

**VILLAGE OF HARRISON HOT SPRINGS
Accessibility Committee Minutes**

DATE: Monday, September 15, 2025
TIME: 10:00 a.m.
PLACE: Council Chambers, Village Office
495 Hot Springs Road, Harrison Hot Springs, BC

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillor Leo Facio, Chair
Sharon Chatenay (at 10:12 a.m.)
Shell De Martin
Stephanie Gallamore
Geraldine Mailhot

STAFF PRESENT: Christy Ovens, Community Services Manager
Kalie Wiechmann, Communications and Community
Engagement Coordinator
Amanda Graham, Corporate Officer

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Facio called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Chair Facio acknowledged the traditional territory of Sts'ailes.

3. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS

Geraldine Mailhot requested to add "Ramps to the Beach Walkway along Esplanade Avenue" as an item under Item for Discussion 6(b) – Accessibility Feedback.

4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Moved by Stephanie Gallamore
Seconded by Geraldine Mailhot

THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

CARRIED
AC-2025-09-01

5. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved by Shell De Martin
Seconded by Geraldine Mailhot

THAT the Accessibility Committee Meeting Minutes of April 28, 2025 be adopted.

CARRIED

6. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

(a) Disability Alliance BC Webinar – Effective Accessibility Committees

Disability Alliance BC hosted a webinar and the link was forwarded to Committee members. There is a recording available of the webinar for those who were unable to attend. The Committee expressed that the resources and links are beneficial. One aspect of accessibility is to consider having descriptive video for people with visual impairments.

(b) Accessibility Feedback

- Spring Park Washroom

There was an incident where the crushed gravel at the entrance to the Spring Park Washroom had sunken down and someone in a motorized wheelchair was unable to move either forward or backward, and required assistance from others at the park. The Village put cement in the following day after receiving the feedback, and is looking at installing an accessible push button door in the future.

The Committee discussed the following:

- Parking stalls for ambulances and care workers near the apartments on Esplanade Avenue
- Buses of people visiting from care homes having an unloading area on the west side of Maple Street
- The playground equipment at Spring Park which is not currently accessible and is surrounded by a raised step due to drainage concerns
- The cost of rubber surfacing playgrounds

- Water Access and Aquatic Chairs

The Village received feedback regarding a lack of accessible parking stalls for boats and trailers at the boat launch, an Aquatic Mesh Chair rental program at the boat launch to assist disabled swimmers, kayakers and canoers, and the need for a concrete path down to the water to replace the Mobi-Mats. The Committee discussed False Creek and Peachland as areas with accessible access to water. Councillor Facio advised that there was a previous motion of Council to replace the Mobi-Mats with wooden walkways that don't get full of sand and remain even. The issue may not be so much getting down to the water as it is trying to get back up, depending on the grade. The Committee discussed potential grant funders including the Lions Club, Easter Seals and Rick Hansen Foundation. There are grants that the Village as a municipality may not be eligible for, but Tourism might be.

- Manhole Cover at Tourism Building

Near the start of the accessible ramp to the Tourism building, at the rear of the building by the parking lot, there is a manhole cover that extends above the

sidewalk creating a tripping hazard. The Committee discussed potential solutions such as putting some cement sloping around the cover, a rubber gasket, or having the hole drilled out so the cover can sit lower and more flush to the sidewalk. Staff looked at it and the cover comes off easily to expose electrical equipment. Staff will reach out to BC Hydro, Public Works and Tourism to come up with a solution.

- Ramps to the Beach Walkway on Esplanade Avenue

Feedback received verbally from a couple using a walker and canes that the ramps from Esplanade Avenue up to the beach walkway are in need of repaving as they have gouges, dips and pits in them that cause the walkers and canes to get caught. Staff will pass this feedback along to the Public Works department.

The Committee further discussed lighting around the ramps, specifically the one near Chehalis Street, and lighting at the bus stop on Lillooet Avenue.

(c) Verbal Report of Community Services Manager
Local Community Accessibility Grant Progress Update

The Community Services Manager provided the following updates:

- Two accessible picnic tables have been installed at Spring Park
- Accessible parking stalls were recently repainted with the new icon
- An automatic foot and push button door was installed at the Village Office
- Staff are seeking cost estimates to prioritize other locations to upgrade next
- Staff are also researching automation to set a timer for the washrooms to lock and unlock as field staff hours scale back in the fall and winter

(d) Annual Work Plan / Budget

The Corporate Officer presented on the annual Work Plan and Budget process. Committees are invited to develop a Work Plan to submit to Council some time in November for integration of any projects with a financial component into the municipal budget. Staff will prepare a draft Work Plan and Budget to present for the next meeting. The Committee was asked to please send any ideas, especially those requiring funding, in advance so staff and conduct preliminary research. It was noted that much of the Work Plan will be based on the Village's Accessibility Plan.

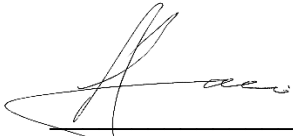
(e) Next Meeting Date: Thursday, October 30, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.

7. ADJOURNMENT

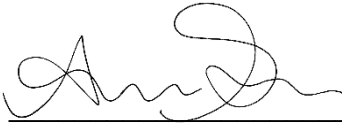
Moved by Shell De Martin
Seconded by Stephanie Gallamore

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 11:03 a.m.

CARRIED
AC-2025-09-03



Leo Facio, Chair
Accessibility Committee



Amanda Graham
Corporate Officer