

**Minutes of the First (1st) meeting of the
Hearst Accessibility Committee
February 10, 2017**

The first (1st) meeting of this Committee took place at noon in the Hearst Town Hall conference room, located at 925 Alexandra Street.

In attendance: Anne-Marie Portelance, President, Chantal G. Dillon, Julie Lanoix, Agathe Cheff, Jean-Paul Grondin, Aline Morissette and Marc Dufresne.

1. Opening

President opened the meeting at 12:12 pm. She welcomed all Executive members, including Marc Dufresne as the committee's newest member.

2. Review of the last Executive Committee meeting minutes (December 2, 2016)

Anne-Marie Portelance reviewed the minutes of the previous meeting.

3. Business arising from previous minutes (December 2, 2016)

The Chair indicated that the committee's PowerPoint presentation should be updated in order to include Marc Dufresne's picture.

4. New Business

- A.M. Portelance announced that Christiane Groleau from the Nord-Aski Diabetes Education Center will be the committee's guest speaker at the Wednesday April 19, 2017 public meeting.
- The Chair consulted the members on how to mark the committee's 10th anniversary. Members requested that the name of the Hearst Accessibility Committee appear on an item that represents accessibility. The best suggestion was to install an accessible picnic table in the green space that will be provided where the Queen Hotel once stood. The Chair also suggested that the name of each member of the executive be included.
- A.M. Portelance mentioned that Jacques Doucet from the Nord-Aski Family Health Team wants the committee to reassess their premises in the spring.

Gina Despatie from Ameublement Veilleux has also shown interest in such an assessment.

- The Chairperson indicated that she has received a few complaints related to snow clearing in the downtown area. Marc Dufresne explained that there has been some changes in public works personnel, but their priorities still remains the downtown area and the accessible parking spaces.
- Julie Lanoix asked the members if they would like to participate in the 2017 Springfest. All agreed. Marc Dufresne will check with the municipality as well as with the person in charge of this event.
- M. Dufresne suggested the installation of pedestrian sound warning devices at the municipality's traffic lights. The president noted this recommendation.

5. Tip of the month

Canada Student Grant for Services and Equipment for Persons with Permanent Disabilities

The Canada Student Grant for Services and Equipment for Persons with Permanent Disabilities provides aid to students self-identifying as having a permanent disability. This grant assists with the costs of disability-related services or equipment, such as tutors, note-takers, interpreters, brailers or technical aids that are required to participate in postsecondary studies. The maximum amount of aid available from this grant is \$8,000 per academic year.

- <https://osap.gov.on.ca/prodconsumption/groups/forms/documents/forms/prdr015230.pdf>

6. Adjournment:

- President adjourned the meeting at 1:03 p.m.

The next public meeting will be held on Wednesday April 19, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. at the Heritage Sawmill Marketplace. The next Executive Committee meeting will take place on Friday, June 2, 2017 at 12:00 pm (noon hour) in the Town Hall conference room.

Anne-Marie Portelance, President