

Accessibility Advisory Committee - Appointment Recommendations

Committee	Members	Appointment Term
Accessibility Advisory Committee	<u>Appointments (4)</u>	
	Chitra Bakshi	May 1, 2019 to April 30, 2020
	Kassi Boyd	May 1, 2019 to April 30, 2020
	Sheri Klassen	May 1, 2019 to April 30, 2020
	Tracey Rice	May 1, 2019 to April 30, 2020
	<u>Reappointments (10)</u>	
	Janet Davies-Davis	May 1, 2019 to April 30, 2020
	Jessica Ferguson	May 1, 2019 to April 30, 2020
	Crystal Jones	May 1, 2019 to April 30, 2020
	Tonia LaRiviere	May 1, 2019 to April 30, 2020
	Rinita Mazumder	May 1, 2019 to April 30, 2020
	Chris Minchau	May 1, 2019 to April 30, 2020
	Mark Orbell	May 1, 2019 to April 30, 2020
	Jason Pisesky	May 1, 2019 to April 30, 2020
	Paige Reeves	May 1, 2019 to April 30, 2020
	Vanessa Van	May 1, 2019 to April 30, 2020
	<u>Extension (1)</u>	
	Zachary Weeks	May 1, 2019 to April 30, 2020

Below is a brief public introduction as provided by new Appointees:

Chitra Bakshi	Accessibility Advisory Committee
<p>Chitra is a product and service designer, specializing in inclusive and social impact design. She has completed numerous projects in her coursework with the University of Alberta's Industrial Design (ID) program that specifically support the needs and priorities of inclusion and access, for individuals of all abilities.</p> <p>Chitra designed a three-dimensional model of a community playground that was fully accessible and inclusive by design for children with disabilities. She also enhanced the design of an eating utensil for improved comfort and control for individuals with severe arthritic conditions.</p> <p>She is compassionate, an effective team player and communicator in her vision and advocacy for inclusive spaces for all.</p>	

Kassi Boyd	Accessibility Advisory Committee
<p>Kassi Boyd is a second year PhD student in the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine at the University of Alberta. At the core of Kassi's research interests are the lived experiences of children who experience disability. As such, Kassi has a keen interest in critical disability studies, social inclusion, child-driven culture, and the constructions of childhood disability. In her doctoral work, she plans to explore the experiences of inclusion in child-driven culture, from the perspectives of children that live with autism. It is her hope that her work will contribute to the advancement of inclusion initiatives and policies.</p> <p>Kassi has lived in Edmonton for 10 years. When she is not on the University of Alberta campus, Kassi can be found trail running, road cycling, playing soccer, petting dogs, or sipping coffee. She also works as a grant writer for The Steadward Centre for Personal & Physical Achievement, University of Alberta, a non-profit research, teaching, and service delivery centre for people that experience disability. Kassi is proud to call Edmonton home, and is excited to continue working toward improving the accessibility and inclusivity of this great city.</p>	
Sheri Klassen	Accessibility Advisory Committee
<p>Sheri Klassen is a dedicated mother of two children as well as a family physician who has served the Edmonton community for over 15 years. Along with her husband, she has been facing the joys and challenges of raising two children with disabilities. She has been a successful advocate for effective inclusion in her community schools, recreational programs and support services. She feels strongly about rallying parents in her community to share resources and experiences with the goal of raising families that feel connected and supported. She believes differences of all types (including cognitive) are a part of being human, and as a society we need to go beyond tolerating and even accepting differences, to embracing and harmonizing differences.</p> <p>When Sheri isn't working or navigating her children's schedules, she loves heading into the river valley for a run while listening to a good podcast.</p>	
Tracey Rice	Accessibility Advisory Committee
<p>Tracey has lived in Edmonton since 2017, having moved from Grande Prairie where she spent 18 years. She is a Registered Nurse, specialized in the operating room and currently working at the Royal Alexandra Hospital. Since 2004, Tracey has worked in the operating room as a front line nurse, a Clinical Nurse Educator and also as a Nurse Manager for the operating and post anaesthetic unit. Tracey also provides sessional instruction at MacEwan University teaching the Perioperative Nursing Certificate. Tracey's experience with disability and accessibility issues is a result of her son's permanent physical disability. Now nearing twenty-one, the last two decades have required patience and creativity to overcome physical barriers in the environment and community. This required liaising with community organizations and various programs to advocate and improve his daily, independent living.</p>	

REVISED Attachment #1

Since 2015, Tracey has assisted in coaching and team leading for Team Canada for her son as he competes on international platforms in the sport of para powerlifting. This experience has exposed her to numerous disabilities on a global scale having travelled to numerous places around the world. She and her son have learned to navigate the world in a wheelchair.