



# MEMO

**To: Accessibility Advisory Committee**

**From: Deputy Clerk & Accessibility Coordinator**

**Date: September 4, 2024**

**Subject:** Updates on bench donations, crosswalk at corner of CIBC, making trail from Spruce to Boardwalk accessible, business audit initiative (Keith Moyer legacy program), Inclusive Community Grants program, and secondary suites proposal

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## **Bench Donations:**

Our insurance provider has recommended that the City consider advertising for public donations to fund the purchase of a bench, potentially with a commemorative nameplate. To ensure consistency in construction and quality, the City should issue a competitive procurement process to identify a qualified supplier that meets the specified requirements and design plans. Establishing a formal contract with the selected supplier will provide the City with protection in the event of future claims related to faulty construction or supplier negligence, as coverage will be provided by the supplier's insurance and contractual terms. Conversely, if a bench is constructed by a private individual, the City would lack similar protections, as it is unlikely that the individual would have appropriate insurance coverage for potential claims. This scenario would expose the City to additional costs associated with investigating and resolving such claims. Currently, the City offers a memorial tree and bench program, with the cost of a bench set at \$4,000. This fee encompasses the bench itself, installation, and a commemorative plaque, as well as maintenance and repair throughout the bench's estimated 15-year lifespan in an outdoor setting.

## **Crosswalk at the Corner of CIBC:**

The committee's resolution has been submitted to the secretary of the Police Services Board. The board has not yet convened to review this resolution. In the interim, I have communicated the concern to Constable Young. I have also obtained quotes for pedestrian crosswalk lights, which are approximately \$20,000 for two units, excluding tax, delivery, and installation.

## **Making trail from Spruce Beach to Boardwalk Accessible:**

Volunteers with the XC Ski & Bike Club have dedicated approximately 80 hours of clearing brush and moving some of the boardwalks. In the coming weeks there will be equipment in the trails that will aid with cleaning, clearing, etc.

**Business Audit Initiative (Keith Moyer Legacy Program):**

Jeannie Meyer has submitted an application for the Ontario Community Changemakers grant on behalf of the Accessibility Advisory Committee. This grant, which provides up to \$5,000, is intended for individuals or groups with innovative ideas aimed at improving public spaces, enhancing civic engagement, and promoting social inclusion within the community. Jeannie applied for the Keith Moyer Legacy program, including all required documentation. We extend our sincere gratitude to Jeannie for her efforts in this endeavor.

**Inclusive Community Grants Program:**

Unfortunately, our application for the Inclusive Community Grants Program for the Westview Park Gazebo project was not successful. The program received a high volume of applications, making it highly competitive. Moving forward, staff will collaborate with the Director of Recreation and Culture to conduct a community survey to gather input on desired features and preferences for the park. Based on this feedback, we will develop a plan and budget accordingly. The committee will be consulted throughout this process.

**Secondary Suites Proposal:**

The Secondary Suites Proposal, presented by Jeannie, has been forwarded to ADSAB for review. The Chair of the Accessibility Advisory Committee has received a response concerning the eligibility of secondary suites. They are indeed eligible under the Ontario Priorities Housing Initiative (OPHI) program, specifically through the Ontario Renovates Multi-Unit Rehabilitation subcomponent. Further discussions on this matter will be scheduled for the next committee meeting.

Respectfully submitted,



Amanda Laurence