

Bigioni, Lina

From: Clayton, Sarah [sclayton@eastgwillimbury.ca]
Sent: May 12, 2011 12:36 PM
To: Regional Chair
Cc: Bigioni, Lina
Subject: EG Accessibility Advisory Committee Presents: Mr. David Lepofsky
Attachments: Invitation to David Lepofsky Event VH-JE.pdf

Dear Regional Chair Fisch;

On behalf of the East Gwillimbury Accessibility Advisory Committee, we would like to extend a warm invitation to you and your Accessibility Advisory Committee, Regional Council, and staff liaisons associated with your AAC, to our "Morning With David Lepofsky: Accessibility in the Past, Present, and Future" on Saturday June 11, 2011. Please find attached, the invitation along with information regarding the event and contact information.

If you will be attending please RSVP by June 3, 2011 to:
Marg Gaukel, EGAAC Chair, at marric@hotmail.ca or
Michal Fairburn, EGAAC member at michal.fairburn@sympatico.ca

Additionally, it would be much appreciated if this invitation could be placed on your next Council agenda for public information.

Thank you,
Sarah Clayton
Town of East Gwillimbury
Accessibility Advisory Committee
Staff Admin Liaison
19000 Leslie Street
Sharon, ON
LOG 1V0



**A Morning with David Lepofsky:
"Accessibility in the Past, Present and Future"
June 11, 2011**

We are writing to extend a warm invitation to an accessibility event that the Town of East Gwillimbury Accessibility Advisory Committee will be hosting during the morning of June 11, 2011. Since 2001, the Town of East Gwillimbury has had a thriving Accessibility Advisory Committee which is responsible for organizing this event. In order to celebrate the strides that have been made in the area of accessibility, and to discuss challenges that remain, we have invited Mr. David Lepofsky, one of the Canada's most dedicated champions for equal access, to speak at this event. He has kindly accepted our invitation to present at the Civic Centre.

It is our hope that other Accessibility Advisory Committees will be present to share in this event. It will be an excellent opportunity to share experiences with one another and develop best practices. As you will see from the enclosed information, after Mr. Lepofsky presents and answers questions, there is an hour devoted to Advisory Committees to present. We will have powerpoint capabilities should any of the committees wish to avail themselves of that technology. We sincerely hope that the Accessibility Advisory Committee from your Town will be represented on June 11th and share in this wonderful opportunity to both learn and impart information.

The event is open to all and is not limited to the Accessibility Advisory Committees.

We welcome your attendance. Please RSVP to Marg Gaukel at marric@neptune.on.ca or Michal Fairburn at michal.fairburn@sympatico.ca by June 3, 2011.

Sincerely,

Virginia Hackson, B.A., B.Ed.
Mayor

VH/sc

Councillor John Eaton
Accessibility Advisory Committee
Council Liaison

A Morning with David Lepofsky

"Accessibility in the Past, Present and Future"

June 11, 2011

The East Gwillimbury Accessibility Advisory Committee is delighted to announce that it will be hosting a morning with David Lepofsky, one of Canada's most dedicated champions of equal access for all. Since the late 1970s, David has been advocating for new laws to protect the rights of persons with disabilities in Canada. In 1980, he appeared before the Joint Committee of the Senate and the House of Commons on the Constitution of Canada, on behalf of the Canadian National Institute for the Blind for an amendment to the proposed Charter of Rights and Freedoms, to guarantee equality rights to persons with disabilities. The efforts of a great many combined to lead Parliament to pass the disability amendment to the Charter.

From 1980 to 1982, he was on the leadership team of a broad disability coalition that successfully advocated for inclusion of protection against discrimination based on disability in the *Ontario Human Rights Code*.

From 1994 to 2005, he led the *Ontarians with Disabilities Act* Committee. That coalition successfully campaigned for ten years to win passage of two new Ontario laws to make this province fully accessible to persons with disabilities: *Ontarians with Disabilities Act 2001* and the *Accessibility of Ontarians with Disabilities Act 2005*. Since then, he has helped in efforts to get those laws effectively implemented. As of late February 2009, he became the chair of the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act Alliance. He and the Alliance have pressed for the prompt enactment and enforcement of strong accessibility standards under the Disabilities Act. In 2010 they succeeded in getting Ontario election legislation amended to address accessibility barriers impeding voters with disabilities. There is even more work to be done in this area and David Lepofsky is at the lead.

In addition, starting in 1994, he campaigned to get the Toronto Transit Commission to announce all subway stops, and later all bus stops, for the benefit of passengers with vision loss. Between 2001 and 2007 he fought two cases against TTC. In 2005, the Human Rights Tribunal ordered the TTC to consistently announce all subway stops (*Lepofsky v. TTC #1*). In 2007, the Human Rights Tribunal ordered the TTC to announce all bus and streetcar stops. (*Lepofsky v. TTC #2*)

Please consider joining us for a morning of information and inspiration. Together, we can accomplish equal access for all.

When: Saturday June 11, 2011
Where: Civic Centre
19000 Leslie Street, Sharon, Ontario
Time: 9:00a.m. – 12:00p.m.

AGENDA

9:00 – 9:30 Continental Breakfast and Refreshments
9:30 – 10:30 David Lepofsky
10:30 – 10:45 Questions
10:45 – 11:00 Break
11:00 – 12:00 AAC Updates and Best Practices

RSVP before June 3, 2011, to Margaret Gaukel or Michal Fairburn at:
email: marric@neptune.on.ca
email: michal.fairburn@sympatico.ca

regular mail:

Attn: Marg Gaukel/Michal Fairburn
Accessibility Advisory Committee
19000 Leslie Street
Sharon, ON
L0G 1V0

Fax: 905-478-8545 Attn: Marg Gaukel/Michal Fairburn

Please provide names of attendees and their affiliations.

If you require any specific accommodations: ie: technical, interpretive, dietary, etc. please advise as soon as possible.