

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS  
ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING  
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2021  
ONLINE FORUM

Present: John Graham (Chairperson), Scott Jocelyn, Martin Harder, Josh Watt, Laurel Repski, Kris Cowley, Brad Robertson, John Wyndels and Colleen Watters (MAO)

Absent: Dianna Scarth

The chairperson welcomed everyone to the meeting and participants introduced themselves.

The chair provided updates to Council members. He reported that, under current public health orders, persons appointed through Orders in Council are not permitted to travel outside the province until further notice. Saskatchewan is considering the development of accessibility legislation and has posted a review framework, guide and survey online. These documents may be helpful to Council in conducting the Customer Service Standard review

The secretary guided Council members through a discussion of a draft launch letter for public consultation on the Customer Service Standard review. There will be a number of ways individuals and organizations can offer feedback, including Forums, survey and written submissions, with a broad consultation process. The letter is a general invitation to participate in the review with areas identified for feedback. It does not provide opportunities to register or identify specific consultation questions.

Decision: Council agreed on a May 7, 2021, deadline to submit written feedback and complete the survey.

Agreement: The Council agreed not to set specific dates for consultations at this point.

Action: The Manitoba Accessibility Office will send out the launch letter within the next week providing advance notice of the review and the consultations.

Action: The chair and secretary will work on a discussion document and framework for the consultation and move forward on the development of a survey.

Council discussed virtual platforms for the consultations, utilizing sector-specific focus groups and hiring an external facilitator for all sessions.

Action: Council members agreed to send names of potential facilitators to the chair and secretary.

Decision: Council agreed to cancel the February 19, 2021 meeting and to reconvene in March. The next Council meeting will take place on Thursday, March 4, 2021 (later changed to Friday, March 5) from 1:00-3:00 PM.

The February 4 meeting adjourned at 3:00 PM.