



MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of Committee of the Whole

FROM: Daniel Kostopoulos, Commissioner, Transportation and Community Planning

DATE: September 4, 2014

RE: **Mobility Plus Eligibility Appeal Panel Update**

The purpose of this memo is to provide an update on the status of recruitment for members for the YRT Mobility Plus Eligibility Appeal Panel (“Appeal Panel”).

On May 15, 2014, Council directed staff to take the appropriate steps to contact the members of the local Accessibility Advisory Committees (AACs) in York Region in an effort to recruit additional members to serve on the Appeal Panel. Staff was requested to report recruitment results to Council in September 2014. A letter was sent to all AACs in York Region, requesting assistance with the recruitment process for Appeal Panel members. As a result of local municipal outreach, two applications were received. Neither applicant is a medical practitioner.

Additionally, Mobility Plus staff is also delivering a presentation on the appeal process to the local municipal AACs. Table 1 summarizes the dates and comments received by staff during the presentations to date. Staff will continue outreach efforts and book presentations for the remaining local municipal AACs in the fall. AACs do not typically meet during the summer months and many of the AACs’ terms correspond with the municipal elections.

Table 1
Appeal Process Presentation to Local AACs

Municipality	Date of Presentation	Comments/Questions
Whitchurch-Stouffville	February 20, 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• General questions• No recommendations
Georgina	April 9, 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Is there a possibility of each municipality hearing appeals for applicants that live in their municipality?
Vaughan	May 26, 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• One member stated that the panel should remain a volunteer panel. No reason given.
Richmond Hill	September 24, 2014	N/A

In June 2014, four new members were appointed to the Appeal Panel as a result of advertising and recruitment efforts. One member, a medical practitioner, has since resigned bringing the total membership of the Appeal Panel to six. Only one member of the current Appeal Panel is a medical practitioner and therefore, must be present for all appeals. The medical practitioner has recently indicated that her availability may be significantly reduced in the near future, which is likely to cause delays in the scheduling of appeal hearings.

The panel term for all current Appeal Panel members ends in September 2014, coinciding with the September Council meeting. Terms of the members will be extended as required to maintain the Appeal Panel.

Staff will continue to monitor the Mobility Plus Eligibility Appeal Panel and will report back at the appropriate time within the next six months.

Daniel Kostopoulos, P.Eng.
Commissioner, Transportation and Community Planning

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