# Minutes

## ACCESSIBILITY FOR ALL COMMITTEE MEETING

**Tuesday October 20, 2020**

**10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**

**Catholic Education Centre**
**Boardroom or Virtual - http://meet.google.com/dsh-cquf-ddi**

**Chairperson:** Laura Di Ianni                                         **Recorder:** Alexa Purves
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**Members:**          Adam White, Daniel Piggott, David Bernier, Eric Hansen, Kelly Smigielski, Laura DiIanni, Michael Kaszuba, Richard Driscoll, Darren Kalher, Corrie McInroy, Teri Smith, Chantal Bouillion, Laurie Corrigan, Joe Sloggett, Melissa Featherstone

**Absent:**           Isabel Grace, Theresa Godin, Nora Shaughnessy

**Recorder:**         Alexa Purves

## A. Call to Order:

1. Prayer: L. Di Ianni
2. Land Acknowledgment: L. Corrigan
3. Approval of Agenda
    a. Motion: Adam White
    b. Second: Michael Kaszuba
4. Approval of minutes from previous meeting: October 2019 Minutes
    a. Motion: Darren Kahler
    b. Second: Richard Driscoll
5. Business arising from previous minutes:
    a. Introduced Kelly Smigielski, our new SEAC representative.
    b. A new 1 student representative being sought to attend meetings this year.

## B. Information Items:

1. Mandate of the Accessibility for All Committee - reviewed by L. Di Ianni

a. Review current initiatives and successes in identifying, removing, and preventing barriers
   b. Review and ensure audits are completed to ensure accessibility
   c. Set priorities and develop accessibility strategies and
   d. Provide updates and reports specific to Board departments on the progress of ensuring accessibility and the removal of barriers
2. [Membership for 2020-2021](#) - reviewed - student representation being sought to attend future meetings.
3. Resources
   a. Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation: [Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005, S.O. 2005, c. 11](#)
      i. Reviewed - paying particular attention to specifics in legislation for each of the categories. For example, training on accessibility, and how to train on general requirements, focus on section 7 and 14, 16. Training of all including educators
   b. AP 705: [Accessibility and Barrier Free Learning and Work Environments](#)-note up for renewal this year
   c. [PVNCCDSB: Accessibility and Barrier Free Multi Year Plan](#) - May 2018 (Revised February 2020)
   d. [Accessibility Compliance/Status Report Copy](#)
      i. Departments representatives asked to review their applicable sections to report back on (notes of completion, areas of need, possible move into dates/years to be completed).
      ii. In general requirements it asks if the area is applying with applicable requirements - in this case, turn your attention to the act itself (noted above).
      iii. Michael- should include website responsibility and accessibility, software needs to be accessible, conversation with purchasing as well
   e. PVNCCDSB Accessibility Resources: [Accessibility Link](#)
   f. National Accessibility Awareness Week (NAAW) 2020: [Link](#)


**C. Discussion Items:**

1. Updates from Stakeholders:
   a. Plant
      i. Richard - In terms of specific school environments, a Public survey used sent out by Diane (Accessibility and Barrier Free) about public spaces in order to communicate needs in each location.

    ii.    Universal Washrooms have gone in at St. Anne CES, Holy Family CES and Holy Cross CSS. Hearing assist devices have been implemented at St. Thomas Aquinas and St. Stephen.

    iii.    A 5-year goal is difficult if we have to address every school - for example, some of our oldest. Addressing issues as they arise currently (fire alarms, paper towel racks, etc.)

    iv.    Dave asked if it might be helpful if he took needs/costs to OCSTA.

    v.    Melissa suggested we use the Ministry survey that quantifies costs along with retrofits may be a good starting point, to provide an estimate to Dave on these adjustments.

    vi.    6 schools have been completed, according to the ministry survey and it is a timely process.

    vii.    Eric asked if we are fixing one school at a time or are we making small changes at all schools? Have we looked into getting portable fire alarms (Flashing light for deaf and hard of hearing students) for schools?

    viii.    The board is prioritizing based on the needs of schools and students with accessibility needs. There is no Ministry provided list, building codes are what are followed.

b. IT

    i.    The Board Websites Double A compliance rating has gone from 63% to 93% accessible. Individual school websites are now being formatted to become fully accessible.

    ii.    Safe schools training modules for staff members will be next to become fully accessible.

c. Transportation

    i.    None

d. Special Education

    i.    Continue to bring reports to the ministry regarding the needs of special education and accessibility by the deadline of 2025.

    ii.    STACVS vs Traditional Classroom- guides have been developed, the board is doing its best to provide tech and access, (devices/WIFI) to families without.

    iii.    Currently in a transition period where students can switch between virtual and in person until Nov 12.Special Education staff is still being provided to students that need support from home.

    iv.    New IEPs have recently been completed and we are now in the process of providing new supports to these students.

    v.    SEA Equipment went home if it could, Ipads with Hotspot were provided to students who needed it.

e. Human Resources

      i.     Currently, notify accommodations to the public in the building, notify successful applicants of how to accommodate needs, and work with employees with accommodation plans.

      ii.    All needs are being met as postings now include how needs can be met.

      iii.   Statement has been added to offers of employment regarding any accessibility accommodations might be needed.

      iv.   Corrie helps employees that need accommodations and new processes are added when needed.

f. Health and Safety
   i. St. Thomas Aquinas - need to address location of elevator
   ii. Currently staff supporting that need

g. Communications
   i. None

h. CUPE
   i. None

i. OECTA
   i. None

j. Other:
   i. Adam- English Language learners
   ii. Admin procedures is up for review, please review and give Laura/Laurie feedback

2. National Accessibility Awareness Week (NAAW): May 30 - June 5, 2021 - Reviewed

   a. [Easter Seals Link](): Red Shirt Day (June 2, 2021), Resources, Activities
      i. RedShirtPledge: "By wearing red on Red Shirt Day, participants are also making a pledge to educate and inform themselves on issues related to disability, and do what they can – individually and collectively – to remove physical and attitudinal barriers in their schools, workplaces and communities in order to make them truly accessible and inclusive places/environments for people of all abilities."

   b. Topics/Themes and Activities from 2020: Reviewed
      i. Day 1: Blind and Low Vision
         1. Possibly include students in our own board on future videos.
         2. Highlight good things going on at PVNC, teachers found old videos to be helpful, shouldn't highlight needs should focus on public and how they adjust, society needs to break down barriers,
         3. Corrie- Reach out to graduates? To reduce spotlight on current students
      ii. Day 2: Deaf and Hard of Hearing
      iii. Day 3: Newcomers to Canada
      iv. Day 4: Intellectual

     v.    Day 5: Physical

## D. Conclusion:

1. Next Steps:
    a. Review resources (eg. IASR) and bring needs/completion for your department to operations subcommittee if applies to your position
    b. All to consider National Accessibility Awareness Week and how we will move forward this year (see resources for what was done last year (in virtual environment).
2. Future Meetings:
    a. Accessibility for All: February 2 at 1:15pm (volunteers for prayer) Chantal Bouillon
    b. May 6, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.
    c. Operational Sub-Committee:
        i.    January 21, 2021 at 1:15 p.m.
        ii.    April 29, 2021 at 1:15 p.m.
3. Closing Prayer: Laura Di Ianni
4. Adjournment:
    a. Motion:  Michael Kaszuba
    b. Second:  Corrie McInroy