

# Staff Report



September 22, 2023

**To** Board of Education (Public Meeting)  
**From** Sean Nosek, Superintendent/CEO  
**Re** **Accessible British Columbia Act – Implementation**

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This report is presented to the Board for information.

## **BACKGROUND:**

In June 2021, Bill 6 – 2021 *Accessible British Columbia Act* was passed into legislation. The Act establishes a legal framework for all public bodies to identify, remove, and prevent barriers to the full and equal participation of people with disabilities in B.C. By September 1, 2023, the *Accessible British Columbia Act* required school districts to develop:

1. An accessibility committee;
2. An accessibility plan; and
3. A mechanism for feedback on accessibility.

### **Accessibility Advisory Committee:**

- The committee comprises ten members and meets the composition requirements set out by the Act.
- The committee was registered with the BC Accessibility Hub in June 2023.
- The Abbotsford School District Accessibility Advisory Committee met officially on June 22, 2023 and again on August 29, 2023.

### **Accessibility Plan:**

- The Abbotsford School District Accessibility Plan was posted in draft for public feedback for two weeks in July 2023. The plan was submitted to Untapped Accessibility for review, and final edits were made based on feedback received.
- The committee approved the revised version of the plan at its meeting on August 29, 2023.
- The plan was re-posted online on August 30, 2023 while final formats were made.
- The final formatted version of the plan was posted online on September 22, 2023.
- School District websites have a link to the Accessibility in Abbotsford Schools page, which includes links to the Accessibility Plan and Report an Accessibility Barrier.

### **Feedback Mechanism:**

- The feedback tool *Report an Accessibility Barrier* went live on August 30, 2023.