 Terms of Reference

# Grey County Joint Accessibility Advisory Committee

## Purpose:

To comply with accessibility legislation and to provide comments to Grey County Council and participating local municipal councils, regarding accessibility-related issues and improvements to services.

Participating local municipalities include: The Township of Georgian Bluffs, The Municipality of Grey Highlands, The Town of Hanover, the City of Owen Sound (effective February 1, 2024), The Township of Southgate, The Town of The Blue Mountains, and The Municipality of West Grey. Member municipalities may opt in or out at any time. Where a municipality decides it would like to opt in to the Committee, a report with Terms of Reference will be brought forward to County Council for its consideration.

## Scope of Responsibility:

1. Comment each year about the preparation, implementation and effectiveness of each municipality’s multi-year accessibility plan.
2. Provide review and comment when requested by Council on the accessibility for persons with disabilities to a building, structure or premises:
	* 1. Purchased, constructed, majorly renovated, owned or operated by Grey County and participating municipalities;
		2. Considered for lease;
		3. Provided as a municipal capital facility under an agreement, in accordance with the *Municipal Act*.
3. Review in a timely manner the site plans and drawings described under Section 41 of the *Planning Act* when requested.
4. In response to circulated plans, review and provide timely comment to the appropriate council, or its designates, on site plans prepared for major renovations and newly constructed developments including new commercial, institutional, industrial, major residential and other development subject to site plan control under a participating municipality.
5. Perform other functions required by the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) and its regulations.
6. Review programs and services and provide feedback to make practices more inclusive.

## Voting Membership

The Grey County Joint Accessibility Advisory Committee will consist of up to nine members. Membership will include

1. The majority of voting members must be persons with disabilities, as defined under the AODA;
2. A caregiver of a person with a disability;
3. A public advocate for people with disabilities with a high degree of accessibility knowledge.
4. One representative from Grey County Council

Members will be appointed by County Council for the term of council and members are eligible for re-appointment.

## Non-Voting Members

The Grey County Joint Accessibility Advisory Committee’s non-voting members will consist of:

1. One staff resource from each participating local municipality
2. Grey County staff lead for accessibility

## Chair and Vice Chair:

The Chair and Vice Chair shall be elected from the voting membership annually.

## Meetings:

At a minimum, the Grey County Joint Accessibility Advisory Committee meets quarterly. Additional meetings may occur as required.

## Quorum:

A quorum shall consist of more than 50% of the membership of the Committee.

## Compensation:

Public voting members will be reimbursed mileage or other similar travel costs.

## Statutory Authority:

Ontarians with Disabilities Act (ODA)

Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA)

Grey County Procedural By-Law

Local Municipal Procedural By-Laws

## Reporting Relationship:

The Accessibility Advisory Committee will report to Grey County Committee of the Whole and meeting minutes will be circulated to the participating local municipalities.

## Lead Staff:

Grey County Contract & Accessibility Coordinator

Designated liaison for each local municipality

Grey County Clerk

Grey County Deputy Clerk/Legislative Coordinator