

Burlington Accessibility Advisory Committee (BAAC) 2017 Activities

Public Education

National Access Awareness Week (NAAW)

Free activities during NAAW included:

Skate Ability at Appleby Arena

An opportunity for people living with a disability to enjoy a skate with friends and family. Skating aids and sledges were provided. Wheelchairs welcome!

Kids in the Kitchen

Kids ages 8 and up can join Chef Monique for an interactive, hands-on cooking class on how to prepare a delicious and healthy pizza. This event was held Burlington Sobey's Extra, 1250 Brant Street.

Terry Fox Run

BAAC had a booth at the Terry Fox Run in September 2017. The booth included an Dotmocracy display so members of the public could provide feedback and make recommendations about accessibility in Burlington.

Burlington's Best

An Accessibility Award category was created as part of Burlington's Best in 2017. The recipient was **The Tetra Society**, a non-profit group that recruits skilled volunteers to create customized assistive devices for people with physical disabilities.

Annual Joint AAC Meeting

The Annual Joint Meeting of the Accessibility Advisory Committees of Halton was held at the Art Gallery of Burlington in October 2017. Participants included members of the Accessibility Advisory Committees from Halton Hills, Oakville and the Region, with the Burlington ACC as host. Thea Kurdi from DesignABLE Environments provided the keynote about the importance of universal design in housing. Each committee provided an update about the work they are doing in their community to improve accessibility.

Involvement with other Citizen Committees

Throughout the year BAAC had representation on the following committees:

- Inclusivity Advisory Committee
- Seniors Advisory Committee
- Integrated Transportation Advisory Committee (ITAC)

CL-11-18 Appendix A

Consultations

As part of their mandate, BAAC is invited to consult on projects to provide our input about improvements to accessibility. Projects in 2017 included:

- Joseph Brant Museum
- eScribe Agenda Management System
- Burloak Regional Waterfront Park
- Trail and Pathway Surface Selection Policy
- Draft Official Plan
- Sherwood Forest Park Revitalization Project
- Elgin Street Promenade
- A member participated in the Burlington Active Aging Plan project

Other Activities

In addition to the above several members of BAAC participated in forums related to the proposed Canadian and current Ontario accessibility legislation:

- Karina Gould's Accessible Town Hall
- Alliance for Inclusive & Accessible Canada
- Disability Experts Conference webinar
- Community Accessibility Forum in Toronto

Rick Hansen Accessible Cities Award

A member assisted with the submission to the Rick Hansen Foundation Accessible Cities Award. The City of Burlington's submission to the award was the Community Garden Program. Burlington received an honourable mention "for their overall efforts towards creating accessible and inclusive community spaces."

Burlington Accessibility Advisory Committee (BAAC) 2018 Work Plan

Continuing Initiatives:

- Provide advice to staff and council on accessibility in City of Burlington by-laws, policies, programs, services and facilities
- Review and provide input on the City's Accessibility Multi-Year Plan, and other Master Plans as appropriate
- Review and provide comment on site plans
- Participate/consult on new construction and renovation/renewal projects as appropriate
- Liaise and participate with other citizen advisory committees
- Participate in Public Education opportunities through trade shows and resource fairs
- Sponsor the Accessibility Award as part of Burlington's Best Awards
- Deliver event for National Access Awareness Week (NAAW)
- Deliver event for International Day of Persons with Disabilities (IDPD)

Specific Public Education Activities:

- Inspire Accessibility Trade Show – April 21
- Burlington's Best – May 9
- Walk for Dog Guides – May 27
- Access Now Map-a-thon, (NAAW) – June 2
- Terry Fox Run – September 16
- #danceAble, (IDPD) – Dec 1 or 2

New Initiatives:

- Lunch & Learn for city employees – Dog Guides
- Respect the Space – Accessible Parking Education Program
- Farmer's Market Booth – pending additional information
- Joint meeting(s) with chairs of Seniors and Inclusivity committees
- Possible joint inclusivity events