

COUNCIL REPORT

To: Mayor and Council

From: Accessibility and Inclusion Advisory Committee

Date: July 17, 2026

Subject: Quarterly Activity Report

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Council receive this report for information.

BACKGROUND:

The Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee (AIAC) is a Select Committee of Council established to provide advice and recommendations to Council on matters relating to citizens with disabilities, seniors, and other citizens with access issues that may impede participation in everyday aspects of community living.

The AIAC mandate is as follows:

- a) To inform all citizens of the Committee's purpose and to identify existing social and physical barriers.
- b) To provide advice and information regarding future planning of municipal services, programs, and facilities.
- c) To work with the Council to increase public awareness of the issue of accessibility and inclusion for people with disabilities, seniors, and all citizens.

Quarterly Activity Report

Supported and shared information to a **Men's Shed** inquiry regarding turning space required on a ramp.

Spring Expo: This year we focused on Universal Design and barriers.

Mackenzie 60th Celebrations: When visiting various businesses to promote the event there was attention paid to how accessible each place of business was.

Unsightly Premise Complaint: Followed up on behalf of a community member who had complained to District staff last year and felt her complaint was not addressed in an adequate manner with lack of closure. Resident also felt the matter was not handled respectfully by staff. This matter was shared with District staff. Follow-up from the committee and responding to the complaint was appreciated by the complainant. The feedback provided by committee member resulted in closure and her thanks. Complainant has now left town.

Benches

Committee discussed adding benches throughout the community for use by all – very active walkers of all ages in the community would appreciate a rest area. Recommendation was made to work with School District No.57 (SD 57) to make the sports field into a walking track whereby community “walker or runner” have a flat, safe space away from traffic, impassable walkways and SD 57 could promote track and field opportunities.

Disability Alliance: Resulting from Councillor McMeeken’s request when attending District meetings in Prince George and explaining what the Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee has accomplished through walk and roll inspections. This was shared with Director of Corporate Services, Emily Kaehn and Councillor Raye McMeeken.

Mobi Mat: Installation and site inspection June 11, 2026. A demonstration was performed using a wheelchair. Resources were shared and the updates to the washrooms as well as the accessible table are well received.

Mall Parking lot: Vetted complaints about the parking lot at the mall and informed complainants that this lot was owned by **4D Warner** and that repairs have been planned for this summer.

Ministry of Transportation and Transit: Heard multiple complaints about the road surface repair on Highway 39 and advised residents this was a **Ministry of Transportation and Transit** project.

Red Shirt Day

Red Shirt Day posters and information were shared widely on social media, not just Facebook, by various groups within the community. This included promotional posters and teacher resources and activities were shared with the schools.

Committee Meeting Minutes

The minutes from the committee meeting held on **April 15, 2026**, have been attached for Council’s consideration. Please note Committee Member Joy Davy was appointed Committee Chair mid-second quarter of 2026.



COUNCIL PRIORITIES:

Community and Social Development

- Our investment in the municipality's services and infrastructure, our commitment to principles of social equity and well-being, and our belief in the value of resident engagement, creates a healthy community in which everyone feels valued and enjoys a high quality of life.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Elizabeth Blackburn, Committee Member

Reviewed By: Corporate and Financial Services

Approved By: Chief Administrative Officer

Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee Meeting

Minutes

April 15, 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

Committee Absent: Karen Tinsley

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

Guests: Valerie Moss, Mackenzie Public Library

1. CALL TO ORDER

CALLED TO ORDER AT 3:00 pm.

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

Chief Administrative Officer, Diane Smith provided an introduction.

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

2.1 AIAC Committee Meeting - February 18, 2026

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Resolution: AIAC-68

Moved by: Chair E. Blackburn

THAT the Agenda be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

4. REPORTS AND DISCUSSION TOPICS

4.1 Mackenzie Spring Exposition

The committee discussed with staff what materials would need to be printed and laminated for the Spring Expo. The committee also began organizing dates and times for the Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee expo booth.

4.2 Rick Hansen Foundation

Committee members were provided with course information and notified they would be reimbursed for completion of the Inclusion and Accessibility course.

4.3 Tip of The Week - May and June Themes

The committee chose Universal Design as a theme for the month of May, and to focus on Pride for the month of June.

4.4 Voting Site Visit for General Local Election

Committee discussed inviting Amy Coates to conduct a site visit at the proposed voting place for the 2026 General Election as she assisted with set-up of the recent Provincial Election.

4.5 Mobi Mat Installation

The committee discussed the Mobi Mat ribbon cutting ceremony take place on Red Shirt Day, June 3, 2026, to coincide with National Accessibility Week.

4.6 Acknowledgements

The committee discussed a Walk and Roll placard on the District website to acknowledge Walk and Roll participants and their efforts to make businesses more accessible.

4.7 School District No. 57 and Wellness Fair Involvement

Principal Martin Dugan has requested the committee provide feedback as he and School District No. 57 move through strategic planning initiatives.

The committee discussed having a room and volunteer times for students with sensory/spectrum needs at the Mental Health Summit taking place on November 13, 2026.

5. **NEXT MEETING DATE**

Wednesday, June 17, 2026

6. **ADJOURNMENT**

Resolution: AIAC-69

Moved by: Chair E. Blackburn

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 3:55 pm.

CARRIED

Committee Chair

Corporate Officer