

## Report CCR-CS-24-16

**To:** Chair Eccles and Members of the Corporate Services Committee  
**From:** Rob Hatten, Communications Officer  
**Meeting Date:** September 13, 2016  
**Subject:** **Accessibility Advisory Committee Membership Recommendations**  
**Status:** Recommendation adopted by Committee as presented per Resolution CS64-16; Endorsed by County Council October 4, 2016 per Resolution CC125-16;

### Recommendation(s)

**WHEREAS Grey County is required to have an Accessibility Advisory Committee;**

**AND WHEREAS Grey County Council recently endorsed updating the Accessibility Advisory Committee Terms of Reference to include up to seven public members;**

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Report CCR-CS-24-16 be received;**

**AND THAT Catherine Sholtz and Tara Turnbull be accepted as voting members of the Grey County Accessibility Advisory Committee for the remainder of the 2015-2018 term.**

### Background

Under the *Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005*, municipalities with populations greater than 10,000 residents are required to have an Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC). The majority of voting members must be people with disabilities. This committee advises the County about accessibility-related issues.

In August 2016, Grey County Council endorsed report CCR-AAC-21-16, updating the AAC Terms of Reference. The update increased the number of AAC voting members up to seven and opened membership to residents without disabilities who are passionate and knowledgeable advocates for accessibility. As a result of the update,

there are two open seats on the committee. Grey County has a great opportunity to increase public participation and recruit knowledgeable new members.

When recruiting for the current AAC term in early 2015, Grey County received an application from Catherine Sholtz. Catherine's resume showed a tremendous amount of experience working for an accessibility organization in Collingwood and previously sitting on the Collingwood Accessibility Advisory Committee. However, she didn't meet the AAC Terms of Reference requirements at the time. With the recent updates to the Terms of Reference, Catherine does now qualify and she is still very interested in joining the committee.

Tara Turnbull is another member of the public who is interested in joining the AAC. Tara was referred by a current AAC member and attended a previous committee meeting to learn more. Tara identified herself as a person living with a disability and she can provide the committee with her own unique perspective and recommendations.

Staff recommends appointing Catherine Sholtz and Tara Turnbull to the Grey County Accessibility Advisory Committee. The majority of voting members will continue to be people with disabilities if both members are accepted.

## Financial/Staffing/Legal/Information Technology Considerations

Adding more public members would result in a slight increase to mileage compensation. There are no other staffing, IT or legal considerations.

## Link to Strategic Goals/Priorities

Corporate Strategic Plan goal 6.7 – Ensure county services and programs are inclusive, accessible and reflective of the diversity of the population.

Respectfully submitted by,

Rob Hatten  
Communications Officer

Director Sign Off: *Sharon Vokes*