

TO: MAYOR & COUNCILLORS
FROM: CHIEF LIBRARIAN AND GENERAL MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES
SUBJECT: **FILM SCREENINGS OF DISABLED AT THE BURNABY PUBLIC LIBRARY**
PURPOSE: To seek approval to hold screenings of the film entitled “disABLEd” at the Burnaby Public Library.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT staff be authorized to proceed with screenings of the film entitled “disABLEd” at the Burnaby Public Library for the general public to attend; and

THAT a licensing fee of up to \$350 for three screenings be approved.

1.0 POLICY SECTION

The Access Advisory Committee, which had been operating through the Social Planning Committee since 1988, was established as a Select Committee of Council in April 2022. The committee plays a crucial role in advocating for accessibility improvements and raising awareness about the challenges faced by disabled individuals; therefore, community engagement initiatives align with the committee’s mission to create a more inclusive and assessable environment for all residents.

2.0 BACKGROUND

The Access Advisory Committee (AAC), at its meeting held on February 5, 2025, received information on the documentary entitled “disABLEd” which follows the experiences and journeys of two individuals with disabilities. The documentary was produced and directed by Paolo Oliveros and features Lionel Migrino and Sarah Harrower. Arising from discussion, the Committee proposed screening the film to raise awareness about accessibility, the Access Advisory Committee, and the newly launched Accessibility Feedback Form, and potentially aligning the event with National AccessAbility Week (NAAW).

Burnaby City Council, at its meeting held on February 25, 2025, adopted the report from AAC titled “Raising Awareness on Accessibility in Burnaby”, and directed staff to explore the feasibility of holding a screening of the film titled “disABLEd”.

This report is the result of staff exploring the possibility of holding a screening for the film.

3.0 GENERAL INFORMATION

Screenings for the film titled “disABLEd” will be held at three library locations as indicated in the table below. The one scheduled for May 31, 2025 aligns with National AccessAbility Week (NAAW). The film is approximately 30 minutes in length.

Date	Time	Location
Saturday, May 31, 2025	4:00pm	Bob Prittie Metrotown Library
Wednesday, June 11, 2025	6:00pm	McGill Library
Tuesday, June 17, 2025	3:30pm	Tommy Douglas Library

4.0 COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Staff will coordinate the screenings, promotion and invite members of the Access Advisory Committee (AAC) to attend.

5.0 FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The estimated licensing fee for all three screenings is \$350. Funding for the screenings is available in the Boards, Committees and Commission’s 2025 operating budget.

Respectfully submitted,

Noreen Ma, Manager Community Development for
Beth Davies Chief Librarian and Juli Halliwell General Manager Corporate Services

ATTACHMENTS

None

REPORT CONTRIBUTORS

This report was prepared by Noreen Ma, Manager Community Development and Denise Chak, Administrative Officer.