

# WHISTLER

## MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF ACCESSIBILITY AND INCLUSION COMMITTEE (AIC) WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 01, 2023, STARTING AT 9:00 A.M. Remote Meeting held Via Zoom

PRESENT	*Mtgs.
	YTD (1)
Accommodation Sector, D. Andrews	1
Member at Large, S. Lawther	1
Tourism Whistler, M. Klau	1
Vail Resorts, E. Bayliffe	
Vail Resorts, L. Fowler	1
Whistler Chamber of Commerce, L. Walker	1
Whistler Community Services Society, L. Payne	1
Whistler Mature Action Community, D. Ashton	1
Resort Municipality of Whistler (RMOW) Councillor, J.	1
Morden	
RMOW Manager of Planning – Policy, AIC Secretary	1
and AIC Recording Secretary, C. Beaubien	
RMOW Accessibility Coordinator, S. Tipler	1
C. Walker, Director, Whistler Operations, Invictus	
Games Vancouver Whistler 2025	

REGRETS	
Member at Large, O. Rey	0
Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre	0
Whistler Adaptive Sports Program	0
Whistler Mature Action Community, Second Member	0
* For organizations, the number reflects the number of meetings attended by the organization's representatives.	

## **CALL TO ORDER**

AIC recognized the Resort Municipality of Whistler is grateful to be on the shared, unceded territory of the Lil'wat People, known in their language as Lilwat7úl, and the Squamish People, known in their language as Skwxwú7mesh. We respect and commit to a deep consideration of their history, culture, stewardship and voice.

## **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Moved by D. Ashton Seconded by D. Andrews MINUTES Regular AIC Committee Meeting February 01, 2023 Page 2

**That** AIC adopt the Regular Committee Agenda of Wednesday, February 01, 2023.

**CARRIED** 

#### **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

Moved by D. Ashton Seconded by L. Fowler

**That** AIC adopt the Regular Committee Minutes of October 05, 2022 as circulated.

**CARRIED** 

#### PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

**Invictus Games** 

- C. Walker discussed the following regarding the two-year countdown to the Invictus Games:
  - These are the seventh games in the Invictus family, with the first occurring in 2014. The 2025 Invictus Games will take place in Vancouver and Whistler.
  - 2. This will be the first time the Invictus Games will incorporate winter adaptive sports. Vancouver will host the core sports typical of Invictus Games and Whistler will host the alpine cluster.
  - 3. The Invictus Games is not a Paralympic style event with elite athletes; it is a recovery tool and about getting people to the starting line.
  - 4. Friends and family are extremely important. This is about how the entire family unit needs to be brought along as part of the healing journey.
  - 5. The planning principles are: the participant experience; inclusivity; accessibility; collaborative approach; blend of sports; choice; fatigue management; and the science of rehabilitation.
  - 6. Concerted effort is being made to work in a collaborative way with the Four Host Nations.
  - 7. Training will be held in Whistler to help participant nations develop snow literacy and their own adaptive sports programs. This provides opportunities to build pathways for nations to have year-round adaptive sports for ill and injured members of their militaries.
  - 8. Volunteers are an important part of the Invictus Games. There are opportunities to set up a strong volunteer base and reach out to underserved groups, including veterans and persons with disabilities (PWDs). There will be a database of volunteers and there is a desire to inclusively engage diverse volunteers.
  - 9. Procurement is included in the planning of these games. Invictus Games looks for policies related to hiring veterans and PWDs, and making sure there is support for diverse employees.

#### The AIC discussed:

- 1. C. Walker will present again to AIC and will provide an e-newsletter link. The e-newsletter will include a volunteer call for action in the future.
- 2. Minor upgrades will be required for the sliding and biathlon facilities.
- 3. There will be information on how businesses can best engage and support the Invictus Games (e.g., window dressings).
- 4. The Invictus Games can provide opportunities to support the business community and Canadian Armed Forces, and advance social change.

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5. Vail Resorts is currently assessing a number of facilities through the Rick Hansen Foundation Accessibility Certification (RHFAC) program, which will help support the Invictus Games.

## RHF B.C. Accessibility Grant Program

- S. Tipler discussed the RMOW's participation in the Rick Hansen Foundation (RHF) B.C. Accessibility Grant Program:
  - 1. Whistler was chosen as one of eight B.C. communities to participate.
  - 2. Three facilities will receive RHFAC assessments and there will be \$82,500 for accessibility improvements. The three facilities will then be reassessed for a final RHFAC rating. The three sites are: Maury Young Arts Center (MYAC), Myrtle Philip Community School (MPCS) (largely the community portion) and the Whistler Olympic Plaza washrooms.
  - 3. Three RMOW staff will be trained to be RHFAC professionals.
  - 4. Two online accessibility awareness training sessions will be provided to RMOW staff.

### **AAP Progress**

- S. Tipler discussed the following about Accessibility Action Plan (AAP) implementation progress:
  - 1. Training provided through the RHF B.C. Accessibility Grant Program will be a part of the training.
  - 2. RMOW staff are in the process of establishing a feedback tool and are considering the Province's model.
  - 3. RMOW staff have updated the accessible infrastructure forms.
  - 4. RMOW staff are currently updating the Access Whistler Map, which will be available spring 2023.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

- S. Tipler provided follow-up information on letters concerning access for parents of infants and young children:
  - 1. RMOW staff followed-up with businesses and organizations.
  - 2. The Whistler Public Library and MYAC are breastfeeding-friendly. RMOW staff connected with Village Host that MYAC may be available, with limited hours. RMOW staff are seeing if it is possible to install a flip down seat as a pilot in one of the universal washrooms.
  - 3. There is a parking spot at the Whistler Health Centre. A suggestion was provided to reach out to add one space for mother and baby parking.
- C. Beaubien provided an overview of the AIC Terms of Reference regarding membership, quorum, conflict of interest and member expectations.

MAC provided an update that it is holding a dementia care program at Whistler's Our Lady of the Mountains Catholic Church. A similar program is being held in Pemberton.

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## **MOTION TO TERMINATE**

Moved by D. Ashton Seconded by D. Andrews

**That** the AIC meeting of Wednesday, February 01, 2023 be terminated at 10:22 a.m.

CARRIED

S. Lawther Chair C. Beaubien

C. Beaubien

Secretary