



City of
Peterborough

To: Members of the Accessibility Advisory Committee

From: Trish Reed, Accessibility and Communication Specialist

Meeting Date: September 6, 2017

Subject: Report AAC17-049
BIG IDeA

Purpose

A report to introduce a presentation by the BIG IDeA Coordinator with the Innovation Cluster, Peterborough and the Kawarthas.

Recommendation

That the Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC) approve the recommendation outlined in Report AAC17-049 dated September 6, 2017, of the Accessibility and Communication Specialist as follows:

That the presentation by the BIG IDeA Coordinator with the Innovation Cluster, Peterborough and the Kawarthas be received for information.

Budget and Financial Implications

There are no budgetary or financial implications associated with the recommendation.

Background

BIG IDeA brings together business and customers with lived experience of disability and the next generation of business leaders to collaboratively advance accessibility innovation in Ontario as well as creating a culture of accessibility and inclusion.

Inclusive challenges are submitted by users with lived experience that outline specific barriers to inclusion. Then, design challenge events, applied project groups and other initiatives start to develop solutions to the challenges.

Mapping the City of Peterborough (Peterborough) area through inclusive frameworks is also a major focus of BIG IDeA. This will involve volunteer groups visiting local businesses and rating the accessibility, based on predetermined scales and checklists. The information gathered will be uploaded onto digital maps that will provide Peterborough with an inclusive map and inventory of accessibility needs.

Businesses that demonstrate inclusion in their digital and built environments will receive credit through BIG IDeA's developing badge system. Businesses that have accessibility gaps will be provided with resources to assist in the adoption of inclusive practises.

BIG IDeA can only be successful with a community of volunteers, with and without lived experience of disability, and support from local organizations.

Submitted by,

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Accessibility and Communication Specialist

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