

# **NEWS RELEASE**

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# Applications open for Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusiveness

Deadline to apply is Friday, March 29

## **Summary**

The City of Nanaimo is now accepting applications to fill a vacancy on the Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusiveness (ACAI).

The purpose of the ACAI is to promote social and political equity within existing and proposed City plans, policies, bylaws and infrastructure and make recommendations to council that will ensure that the City is inclusive and accommodating to citizens of all ages, abilities and walks of life. The term for this volunteer committee will end October 2026.

Those interested in joining the committee are encouraged to visit the City website to review the terms of reference before submitting an application. Residents of Nanaimo who have experience related to matters of accessibility and inclusiveness and wish to make a difference in their community are encouraged to apply.

Application forms can be submitted online, downloaded from <a href="www.nanaimo.ca/goto/committees">www.nanaimo.ca/goto/committees</a>, or picked up from Legislative Services in City Hall (455 Wallace Street). Applications will be accepted until 3:30 p.m. on Friday, March 29.

Strategic Link: The Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusiveness supports City Plan's Empowered Nanaimo goals.

# **Key Points**

- The City of Nanaimo is accepting applications for volunteers who wish to join the Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusiveness. One vacancy on the committee is open.
- Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusiveness meetings will be held once every two months.
- Applications will be accepted between now and March 29, 2024.

### Quotes

"The Advisory Committee on Accessibility and Inclusiveness helps to foster a community that is welcoming and accessible to all. I invite anyone who wants to contribute to a more inclusive Nanaimo to submit an application."

Leonard Krog Mayor City of Nanaimo

## **Quick Facts**

- In September 2022, updates were made to the Accessible British Columbia Act, requiring public sector organizations to establish an accessibility committee.
- The ACAI was first established in December 2019. Membership requirements were recently updated to reflect changes directed under the Accessible BC Act.
- Under the new legislation, at least half of the members must be persons with disabilities or persons representing a disability-serving organization.

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#### Contact:

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