

TTC Advisory Committee on Accessible Transit

Application for 2025 membership



The Toronto Transit Commission has established the Advisory Committee on Accessible Transit (ACAT) to facilitate community input into the planning, development and implementation of accessible transit.

The Advisory Committee reports directly to the Board of the TTC. Working collaboratively with TTC staff, its role is to represent the needs and concerns of people with disabilities and seniors who use the TTC, as well as to provide guidance and policy advice on issues pertaining to improving accessible transit (i.e. TTC bus, subway, streetcar, and door-to-door Wheel-Trans services), using an intersectional approach to prioritize racial equity, diversity and inclusion.

People with intersecting identities including Indigenous, Black and racialized communities, the 2SLGBTQ+ community, newcomers, as well as people with multiple physical, cognitive, sensory and mental health conditions, experience compounding and complex accessibility barriers. ACAT members represent those voices and provide insight and advice on accessibility actions the TTC takes in this regard.

ACAT is comprised of fifteen (15) volunteer members. Positions on the committee are open to residents of the City of Toronto who have disabilities, are seniors, or represent the needs and concerns of seniors and persons with disabilities, as well as those with various intersecting identities that intersect with disabilities. Applicants should currently use the TTC and have an interest in and knowledge of accessible transit matters. Applicants must be willing to make a commitment of a minimum 10–15 hours per month, to attend meetings* normally held during regular business hours.

The TTC is committed to diversity, equity, inclusion, accessibility and antiracism (DEIAA). ACAT members are required to participate in mandatory DEIAA training in order to be eligible for membership on the Committee. This mandatory training aligns with TTC's Respect and Dignity policy, Diversity and Inclusion policy, Code of Conduct and Anti-Racism policy.

*** Please note that meetings may be held online using a virtual platform that also permits members to join by telephone (e.g. Teams or WebEx).**

Applications must be received before 4 p.m. on **Friday, August 27, 2024**.

For responses which are not check off “Yes/No” boxes, please place cursor under the field you are being requested to type your response in and click. If you require additional space, please add page(s).

Application Form

Your name: _____

Address (number on street) Street name Suite/apt # (if applicable)

City Province Postal code

Telephone numbers:

Home Business Cell

TTY (if applicable): _____

Email Address: _____

1. Do you live in the City of Toronto?..... Yes..... No
2. Have you previously applied for, or been selected to be a member of ACAT? Yes..... No

If yes, please provide details:

3. Do you use TTC's conventional fixed route transit (i.e. subway, bus and streetcar) and/or Wheel-Trans?

Bus: Yes No Number of times weekly _____

Subway: Yes No Number of times weekly _____

Streetcar: Yes No Number of times weekly _____

Wheel-Trans: Yes No Number of times weekly _____

4. ACAT is comprised of fifteen (15) members including persons with various types of disabilities; a minimum of two (2) members shall be seniors; and a maximum of three (3) other persons who represent the needs and concerns of persons with disabilities or seniors. To help ensure diverse perspectives and experiences in ACAT discussions, we ask that you answer the following identifier questions. Responding to questions d) through h) is optional; you can choose “prefer not to say”.

a) **Disability** – Disabilities, both visible and invisible, include physical, hearing, seeing, developmental, learning or mental health conditions, chronic illness and addictions. Disabilities may be from birth, caused by an accident, developed over time, or result from the combination of a person’s condition and barriers in society.

Do you identify as a person with a disability? Are you applying as a person with a disability? Yes No

To help ensure a variety of experiences and perspectives are shared on ACAT, it would be helpful if you could provide any details about the type of disability you have:

b) Are you a senior? Yes No

c) Are you applying as an advocate or as someone who works for a service provider for persons with disabilities? Yes No

d) **Gender Identity** – Gender identity is the gender that people identify with or how they perceive themselves, which may be different from their birth-assigned sex. Gender identity is linked to a sense of self, the sense of being a woman, man, both, neither or anywhere along the gender spectrum (non-binary). Gender expression is how a person publicly expresses or presents their gender. This can include behaviour, and outward appearance such as hair, makeup, body language and voice. A person’s chosen name and pronoun are also common ways of expressing gender. Others perceive a person’s gender through these attributes.

What is your gender identity and/or gender expression?

- e) **2SLGBTQ+** – 2SLGBTQ+ is an acronym that stands for Two-Spirit, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, Queer and Questioning. The Plus (+) sign inclusively represents the broad and evolving communities within the umbrella of 2SLGBTQ+ and the evolving ways that people are self-identifying their sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression.

Do you identify as a member of the 2SLGBTQ+ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, Two-Spirit, Queer and Questioning) community?

Yes..... No Prefer not to say

- f) **Indigenous** – An indigenous person is an individual who is a member of the First Nations, Métis, Inuit people of Canada.

Based on this description: Do you identify as Indigenous?

Yes..... No Prefer not to say

- g) **Race** – People often describe themselves by their race or racial background. For example, some people consider themselves “Black” or “White” or “East Asian,” etc.

Do you identify with a race or ethnicity listed below?
(more than one option can be selected)

Black: African, Afro-Caribbean, African-Canadian descent

East Asian: Chinese, Korean, Japanese, Taiwanese descent

Southeast Asian: Filipino, Vietnamese, Cambodian, Thai, Indonesian, other Southeast Asian descent

Indigenous: First Nations, Inuit or Métis

Latin American: Hispanic descent

Middle Eastern: Arab, Persian, West

Asian descent: e.g. Afghan, Egyptian, Iranian, Lebanese, Turkish, Kurdish, etc.

South Asian: South Asian descent, e.g. East Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi, Sri Lankan, Indo-Caribbean, etc.

White: European descent

Another race category not listed

Prefer not to say

- h) **Religion** – Refers to an individual’s self-identification or affiliation with any religious denomination, group, or other religiously defined community or system of belief and/or spiritual faith practice.

What is your religion and/or spiritual affiliation?

- Buddhist
- Christian
- Hindu
- Indigenous Spirituality
- Jewish
- Muslim
- Sikh
- No religion, another religion or spiritual affiliation not listed
- Prefer not to say

- i) Are you a part of any other diverse community? Yes..... No

If **Yes**, please specify: _____

- j) Do you represent the needs and concerns of persons with disabilities and seniors, or Black or Indigenous people, who use public transit services provided by the TTC? Yes..... No

- 5. Do you require any accommodation(s) to participate in meetings (whether in person or online/by telephone)? If selected, you will be contacted to discuss further details. Yes..... No

- 6. Please identify your preferred pronouns (e.g. he/him/his, she/her/hers, they/them/theirs)

- 7. ACAT General meetings are held on the last Thursday of every month and member attendance is expected.

An ACAT member may be removed if three (3) ACAT general or subcommittee meetings are missed, within a year, without providing reasonable cause acceptable to TTC staff and the ACAT executive.

- a) Will you commit to attending all ACAT General meetings, whether they are held in person or online/by telephone? Yes..... No

b) Subcommittee meetings can be held on any weekday, mornings or afternoons, with advanced notice. Are you available 10–15 hours each month (for ACAT meetings, reviewing materials, etc.) during regular business hours, for meetings scheduled after 10 a.m., whether held in person or online/by telephone? Yes..... No

8. All ACAT members are required to familiarize themselves with the ACAT Terms of Reference (available online at ttc.ca/about-the-ttc/the-advisory-committee-on-accessible-transit/terms-of-reference)

Have you read the Terms of Reference? Yes..... No

9. All applicants must have read and understood the Information for ACAT Applicants and FAQs for ACAT Applicants (available online at ttc.ca/about-the-ttc/the-advisory-committee-on-accessible-transit#joinacat)

Have you read the Information for ACAT Applicants and FAQs for ACAT Applicants (available online at ttc.ca/about-the-ttc/the-advisory-committee-on-accessible-transit#joinacat)? ... Yes..... No

10. What experience and skills would you bring to ACAT? Why should you be considered for a position on the Committee to represent persons with disabilities and/or seniors (include involvement in relevant community consumer groups, volunteer, educational and professional experience, etc.)?

Lined area for writing the answer to question 10.

12. a) What experience do you have as a member of a Board or Committee? Please list the name of the committee(s), the organization you represented, and the years that you served.

b) Describe your specific role, responsibilities, and skills.

13. The Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) was enacted for the purposes of implementing accessibility standards in the province. What is your level of familiarity with the AODA? Please identify any experience you have with AODA initiatives (e.g. achieving compliance with AODA requirements, training, etc.) in your paid work, volunteer work, or personal life.

14. The TTC has prioritized diversity, equity, inclusion, accessibility and anti-racism (DEIAA) within the organizational culture. What do diversity, equity, inclusion and anti-racism mean to you? Can you share with us how you have demonstrated DEIAA principles and practices and its impact in government institutions?

Personal information is collected under the authority of the City of Toronto Act, 1997 (No. 2) S.O. 1997, Chapter 26, Part IV, Section 30, and will be used for determining eligibility for representation on the TTC's Advisory Committee on Accessible Transit. Question regarding this collection should be directed to Wheel-Trans at (416) 393-4111.

Completed forms could be submitted (choose one):

By mail:

Wheel-Trans – ACAT Applications c/o Customer Service
580 Commissioners Street
Toronto, ON M4M 1A7

OR

By email: acat@ttc.ca

OR

By fax: 416-338-0126

**Completed applications must be received by
4 p.m. on Tuesday, August 27, 2024.**