



## **Brock Accessibility Advisory Committee (BAAC)**

### **Terms of Reference**

#### **1. Purpose**

- 1.1 The Brock Accessibility Advisory Committee (BAAC) is committed to improving access to its citizens, through the requirements and in the spirit of the *Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2001 (ODA)*, the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 (AODA)* and the *Integrated Accessibility Standards, Ontario Regulation 191/11*.
- 1.2 The Committee will advise Council on specific initiatives to be undertaken by the Township of Brock to reduce barriers experienced by persons with disabilities.

#### **2. Mandate**

- 2.1 Advocate on behalf of persons with disabilities through the promotion of public awareness;
- 2.2 Make recommendations to Council on strategies and policies on the identification and removal of existing barriers, and to ensure that no new barriers will be created;
- 2.3 To provide advice and recommendations to staff and Council on the development and implementation of the Township of Brock Multi-Year Accessibility Plan and annual status reports; and
- 2.4 To monitor the development of the legislative requirements of the *Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2001 (ODA)*, the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 (AODA)* and the *Integrated Accessibility Standards, Ontario Regulation 191/11* and offer advice on the Township's compliance with various regulations contained therein.

#### **3. Term**

- 3.1 Membership on the BAAC shall be concurrent with the term of Council.

#### **4. Composition**

- 4.1 Council shall attempt to ensure that the Brock Accessibility Advisory Committee is comprised of seven (7) voting members, appointed by Council. Depending on the level of interest expressed by individuals and the need to have representatives from different sectors as members, Council may, at its discretion, reduce or increase the number of Committee members.
- 4.2 In accordance with the *Ontarians with Disabilities Act*, Council shall ensure that the majority of members are persons with disabilities. The definition of a disability shall be in accordance with the definition set forth in the AODA.
- 4.3 When considering appointments to the BAAC, Council shall also attempt to ensure representation from all wards of the Township.
- 4.4 A minimum of one member of Council shall be a voting member of the BAAC.
- 4.5 The Mayor is a non-voting ex-officio member of the BAAC.

#### **5. Staff Support**

- 5.1 Township Staff have two principle functions in regard to the BAAC:
  1. Committee Coordinator Role – organizing meetings, preparing agendas and minutes.
  2. Staff Liaison Role - providing content support and policy advice.
- 5.2 The BAAC will receive administrative support from the Clerk's Department. This will include the recording of minutes, preparation of agenda, support necessary to convene a meeting and other support as may be necessary from time to time.

#### **6. Membership Selection**

- 6.1 At the beginning of each Council term, the Township of Brock shall place an advertisement within the newspaper and on its website requesting expressions of interest from individuals who are residents of the Township of Brock.
- 6.2 Applicants shall be required to submit a written expression of interest outlining their reasons for applying and whether they have experience working with persons who have disabilities or overcoming a personal disability.
- 6.3 Council may also receive applications for membership and may appoint members to the BAAC at any time throughout its term.

- 6.4 Upon receipt, Council shall review all expressions of interest, and consider all candidates' qualifications.
- 6.5 The Township of Brock Term Limits – Advisory Boards and Committees Policy shall be taken into consideration when selecting members to BAAC.
- 6.6 All persons appointed to the BAAC shall attend a mandatory Advisory Board and Committee Training prior to their first meeting.
- 6.7 All members appointed to the BAAC shall be required to adhere to the established by-laws, policies, and procedures of the Corporation of the Township of Brock that pertain to the Brock Accessibility Advisory Committee.

## **7. Chair/Vice-Chair**

- 7.1 A Chair, whose responsibility will be to chair the meetings in accordance with the Township's procedural by-law, shall be selected by the Committee at the start of each Council term and two years thereafter (each Chair shall be appointed for a two year period).
- 7.2 A Vice-Chair shall also be selected for the same term as the Chair and shall act as Chair when the Chair is absent or unable to fulfill his/her duties.

## **8. Meetings of BAAC**

- 8.1 The Committee shall hold a minimum of four (4) meetings per year. A schedule of meetings shall be established on an annual basis by the Committee at the final meeting of each calendar year. Meetings shall be scheduled at a frequency established by the Committee that best addresses the workload and objectives of the Committee. In accordance with the requirements of the *Municipal Act*, notice of meetings shall be posted on the municipal website.
- 8.2 A member of the Clerk's Department shall act as recording secretary for the Committee and, in consultation with the Chair, be responsible for preparing the meeting agendas. Should a member of the Clerk's Department be unable to fulfill these duties, the Committee shall appoint an acting secretary.
- 8.3 All meetings of the Committee shall be open to members of the public.

## **9. Quorum**

- 9.1 A quorum shall consist of a simple majority of appointed voting-members.
- 9.2 If there is no quorum after fifteen (15) minutes of the scheduled start time, the meeting will be cancelled and/or rescheduled.

## **10. Sub-Committees**

- 10.1 The BAAC may form Subcommittees as may be necessary to address specific issues, studies or projects.
- 10.2 The purpose of a Subcommittee shall be to make recommendations on a particular issue to the BAAC, or to assist with the implementation of an assigned project.
- 10.3 Subcommittees will be comprised of at least two (2) members of the BAAC and at least three (3) outside members, as deemed necessary.
- 10.4 The Chairperson of a Subcommittee shall be a voting member of the BAAC.
- 10.5 Minutes of Subcommittee meetings must be approved by the BAAC.
- 10.6 The Committee shall participate in meetings with the Accessibility Advisory Committees (AACs) of surrounding area municipalities at a frequency mutually established by all committees. The purpose of such meetings shall be to share best practices and enhance cross-border collaboration.

## **11. Annual Work Plan/Budget**

- 11.1 Council and the BAAC shall work jointly in developing an annual work plan. The allocation of fiscal resources necessary to implement the work plan shall be at the discretion of Council.
- 11.2 The BAAC shall attend as a delegation before Council to present its accomplishments and work plan at the end of each year. Additional reports or deputations to Council shall be provided, as required.

## **12. Conflict of Interest**

- 12.1 A conflict of interest may arise for Committee members when their personal business interests conflict with the duties and decisions of the Committee. Municipal conflict of interest requirements as defined by the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act* will apply to the Committee.

## **13. Reimbursement of Expenses**

- 13.1 It is acknowledged that there are no per diems for any Committee positions and it is acknowledged that none of the above positions shall be paid for their services.
- 13.2 All Committee members are considered volunteer positions.

## **14. Attendance Policy**

- 14.1 Each member of the BAAC shall assume an active role in the Committee's activities. After three (3) consecutive absences, the Chair or staff member shall follow-up with the absent member to determine the cause of the absences. Members who miss three (3) consecutive meetings without providing reasonable cause and/or who are not fulfilling their respective responsibilities, as determined by the Committee, will be deemed to have forfeited their membership.

*\*Approved by the Protection to Persons & Property Committee on September 24, 2018 by Resolution No. 3-8.*