

## UBCM Walk-and-Roll Tour Written Participant Guide

### Welcome

Welcome to the walk-and-roll accessibility tour! We want to acknowledge that today's tour is taking place on the unceded traditional territories of the x<sup>w</sup>məθk<sup>w</sup>əyəm (Musqueam), Sk<sup>w</sup>xwú7mesh (Squamish), and səliłwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

The tour will take about 90 minutes and we will stop at four different stations. Along the route your tour leader will be pointing out some accessibility features and barriers. We encourage you to ask lots of questions throughout the tour.

This document provides a written version of the information that your tour leader will be pointing out on today's tour. Providing information in multiple modes printed, online and verbally can be a great way to make things more accessible. If you would prefer a printed copy of this document ask your tour leader.

### Stations

Your tour leader will guide you between the following four stations. Please note that the order in which you stop at these station may vary.

Lead Organization	Topic	Location
Canuck Autism Network	Outdoor sensory friendly pop-up event tent demo	Outdoors between VCC East and VCC West Buildings
SPARC	Local Community Accessibility Grant Program	Fairmont Waterfront – Nootka room
DABC	Next steps for your accessibility plan	VCC East Building - Ground floor Hallway
RHF	Indoor built environment tour	VCC West Building – Level 1 Burrard Foyer

### Accessibility features and barriers

Your tour leader may point out some of the following accessibility features and barriers along the route. Please note that these features may be pointed out in a different order on the tour.

# UBCM Walk-and-Roll Tour Written Participant Guide

## Accessible entrances



We often think of accessibility as being about installing accessible doors. Inclusion goes beyond just equipment. Intercom systems like the one on this pillar or even doorbells can help make entrances accessible. Staff also play a crucial role in accessibility – providing training for staff so they are aware of how they can improve accessibility can be a great place to start.

## Wayfinding



Wayfinding is how we use clues in our environment to navigate and reach our destination. This includes signage, sidewalk design, or other audio/visual cues. We all use wayfinding everyday – however, good wayfinding can help provide accessible information for people with disabilities and everyone in our communities.

How could this wayfinding pillar be improved?

- Provide information on accessible routes
- Add distances/maps/symbols
- Colour contrast
- Lighting
- Placement
- Tactile lettering/braille
- Audible beacons or Hearing loop

## Pet relief areas

## UBCM Walk-and-Roll Tour Written Participant Guide



Ground level areas like this can be transformed in to pet relief areas increasing accessibility for guide and service dogs.

There are lots of ideas online for materials you can use such as cedar chips, gravel and fake turf. Signs encouraging the use of space for pet relief and conveniently located waste disposal improve lives for all dog owners.

### Seating/Rest Areas



Public seating and rest areas benefit everyone, however, they are particularly important for people with limited mobility and stamina.

Tips for accessible seating:

- provided at regular intervals
- located on a level area
- positioned so as not to interfere with pedestrian circulation.
- The seating area must have clear space for person using a mobility aid and have a clear space for a service animal to rest.
- width shall be included to accommodate people in wheelchairs so that they may sit beside their friends and family.
- There must be a variety of seating options including seats with and without armrests.
- Shade or shelter should be provided where possible.

## UBCM Walk-and-Roll Tour Written Participant Guide

### Accessible Planting

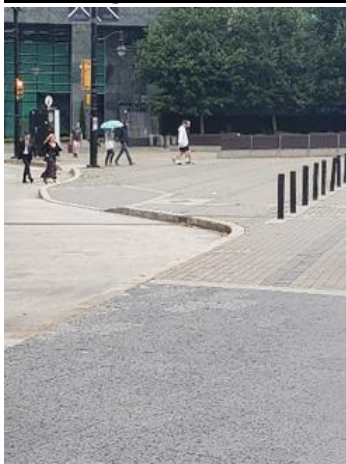


Considerations for accessible planting:

- Leaf and fruit clearance – will your planting create trip and fall hazards, or issues for people with limited mobility or balance?
- Will your planting grow quickly and need frequent maintenance to prevent it from blocking sidewalks?
- Some municipalities have guides for low-pollen and allergy aware planting.
- [GITC Pollinator and Allergy-Aware Gardening FINAL.pdf \(victoria.ca\)](#)

You can also think about plants that appeal to multiple senses.

### Passenger drop-off and pick-up zones and paths of travel



Seating and shelter at passenger drop-off/pick-up zones are important for seniors, people with mobility or vision disabilities as they often need a comfortable and weather protected place to wait.

- You can provide clearly designated passenger drop-off and pick-up zones for site users, by marking space with paint and installing signage. A dedicated curb ramp should be provided if there is a level change.
- The dropped curb for this passenger drop/off pick up zone is all the way over there. Can you see where the accessible ramp starts?
- Accessibility committees can be supportive in helping you think about how people travel to offices and other buildings. This can then impact your priorities when thinking about snow

## UBCM Walk-and-Roll Tour Written Participant Guide

clearance or planning on where to include a bench. How else might you ensure that the path of travel is clear, accessible and safe?

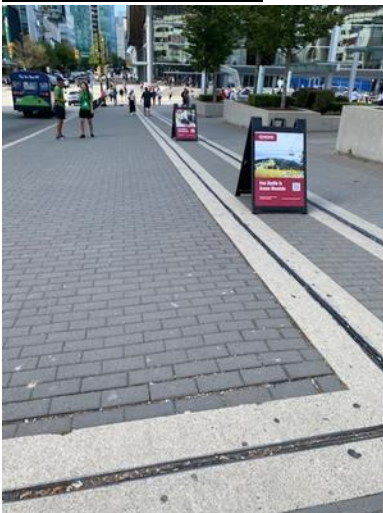
### Crosswalks



How might this crosswalk be improved?

- Tactile warning strips - provide a physical alert to visually impaired pedestrians that they are about to enter a roadway. tactile pad with small “truncated” domes that are perceptible underfoot or with a cane
- Curb cuts - provide pedestrians in wheelchairs or with other mobility restrictions a gradual entrance and exit from the crosswalk.
- Audible Pedestrian Signals - are installed at selected traffic signals frequented by the visually impaired and provide audible sounds to indicate an active walk light.

### Obstacles/Barriers



**What obstacles or barriers that people with disabilities might encounter can you identify?**

- Sandwich board signs – can obstruct sidewalks
- Construction

## UBCM Walk-and-Roll Tour Written Participant Guide

- Snow removal
- Low hanging branches – particularly challenging for those with sight loss
- Sidewalk width and finish

Many of the things that can impact how accessible the built environment is relate to practices, policies and training. Making our world more accessible can start with training staff to consider accessibility.

### Colour Contrast



This sign is also a good reminder to think about colour contrast in signs but also in the documents we produce and in our webpages. The difference between a background colour and the colour of the text can make information harder or easier to read.

Did you know that the BC Government has a webpage that can help guide you through how to check the colour contrast on your materials?

For more information visit: [Using Colour and Contrast](#)

Examples of colour contrast:

**High Contrast**

**Low Contrast**

### Closing Remarks

This brings us to the end of today's tour. We want to thank all of you for your participation and thoughtful questions.

We want to give a huge thank you to our partners from Rick Hansen foundation, Disability Alliance BC, SPARC BC and the Canucks Autism Network for all their support in delivering this tour.

If you have questions about accessibility representatives from all these organizations and the Accessibility Directorate will also be available at the UBCM Trade show over the next couple days. We hope to see you there!