



## **CALL FOR MEMBERS:**

# **Waterfront Accessibility Advisory Committee**

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Waterfront Toronto is working to create a vibrant, connected waterfront that belongs to everyone. As city-builders, we care about delivering neighbourhoods, parks, destinations, and infrastructure that make people's lives better.

Every public space created or revitalized by Waterfront Toronto adheres to the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA). This includes recreational trails and beach access routes, outdoor public use eating areas, outdoor play spaces, exterior paths of travel, accessible parking, obtaining services, and maintenance. In the years ahead, we commit to enhancing our capabilities in accessible design – to exceeding expectations, showing leadership and making accessibility another area of true design excellence on the waterfront.

Waterfront Toronto recently introduced draft Waterfront Accessibility Design Guidelines (the Guidelines). The intention of the Guidelines is to complement existing legislation and create an enhanced set of guidelines for waterfront specific features, helping make Toronto's waterfront one of the most accessible and inclusive in the world. The Guidelines were created in collaboration with an Advisory Committee on Accessibility, a group of individuals selected by Waterfront Toronto based on their professional, technical and/or their lived experience with disability for the specific purpose of creating the Guidelines.

Now we are forming a new Waterfront Accessibility Advisory Committee (the Committee) to provide feedback, guidance and advice to Waterfront Toronto and its design consultants on the design and delivery of future public realm projects.

### **Committee Mandate**

The mandate of the Committee is to apply the principles and technical requirements of the Guidelines, as well as lived experience, and advocate for accessible and inclusive public spaces on the waterfront where everyone is welcome and encouraged to participate.

The Committee will provide objective feedback, guidance, and advice to Waterfront Toronto and Project teams on public realm related projects during the design phase. For the purpose of this work, public realm is defined as publicly owned places and spaces that belong to and are accessible by everyone, including parks, open spaces, squares, plazas, sidewalks, streets, etc.

Public realm projects being led by Waterfront Toronto, including new construction and projects that have reached the end of their lifecycle or require upgrades, will be reviewed by the Committee early in the design process (i.e., Schematic Design Phase) and additionally, if required. The Committee's comments will also be shared with the Waterfront Toronto [Design Review Panel](#) during its review of projects.

The Committee will be composed of 6-8 members who represent advocacy or professional organizations, and individuals with relevant expertise, most of whom will be persons with disabilities, as defined by the AODA. Two (2) members of the Advisory Committee on Accessibility that helped develop the Guidelines will be invited onto this new Committee. They will help provide continuity and a base of knowledge of the Guidelines.

Through this call we are seeking to fill the remaining 4-6 positions. These members will represent a cross section of disabilities and a variety of perspectives and reflect the diversity of Toronto's population.

Individuals will be selected based on several criteria, including lived experience with a disability. The selection committee will include staff from Waterfront Toronto and individuals with disabilities.

### Qualifications and Criteria

Members should collectively bring the following skills and expertise to the committee:

- Lived experience with a disability.
- A strong understanding of the needs and concerns of a broad spectrum of persons with disabilities and seniors gained through personal or professional experience.
- Knowledge of accessibility as it relates to one or more areas of: policy and procedure, built environment and public spaces, and accommodation.
- Ability to interpret technical design drawings, or capacity and interest to learn.
- Ability to provide constructive comments and feedback and communicate complex issues to a variety of audiences including Waterfront Toronto, City of Toronto staff, and design professionals.
- Experience in decision-making, communication, and citizen advocacy.
- Availability to participate in meetings during business hours.

### Time Commitment and Remuneration

The Committee meets during regular business hours approximately four to six (4-6) times per year on an as needed basis. The number and cadence of meetings may vary depending on project schedules and milestones but, in any case, would not occur more than once a month. Each meeting is approximately 2.5 hours long with an average of 2 projects reviewed.

In seeking appointment to the Committee, applicants acknowledge that they will be able to regularly attend full meetings except in rare instances. Disability-related accommodation and supports are provided upon request. Notification in advance is required.

Committee members will receive an honourarium of \$300 per meeting attended. The reimbursement of travel expenses will be considered based on need. Committee member terms are for two years and may be renewed at the discretion of Waterfront Toronto.

### How and When to Apply

By October 06, 2023 at 4 pm

1. Please fill out the [online application form](#); Or

2. Download and complete the [fillable document](#).
3. If you wish, you may submit supporting documents such as a resume, C.V., or another summary of your skills and experience to be considered along with this application (not required).

PDF and supplementary submissions should be sent to Tristan Simpson, Project Manager, at [tsimpson@waterfrontoronto.ca](mailto:tsimpson@waterfrontoronto.ca). The selection process is expected to be completed by the beginning of October 2023 and the first meeting will be held in mid-October. Applicants involved in waterfront projects are not precluded from applying, provided they agree to abide by the conflict of interest procedures if they are selected to serve on the Committee.

Waterfront Toronto thanks all candidates for their interest in participating on this committee and to advancing accessibility and inclusion along the waterfront. Candidates selected for consideration may be contacted to schedule an interview.