

From: Stramaglia, Natalie **On Behalf Of** Silva, Joseph

Sent: Friday, September 24, 2021 4:00 PM

Subject: MDIG: 2021 York Region Accessibility Advisory Committee Professional Development Forum

Good afternoon!

As members of the Municipal Diversity and Inclusion Group, we thank you for being champions of equity and for supporting our shared mission of creating more inclusive and welcoming communities.

Through consultation with attendees of the National AccessAbility Forum that York Region's Accessibility Advisory Subcommittee held this summer, we learned there is a need and interest for more professional development opportunities for our municipal Accessibility Advisory Committee members.

In response, we are launching the **2021 York Region Accessibility Advisory Committee Professional Development Forum**, which will take place virtually on [Tuesday, October 19 from 4 to 6 p.m.](#) featuring guest speaker, Michael Jacques (see more details in invitation below).

We ask that you please forward and promote the invitation included in this email (below) to members of your respective organizations' municipal Accessibility Advisory Committees (AAC). We look forward to a great event.

Thank you!

Joseph Silva,
Director, Strategies and Partnerships Branch,
Department of Community and Health Services,
Regional Municipality of York (York Region)

RSVP Today!

Greetings!

York Region's Inclusion and Accessibility Unit is pleased to invite you to our latest event, the [2021 Accessibility Advisory Committee \(AAC\) Professional Development Forum](#), taking place virtually on **Tuesday, October 19 from 4 to 6 p.m.**

Staying true to the theme of 2021's National AccessAbility Week Forum, our theme for the AAC Professional Development Forum is "Leaving no one behind" and will feature live transcription.

Participants will have the opportunity to network and discuss best practices with other AAC members from across York Region and hear from headliner [Michael Jacques](#), who is a public speaker and activist within the disability community. Through storytelling,

Jacques will share his journey living with a disability and discuss topics such as technology, inclusion, exclusion in restaurants without signage, adapting, the journey of book writing, and disability – focusing on your strengths.

If you are interested in attending, please [RSVP online by Friday, October 15](#).

Please note, to ensure representation across all local municipalities, the chair/designate and interested AAC members are encouraged to attend.

Should you have any questions, please contact Kian Farahani, Policy and Project Development Specialist, Inclusion and Accessibility, at Kianoush.farahani@york.ca.

We look forward to seeing you at our event!

York Region is committed to meeting the accessibility needs of people with disabilities in a timely and proactive manner. If you require content in an alternate format or need an accommodation for the conference, please email AODA@york.ca.