

November 21, 2023

Secretary, 2024/25 Preliminary Business Plan and Budget Meeting

Dear Secretary:

**Re: Reconciliation Equity Diversity and Inclusion (REDI) Business Options
[EUCS2023-1105]**

The Standing Policy Committee on Environment, Utilities & Corporate Services, at its meeting held on November 1, 2023, considered the above matter, and resolved in part that the report be forwarded to the Saskatoon Accessibility Advisory Committee for feedback.

The Saskatoon Accessibility Advisory Committee, at its scheduled meeting on November 10, 2023, was unable to reach quorum. A Special Meeting of the Committee was called however, the proposed meeting dates also did not reach quorum. To ensure the members had an opportunity to provide feedback, the committee members were requested to submit their feedback via email to the Committee Assistant.

Please find attached the feedback from members of the Saskatoon Accessibility Advisory Committee regarding the matter.

Yours truly,

**Holly Thompson, Committee Assistant**
Saskatoon Accessibility Advisory Committee

HT

Attachment

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Thompson, Holly](#)
Subject: Letter of Support Saskatoon Accessibility Advisory Committee - Endorsement of the Reconciliation Equity Diversity and Inclusion (REDI) Business Options Report
Date: Thursday, November 16, 2023 12:15:57 PM

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Subject: Endorsement of REDI Business Options Report- Letter of Support

Julia Adamson

Dear Holly Thompson, Secretary Saskatoon Accessibility Advisory Committee

I am writing to you as a public voting member representative of the Saskatoon Accessibility Advisory Committee [SAAC], expressing my support for the Reconciliation Equity Diversity and Inclusion (REDI) Business Options. The options set out in this report enable the City of Saskatoon to become an equitable and inclusive organization for all employees and residents for equitable and accessible services for the needs of a diverse public community.

As we come to the final budget review for the 2024/2025 Multi-Year Business Plan and Budget it is imperative to honour REDI's commitment to fostering positive changes in policy, procedure, practice, and culture for individuals who identify as having a disability. According to the [City of Saskatoon's Population Projection Report](#), there will be significant changes to our aging populations ages 65 and over, and the REDI report improvements for inclusivity and accessibility in Saskatoon not only addresses the general population but also fashions Saskatoon as an age-friendly community as seniors may experience increased accessibility needs for hearing and vision loss, mobility issues, agility, and other co-morbidities.

With the enhancements proposed from the REDI business Options Report, Saskatoon is poised to evolve into a more robust and tightly-knit community by enhancing the voices of equity-deserving groups. This transformation has the potential to maximize social and economic opportunities for residents, businesses, community agencies, and various stakeholders. The REDI program is set to ignite curiosity and foster a passion for learning, thereby increasing capacity and creating ample opportunities for growth and support for Saskatoon's strategic goals of moving around, and quality of life.

Not only this, but the REDI Business Options, and training capacity for City of Saskatoon employees will have a ripple effect throughout the community as the city is one of the city's largest employers. The REDI Business Options will not only help in the civic sphere to make our city more inclusive and accessible, but will have a far-reaching dissemination throughout the community broadening inclusivity and accessibility far and wide.

The comprehensive nature of the REDI Business Options report for diversity and inclusivity addresses community development by focusing on the principles of sustainable development, empowerment, human rights, social justice, for the broader challenges of systemic racism, inequity, discrimination and accessibility bringing positive changes to the city's well-being and growth.

In conclusion, I, as a representative of SAAC urge City Council during the final budget review for the 2024/2025 Multi-Year Business Plan and Budget to endorse and support the implementation of the REDI Business Options, recognizing the positive impact they will have on creating a more inclusive and equitable Saskatoon. These options align with the City's commitment to achieving the objectives outlined in the

Strategic Plan 2022-2025 and signify a step towards the removal of physical, neuro-physical and systemic barriers currently being experienced by some employees or the general public accessing City of Saskatoon facilities and services.

Thank you and I look forward to witnessing Saskatoon's continued progress towards a more inclusive and accessible community.

Sincerely,

Julia Adamson member Saskatoon Accessibility Advisory Committee

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Thompson, Holly](#)
Subject: RE: Saskatoon Accessibility Advisory Committee - Feedback on Reconciliation Equity Diversity and Inclusion (REDI) Business Options Report
Date: Saturday, November 18, 2023 5:24:06 PM

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After reading this document I found it hard to disagree with it's conclusions.

It is my hope that if the report is accepted, by council, they will make a more inclusive and satisfying city for all of us.

I should like to give my approval to this report.

I found it hard to be critical on the documents' attempt to make this city as inclusive

Robert Gourley

From: [Thompson, Holly](#)
Sent: November 16, 2023 11:18 AM
Subject: Saskatoon Accessibility Advisory Committee - Feedback on Reconciliation Equity Diversity and Inclusion (REDI) Business Options Report
Importance: High

Good day Committee Members,

Thanks you for your responses. We will not be holding a Special Meeting as we were unable to reach quorum.

To ensure that the SAAC members are heard on the matter, please submit your feedback to me by **Monday, November 20th by noon**. This will allow time for me to compile your responses and provide a draft letter for SAAC's approval (via email) for submission to the City Council Budget meeting.

Attached is the report and attachments for your review.

Regards,

Holly Thompson | tel 306.986.1693

Committee Assistant, City Clerk's Office

City of Saskatoon | 222 3rd Avenue North | Saskatoon, SK S7K 0J5

Treaty 6 Territory & Homeland of the Métis

holly.thompson@saskatoon.ca

www.saskatoon.ca

Pronouns: she/her/hers

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