



**Title:** CC2017-46 Agreement with Consultant to Coordinate AODA Compliance for 2018-2022 for Member Municipalities.docx  
**Report Number:** CC2017-46  
**Meeting Date:** Tuesday, September 19, 2017  
**Report Prepared:** Tuesday, August 22, 2017

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### **RECOMMENDATION(S):**

1. That the City of Thorold continue to participate as a member of the Joint Accessibility Advisory Committee (JAAC) at an annual cost of \$10,000.
2. That a by-law be adopted at a Special Council meeting this evening to authorize the execution of an agreement with the participating municipalities and the Herrington Group Ltd. for consulting services for a two year period from 2018 to 2020.

### **REPORT:**

On October 1, 2002, Council approved Report CC2002-16 authorizing the City of Thorold to partner with the following municipalities to form a Joint Municipal Accessibility Advisory Committee (JAAC):

- Town of Pelham
- Town of Lincoln
- Township of West Lincoln
- Town of Grimsby
- Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake

The JAAC has met regularly since that time to prepare annual Accessibility Plans for their member municipalities.

Submission of an Accessibility Plan to the Province is an on-going annual requirement. Given limited expertise in this field, the member municipalities are once again recommending The Herrington Group Ltd. be appointed to coordinate the preparation of an Accessibility Plan for each municipalities for the coming year and that the associated costs be shared equally.

Calculating the time and research to produce the annual accessibility plan, training of front line staff by the consultant, and acting on new legislation requirements, it is estimated that it would cost in excess of \$65,000 to hire an individual, in-house, to complete this work.

The re-appointment of The Herrington Group Ltd. is recommended for the following reasons:

- 1) The principal, Donna Herrington, is based in the Niagara Region and is very familiar with local agencies and boards involved with the disabled community and is respected by legislators in the field.
- 2) The Herrington Group Ltd. has an excellent rapport with the JAAC and has worked diligently with this committee to prepare Annual Accessibility Plans for each of the member municipalities since 2003.

Since the City of Thorold is central to the member municipalities, the JAAC will continue to use the Committee Room at City Hall for many of its meetings. A copy of the agreement is attached for information purposes.

**BUDGETARY STATUS:**

The cost will be included in the 2018 budget.

**STRATEGIC PLAN:**

Corporate responsiveness and identifies accessibility awareness and accommodation across all business lines as one of the ways to achieve that objective.

**CANADIAN CONTENT:**

Not applicable.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Not applicable.

**PREPARED BY: “original signed” Joanne Goulet, Deputy City Clerk**

**SUBMITTED BY: “original signed” Joanne Goulet, Deputy City Clerk**

**APPROVED BY: “original signed” Manoj Dilwaria, Chief Administrative Officer**