

Northumberland Accessibility Advisory Committee Minutes

June 12, 2025

10:00 – 11:30 am

555 Courthouse Road, Committee Room B

Members present: Bob Robertson, Hope Bergeron, John Logel (County Councillor) Lorraine Gordon, Selena Forsyth (Vice Chair), Stephanie Ash, Mike Gibson, , Andrea Nicholson (staff liaison)

Regrets: Rae Deschamps (Chair), Christine Bayer

Guests:

Adam McCue, Associate Director Operations, Public Works,
Rebecca Carman, Associate Director, Housing & Homelessness;
Negar Pakzadian, Project Manager, Major Capital Projects, Public Works

Quorum was confirmed and the meeting called to order at 10:15am (technical issues)

1. Approval of meeting notes from May 8, 2025

Moved by Lorraine, seconded by Bob that the meeting minutes for May 8, 2025 be approved. **Carried**

2. Action items and follow-up from May 8, 2025

There were no action items.

3. New Business

- i **Accessible Waste Programs** (Adam McCue, Associate Director Operations, Public Works)

Adam reviewed the Accessible Recycling Program and Medical Waste Subsidy Programs, steps to provide accommodations at the Community Recycling Centres and upcoming improvements to the weigh stations areas.(presentation attached)

- ii **473 Ontario Street Housing Plan Review** (Rebecca Carman, Associate Director, Housing & Homelessness;; Negar Pakzadian, Project Manager, Major Capital Projects, Public Works)

Rebecca provided the background on this new housing project in Cobourg. The project is a joint project between the Northumberland County Housing Corporation and the Ontario Aboriginal Housing Services and has a focus on reconciliation.

Negar and Willie reviewed the early design and plans and emphasized the accessible elements of the building and accessible units..

20% of the 62 units will be accessible, with 6 one-bedroom, 4 two - bedroom and 2, three-bedroom units.

As the project develops, the NAAAC will be consulted further.

Recommendation: The committee recommended that elevators have the capacity to transport a stretcher both for emergency and non-emergency uses.

- iii **Accessibility Coordinator's Update –**

Andrea reported the following:

- **New website testing** – Testing is planned for early July. Committee members agreed that Andrea may provide NAAC member emails to the Communications team so members can be part of the testing. **Action:** Andrea will contact members not present to seek permission to share email addresses.
- **2025 Accessibility Compliance Report** –The County will report compliance with all standards on the 2025 Accessibility Compliance report. The committee supported that the County is compliant. The 2025 Accessibility Compliance report was submitted to the Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility reporting compliance with all AODA standards immediately following the NAAC meeting.
- Andrea will be on vacation June 30 – July 6

4. Adjournment

No regular meetings in July and August (Chair may call ad hoc meetings as needed and the committee may be called upon for input on accessibility related items)

Next Regular Meeting: September 11, 2025 at 10:00am via Zoom



Northumberland
COUNTY

Accessibility within
Waste Operations

Accessibility Advisory Committee

June 12, 2025

Medical Waste - 1

- ▶ In 2011 Council approved the Medical Waste Subsidy Program
- ▶ Applicable to individuals with medical conditions that cause them to generate waste materials beyond their control
- ▶ Through the program the County provides a requested number of garbage bag tags to the applicant on an annual basis

Medical Waste - 2

- ▶ Applicant required to submit an application annually, and certification by a medical professional is required every third year
- ▶ Applicants exempted from the weekly 2 garbage bag set out limit
- ▶ Waste Contractor is notified of set out limit exemption
- ▶ Currently have 181 individuals enrolled in the program

Recyclables Collection - 1

- ▶ In 2020 Council approved the Accessible Recycling Collection Program
- ▶ Applicable to individuals with accessibility challenges that make bringing Blue and Grey boxes to curbside difficult
- ▶ Through the program the County allows applicants to use clear bags to place their sorted recyclables at curbside for collection

Recyclables Collection - 2

- ▶ Applicant required to submit an application annually, and personally attest that they are physically challenged in getting standard recycling containers or wheeled containers to roadside for collection
- ▶ Applicants are then exempted from using containers and instead allowed to use clear bags to place recyclables out for collection
- ▶ Currently have 165 individuals enrolled in the program

Accessibility at CRCs - 1

- ▶ Over the past few years, the County has implemented procedures at our Community Recycling Centres (CRCs) to assist individuals with accessibility challenges
- ▶ Residents are asked to contact County ahead of visit to a CRC to discuss assistance that may be required
- ▶ Signage posted at all of our CRCs with instructions on how to contact the County

Accessibility at CRCs - 2

- ▶ Resident asked what supports they may require and the types and quantities of waste being brought to the CRC
- ▶ Management provide assistance, up to the removal of the materials from a resident's vehicle
- ▶ In many cases, residents simply need ability to unload materials onto the ground versus having lift materials into bins or over railings

Scale House Modifications

- ▶ Will be replacing the Scale House Buildings at Brighton and Seymour CRCs later this year
- ▶ New Scale Houses will be situated closer to the scale so residents can pay through a drive through window, without having to exit their vehicle
- ▶ Will be looking to make modifications to Bewdley CRC Scale House to accommodate payment without having to exit vehicle as well

Online Bag Tag Purchase

- ▶ During COVID, County implemented an online option for residents to purchase garbage bag tags
- ▶ Requirement to purchase a minimum of 10 bag tags and a \$2.00 shipping fee is applied to each order

THANK-YOU

