



Accessible Public Transit Services Advisory Committee Terms of Reference

Mandate

The Accessible Public Transit Services Advisory Committee shall advise and assist the London Transit Commission in promoting and supporting the development and delivery of accessible public transit services in London for individuals of all disabilities. This objective shall be discharged through the review of policies, programs and plans related to the development and delivery of accessible public transit services. Accessible public transit services include accessible conventional and specialized transit services.

Duties

The Accessible Public Transit Services Advisory Committee (APTSAC) shall serve at the pleasure of the Commission and shall be responsible and reporting to the Commission for the following:

- i. Participating, through review and providing input, in the development of the London Transit's Accessibility Plan in general and specifically to those policies, programs and plans that relate directly to the development and delivery of accessible public transit services.
- ii. Participating, through review and providing input, in the development of London Transit Business Plans and related Five Year Service Plans for conventional and specialized services.
- iii. Advising the London Transit Commission on issues and concerns (barriers) faced by persons with disabilities associated with the delivery of public transit services and the means by which London Transit Commission may work towards the elimination of such barriers.
- iv. Supporting the London Transit Commission Administration in the development of communication programs supporting the delivery of accessible public transit services. Such programs apply both internally and externally to the London Transit Commission.
- v. Reviewing from time to time, in cooperation with Administration, key service performance indicators and customer survey results for London Transit's services.
- vi. Reviewing and recommending, as may be required, changes to existing and/or new service policies and programs relating to the accessibility of conventional and specialized transit services.
- vii. Dealing with other matters referred to APTSAC by the Commission from time to time.

The Accessible Public Transit Services Advisory Committee will address broad systemic issues only and not individual customer complaints or personal experiences.

Composition

Voting Members

A maximum of nine (9) members representing the different types of disabilities as referenced in the Ontarians with Disability Act 2001. This includes persons with visual, speech, hearing, deaf, brain injury, cognitive, perceptual, mental health disabilities and those requiring the use of wheelchairs and/or other mobility assisted devices.

One (1) member of the London Transit Commission who is also an elected member of Municipal Council.

Non-Voting Members

A maximum of four (4) members consisting of agencies supporting the disabled community and service providers.

Staff Support

Staff support as may be required from time to time from the various areas of the Commission's conventional and specialized services will attend meetings and liaise with members as applicable. The Commission Secretary will serve as the Committee Secretary.

Term of Appointment

The term of office for APTSAC members will coincide with the term of office of the Commission making the appointment.

The Commission when selecting members to serve on APTSAC will consider, among other things, the issue of Committee continuity and appropriate representation of the various disabilities.

The APTSAC members serve at the pleasure of the Commission and the Commission may, at its discretion, rescind the appointment of an advisory Committee member prior to the expiration of the assigned term.

APTSAC members are eligible for re-appointment, noting such re-appointment is subject to approval of the Commission.

Qualifications

Each voting member of APTSAC is an independent representative to APTSAC and is to consider the needs of all disabilities not just the concerns of a single disability or group. The members of APTSAC shall work together for the purpose of developing a common approach, which is reasonable and practical in the circumstance.

Members shall be chosen for their special expertise, experience, dedication and commitment to the mandate of the Committee in promoting and supporting the development and delivery of accessible public transit services in London for citizens of all disabilities.

Members shall be familiar with the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA), the Ontario Human Rights Code, and other related accessibility standards and/or guidelines and legislation as they pertain to public transit.

Non-voting members shall be members or employees of the organization they represent.

Appointment Process

Vacancies for the positions on APTSAC will be publicly advertised with such advertisements being tailored to the specific needs of APTSAC.

Application forms shall be available from the Commission Secretary and in alternative formats upon request.

The Commission will review all applications, noting such review may include a personal interview.

Inactive Member Status

Committee members may request their status be changed to inactive for a period of no greater than 12 months in the event they face health related issues that will result in their inability to participate in meetings.

Confirmation of health related issues and expected duration of same will need to be provided to the Committee Secretary.

Attendance at Meetings

The following section does not apply to members classified as “inactive” per the Inactive Member section requirements.

APTSAC voting members may be required to tender their resignation from the Committee if they are absent from three consecutive regular advisory Committee meetings unless they are absent for confirmed health reasons.

The Committee Secretary will advise the Commission of voting members who have been absent for three consecutive meetings. The affected member shall have the opportunity to provide a written explanation to the Commission for the absences. The Commission will consider the explanation prior to rendering its final decision on the continued appointment.

All absences will be recorded in the minutes and reports of APTSAC.

Remuneration

APTSAC members shall serve without remuneration, save and except bus tickets for attendance at meetings.

Election of Chair and Vice-Chair

APTSAC voting members will elect from their voting members, on an annual basis, a Chair and Vice Chair in a manner consistent with that employed by the Commission.

Quorum at Meetings

A quorum for a meeting shall be a simple majority of the active member voting positions filled at the time of the meeting. In light of the above, in the event of a tie vote, the motion is defeated.

Meetings – Date, Time and Place

On average, there will be up to six (6) APTSAC meetings per year, with the average meeting lasting approximately 60 minutes to 90 minutes. A schedule and related work plan will be approved by the Committee each year that sets out the dates and times for meetings for the calendar year, noting meetings where consultation is required may be scheduled for longer than 90 minutes in order to ensure adequate time for Committee discussion.

The meetings will be held at the London Transit Commission boardroom located at 450 Highbury Avenue North. Those wishing to attend the meeting virtually must advise the Committee Secretary no later than two business days prior to the meeting in order to be provided with a link to the meeting.

The date and time of subsequent meetings will be confirmed at the end of each meeting.

Meeting Agendas

Standard agenda items will be set, for the most part, by London Transit Administration in keeping with the timing of the initiatives relating to the APTSAC mandate which are included on the approved Commission Annual Work Program.

Individual APTSAC members can table communications which will be included on the APTSAC agenda noting the topics of such communications must be related to the mandate of the Committee.

The agendas and related reports, etc. will be distributed at least two business days in advance of the meeting.

Meeting Conduct

The conduct of Accessible Public Transit Service Advisory Committee members shall be in keeping with London Transit's Mutual Respect in the Workplace Policy for members and Human Rights & Diversity Policy (Anti-Harassment, Anti-Sexual Harassment and Anti-Discrimination).

Meeting Protocols

Meetings will be conducted in compliance with the Accessible Public Transit Service Advisory Committee Meeting Protocols.