with disabilities and raise awareness of the critical need for accessibility and inclusion for all in our communities and workplaces.

- A proclamation will be shared at the City Council Meeting on May 20th at 9:30 am to acknowledge National AccessAbility Week.
- A flag raising will occur on _____ at City Hall to support National AccessAbility Week.
- In partnership with the Burlington Public Library a member of Burlington Accessibility Advisory Committee (BAAC) will participate in ReadAbility, an event at the Tansley Woods Library during Family Storytime on May 31 at 10:30am. A children's book will be read to share experiences **about** living with different abilities and there will be time to chat with the children after!
- The BAAC will have a table at the Accessible Sport and Art Fair being hosted by the Department of Recreation, Community & Culture at Tansley Woods Community Centre on May 31 – 1:00pm-4:00pm. We will use this opportunity to receive feedback, answer questions, and have discussions about accessibility in Burlington. We will also be sharing information **about** AccessNow, a crowd sourcing application that everyone can use to share their experiences in the community about what is accessible or if they had challenges.

We are interested in learning about your experiences with accessibility in our community! As more events and community engagement opportunities are

scheduled for the upcoming year we will share this information with the community of Burlington!

Much appreciated,

The Burlington Accessibility Advisory Committee (BAAC)

Proposed Ron Baliko Accessibility Award (name TBD?)

Burlington Accessibility Advisory Committee

1. Purpose of the Award

The **Ron Baliko Accessibility Award** recognizes **individuals (or organizations?)** who have demonstrated outstanding commitment to accessibility and inclusion within the City of Burlington. The award aims to celebrate initiatives that remove barriers, improve accessibility, and enhance the quality of life for individuals with disabilities.

2. Eligibility Criteria

Eligible nominees must meet the following criteria:

- Live within the municipality of Burlington.
- Demonstrate a clear commitment to accessibility through policies, programs, or physical improvements.
- Implement initiatives that go beyond compliance with accessibility laws and regulations.
- Have made a measurable impact on improving accessibility for people with disabilities.
- Show a commitment to sustainability and long-term accessibility improvements.

3. Award Categories: Ideas

The award may be given in the following categories, or include these in the descriptor of the award:

Individual:

- **Community Program & Services Accessibility Award:** Recognizing programs, events, or services that enhance accessibility and inclusion in the community.
- **Education and Awareness Award:** Honouring efforts to promote accessibility awareness and education within the municipality.
- **Lifetime Achievement Award:** Recognizing an individual with a long-term commitment to advancing accessibility.

Organization:

- **Built Environment Accessibility Award:** Recognizing physical improvements in public spaces, buildings, and infrastructure that enhance accessibility.
- **Digital Accessibility Award:** Recognizing accessible websites, apps, or digital content that promote inclusion.

- **Employment and Workplace Accessibility Award:** Honouring inclusive hiring practices and workplace accommodations for employees with disabilities.

4. Evaluation Criteria

Nominations could be evaluated based on:

- **Innovation:** How creative and unique is the approach to accessibility?
- **Impact:** How significantly has the initiative improved accessibility for individuals with disabilities?
- **Sustainability:** How well does the initiative ensure long-term accessibility improvements?
- **Community Involvement:** How effectively has the initiative engaged the community and people with disabilities in its design and implementation?
- **Compliance & Beyond:** Does the initiative exceed legal accessibility requirements?
- **Personal Story:** How has living with a disability impacted the nominee's call to advocacy/community involvement?

5. Nomination Process

- **Submission:** Nominations may be submitted by individuals, organizations, or government entities via an online form or paper application.
 - [See the Civic Recognition webform](#)
- **Supporting Documentation:** Nominations must include a detailed description of the initiative, bio and background of the individual, impact statements, testimonials, and relevant images or documentation.
- **Deadline:** Nominations must be submitted by a specified deadline each year (Spring if we align with the Civic Recognition awards).
- **Selection Committee:** A diverse panel, including individuals with lived experience of disability, municipal representatives, and accessibility experts, will review nominations and select winners. Most likely the Burlington Accessibility Committee members.
- **Nomination information** will be kept confidential in accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (MFIPPA).

6. Recognition and Benefits Ideas

Award recipients will receive:

- A certificate or plaque presented at a municipal event.
- Public recognition through municipal websites, social media, and local press.
- Potential funding or support to expand their accessibility initiatives (if applicable).
- Invitation to share their work at an annual accessibility forum or event.

7. Awards Ceremony Ideas

- Potential to collaborate with the Civic Recognition Awards.

- Should be presented by the mayor, Councillor Sharman, and/or chairs of the BAAC.
- Potential funding or support to expand their accessibility initiatives (if applicable).
- Invitation to share their work at an annual accessibility forum or event.

8. Commitment to Ongoing Accessibility

The City of Burlington will continuously evaluate and update the award criteria to reflect evolving accessibility standards, best practices, and community needs. This award serves as both recognition and encouragement for continued progress in accessibility and inclusion.

9. Next Steps

Decide:

- The scope of the award (individual/organizations).
- If the award will be presented at the Civic Recognition ceremony and by whom.
- Criteria and a possible subcommittee to evaluate nominations.
- Application/nomination process.
 - When it opens/closes
- What the award will entail?
- Collaborate with city to ensure broader reach to attract more nominees: website, social media, press(?).
- Add items as needed.

10. Comporable Accessibility Awards

- City of Hamilton: <https://www.hamilton.ca/city-council/awards-tributes/accessibility-awards#award-categories>
- City of Brantford: <https://www.brantford.ca/en/your-government/accessibility-improvement-awards.aspx>
- City of Sarnia: <https://www.sarnia.ca/living-here/accessibility-awards/>

Burlington Accessibility Advisory Committee

The Burlington Accessibility Advisory Committee advises on the identification, removal and prevention of barriers to people with disabilities in the City of Burlington's bylaws, policies, programs and services.



Tell us about 3 accessibility successes in Burlington.

- 1.....
- 2.....
- 3.....



Tell us about 3 opportunities that would improve accessibility in Burlington.

- 1.....
- 2.....
- 3.....

For additional information, questions, or concerns, please contact:

Suzanne Gillies
Committee Clerk, Legislative Services
(905) 335-7600 ext. 7862
suzanne.gillies@burlington.ca

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Integrated Transportation Advisory Committee (ITAC)

2025 DRAFT Work Plan

Item	Expected Involvement	Lead/ Interested Members	Estimated Item Budget
City Plans, Projects, Policy and Initiatives feedback	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide comments on City policies, initiatives, plans, and projects with transportation components as they relate to integrated transportation. Create a repository of ideas generated at ITAC meetings for staff consideration. 	All	
Micro mobility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research and advocate around policies for use of personal e-bikes and e-scooters. Request a staff presentation to provide an update. 	Albert, Ellie, Lachlan	
Cycling Advisory Committee Coordination on Active Transportation Initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support Cycling Committee on actions/programs they are implementing. Collaborate with the Cycling Committee regarding an activity for cycling month. 	Ellie	\$200
Major Transit Station Areas (MTSAs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide feedback on MTSA work as it relates to integrated transportation. Request a staff presentation to provide an update. 	(As required)	
Transit Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide feedback on the Transit Business Plan as it relates to integrated transportation. Provide feedback on changes to transit service. 	Michael, Jim, Albert	
Projects from Transportation Organizations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review and comment, as needed, on projects, plans, and initiatives from various external transportation organizations that include, but aren't limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Metrolinx Canadian Urban Transit Assoc. MTO Ontario Public Transit Assoc. Ontario Traffic Council Monitor social media of these organizations to keep abreast of their directions, actions and standards. 	Lachlan, Albert, Maninder, Grace	

Community Outreach and Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate in community outreach (with surveys, public education) at Food for Feedback in Sept. 2025 and other events. • Safe cyclist and pedestrian behaviour communication (including to school boards) • BurlingtonGreen initiatives 	All	\$500
Burlington for Accessible Sustainable Transit (BFAST) Coordination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support Bfast as a stakeholder voting member on the ITAC committee. • Develop strategies to engage BFAST and collaborate on both ITAC and BFAST initiatives. • Have outreach table at BFAST Transit Forum in 2025. 	Jim, Grace	\$200
Safe Streets Halton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue relationship with Safe Streets Halton, a community group, through regular touchpoints. • Collaborate on initiatives. • Provide feedback on Halton Region Plans impacting Burlington. • Request a presentation to provide an update. 	Lachlan, Michael	
Sustainable Transportation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide feedback to support the transition to electric mobility, a key program area identified in the Climate Action Plan necessary to achieve the target to become a net carbon neutral community by 2050. • Request a presentation from staff to provide an update. 	Maninder, Michael	
Technology Monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor publications and information on new technology relating to transportation. • Alternative mobility • CUTRIC (Canadian Urban Transit Research & Innovation Consortium) 	All	
Meeting Expenses			\$300
Total 2025 Budget			\$1200