# North Shore Advisory Committee on Disability Issues

## **A YEAR IN REVIEW**

Alexis Chicoine, ACDI Representative

January 16, 2023



#### Introduction to the Committee

- The North Shore Advisory Committee on Disability Issues (ACDI), is a tri-municipal (DWV, DNV, CNV) committee, established in 1989.
- The committee's purpose is to make recommendations to:
  - > Promote, develop and sustain an accessible community, free of physical and social barriers; and
  - Advise on housing, parks, streetscapes, shared pathways, access to transit, etc.
- Provide a forum for discussion of issues affecting people with all types of disabilities.
- To organize and/or participate in community events and/or awareness activities.



# Why is ACDI needed?

- One in five (22%) of the Canadian population aged 15 years and over have one or more disabilities.
- In BC more than 926,100 over the age of 15 report having a disability.
  - ➤ That's nearly 25% of the population.

Diversity is a reality, but inclusion is a choice.



### **Barriers to Inclusion**

#### Architectural

 Only stairs, skinny doorways, bad curb cuts, no ramps.

#### Technology

 No voice to text software for people with hearing loss/deaf, no chirping bird sounds at a cross walk for people with vision loss.

## Systemic

 Policies & procedures that treat all people the same can produce inequitable opportunities and outcomes for some groups.

#### Informational

 Small print size, low colour contrast between text & background on signage/websites.





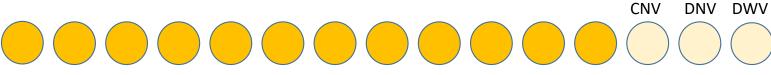
# When we think differently, we act differently



Our perceptions and attitude lay the foundation for our actions.



## **Committee Structure**



12 Persons with Disabilities (voting members)

3 Councillors (non-voting members)

CNV DNV DWV

3 Staff Liaisons

3 Staff Liaisons (non-voting members)



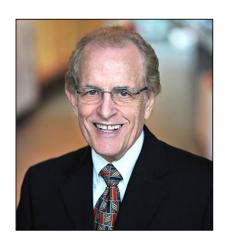


## **Council Liaisons**

- Appointed on a yearly basis from each of the Municipalities.
- Council liaisons are non-voting members.



Mayor Little – DNV



Councillor Bell - CNV



Councillor Gambioli – DWV



### **An active Committee**

- Subcommittees 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays of each month
  - Review projects and provide recommendations and/or work on special projects;
  - Staff liaisons coordinate project referrals;
  - Meetings include presentations by project staff, discussion with questions and answers; and
  - > A recommendations report is prepared and provided to staff, for referral to each project.
- Regular Committee Meeting last Thursday of each month
  - > Subcommittee reports are considered at this meeting and ratified by the Committee.



# **Past Accomplishments**

Reviewed significant municipal projects:







Community Plans 3 Municipalities



The Spirit Trail 3 Municipalities



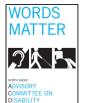


Park Audits
3 Municipalities

 Spearheaded various guidelines and policies, which are used by the three municipalities including:



Adaptable Design Guidelines (CNV/DNV)



Accessibility Publications

- Words Matter
- Accessibility means Business



## Recommendation reports for DWV, in 2022

#### Development & Inclusion Subcommittee:

- 2195 Gordon, Parcel A & B;
- > 2711 Rodger's Creek Place;
- Clyde Avenue, Rental Units;
- Dundarave, Mixed-use Building (2452-2490 Marine Drive); and
- > Outdoor Patio Guidelines for the District of West Vancouver.

#### Parks & Recreation Subcommittee:

Birdsong Path Accessible Trail.



# North Shore wide accomplishments 2022

#### Outdoor Patios – On-site Review:

- Provided recommendations that have general application to all curb side patio / parklet spaces to assist in the development of new regulations.
- Staff from each municipality were involved in asking questions of ACDI members and recording feedback.

#### Access for All at large public events – Recommendations Letter:

- Prepared and provided a recommendations letter to each municipality requesting the consideration and implementation for enhanced accessible design features of layouts and circulation patterns at future large public events, promoting more inclusive entertainment environments for all. The response has been positive.
- North Vancouver Recreation & Culture (NVRC) and DNV confirmed that numerous recommendations have been incorporated into the design of spaces that host large public events. They also noted that ACDI's suggestions have been included into the site selection process for summer outdoor camps and fitness classes.



## What's the plan for 2023?

- Review projects brought to committee by staff.
- New Accessibility requirements for the B.C. Public Sector.
  - Accessible British Columbia Act.
- DWV is required to show progress towards new regulations by Sept 1, 2023:
  - An Accessibility Committee:
    - New member makeup from what is present now.
    - Shared committee with other municipalities is ok.
  - > An Accessibility Plan:
    - ACDI will work with staff as requested to complete this task.
  - A tool to receive public feedback on accessibility.



# Thank You! Questions?

