

## Council Member Motion For the Committee of the Whole Meeting of May 10, 2018

**Date:** May 3, 2018

From: Councillor Jeremy Loveday and Councillor Ben Isitt

**Subject:** Universally Accessible meeting space in the City of Victoria

## **Background:**

The City of Victoria is committed to building an inclusive community and providing an accessible environment in which all individuals have access to the City's services and programs in a way that respects the dignity and independence of people with disabilities.

To help the City to realize these commitments, the City has appointed people with lived experience of accessibility challenges to the Accessibility Working Group (AWG). The AWG has been providing expertise, advice, and feedback on projects and policies to support the pursuit of the City's accessibility objectives.

Despite significant efforts to find an universally accessible meeting venue, the AWG still does not have a meeting space that is barrier free for all members of the Working Group. This is preventing members from participating fully in the deliberations of the Working Group. It is therefore recommended that the City move forward with the identification and/or creation of a barrier-free, universally accessible meeting space, without delay.

## Recommendations:

That Council direct staff, in consultation with the AWG, to identify/create, without delay, universally accessible meeting space for the Accessibility Working Group to hold their meetings, including consideration of the option of widening the door of the washroom in City Studio to make that city-owned and city-operated facility universally accessible for meetings of the Accessibility Working Group and other users.

Councillor Jeremy Loveday

Councillor Ben Isitt