

Get To Know the Members of the York Region Accessibility Advisory Committee

Why did you volunteer for the York Region Accessibility Advisory Committee?



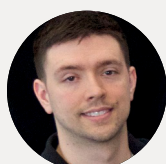
"Serving the community requires action. Being part of something that is meaningful and can impact our municipality directly gives me great pride. I am hopeful that collectively we can contribute our experiences, perspectives and purpose to driving change."

- **Sandy Palombo**



"I wanted to offer the perspective of residents who are living in poverty, homeless and often without everyday technology and bring my unique perspective through my own lived experience and my role within CMHA's Housing First Program."

- **Laurie Fortnum**



"I have been disabled for just over a decade. My goal with joining the York Region Accessibility Advisory Committee was to have the community that I grew up in and currently live in more accessible for everyone who lives here."

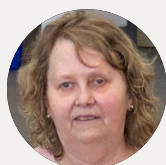
- **Scott Wollin**



"My goal is to continuously educate other people, which creates awareness. I know that I am surrounded by individuals who really understand and are willing to "work together and learn together" in our collective efforts to improve accessibility in York Region."

- **Angelo Tocco**

Do you have a favourite Committee project or experience?



"I have participated on several subcommittees providing feedback to further our accessibility goal. I have a passion for accessible technology, but my favourite time was spent on identifying and removing barriers on our wonderful trails starting with the Hollidge Tract."

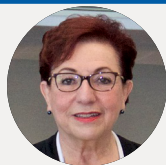
- **Kirsten Hill**



"I have been impressed and privileged to work alongside fellow members with their extensive breadth of knowledge, experience and passion for ongoing development of inclusivity and accessibility in York Region. I am looking forward to ongoing projects."

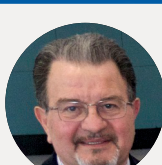
- **Cheryl Davies**

What does "accessibility" mean to you?



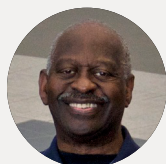
"Accessibility is part of the art of including all people equally in planning for and enjoying all aspects of life as much as possible and to the extent they can and wish to participate."

- **Joann Simmons**



"Accessibility is the elimination, removal or minimization of physical and non-visible obstacles so that people with different disabilities have equal access to "human space" including the design of products, devices, services, or environments."

- **Vito Spatafora**



"To let the general public realize that a person with disability has the inalienable right to participate and enjoy the fruits of society. If given the opportunity, a person with disability is just as capable as an able-bodied person to contribute to the advancement of society."

- **Astley Dennis**



"Everyone having the opportunity to experience life in the way that they choose without barriers that make this difficult. This may require changes or a changed mindset. It means putting York Region's vision into action by understanding what may be needed to do so."

- **Lindsey Gold**

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