



Memorandum

TO: Accessibility Advisory Committee

FROM: Danielle Slongo, Climate Action Specialist
Growth – Strategy & Engagement

DATE: 02/19/2026

SUBJECT: Proposed Eco-Ablism Event

MEETING & DATE: Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting 03/12/2026

The Climate Action Specialist and community partners from the Food Action Network of Northwestern Ontario (FAN-NWO) and EcoSuperior are seeking feedback on a proposed Eco-Ableism in Food Systems event. We would appreciate the opportunity to present the event proposal to the Accessibility Advisory Committee and receive their input.

Event Overview

The Eco-Ableism in Food Systems event will bring together a small group of community members to explore how disability justice, environmental sustainability, and food access are connected, with a special focus on how ableism can appear in local zero-waste (single-use) programs.

The goals of this event are to:

- Build a shared understanding of eco-ableism and disability justice across Thunder Bay's food, environmental, and municipal sectors to help create a foundation for future collaboration, consultation, and action.
- Identify barriers, gaps, and opportunities for more inclusive food and environmental practices.
- Develop early recommendations for cross-sector action and policy change.
- Centre people with lived experience in the event's design, facilitation, and reporting to help ensure safe, consent-based participation.

FAN-NWO will use the findings from this event to create a short, easy-to-read summary resource. This resource will support advocacy, policy discussions, and future programs and events. It may also help inform connections to FAN-NWO's Food Summit this fall.

Questions for the Accessibility Advisory Committee

1. Are there any major concerns or risks we should address before moving ahead with this event?
2. Are there local or regional projects we should learn from, partner with, or avoid repeating?
3. Are there any topics, types of questions, or facilitation styles we should avoid?
4. What accessibility supports should we plan for?
5. Are there trusted local service providers we should work with to provide this support (for example, ASL interpreters, live captioning, or air-quality supports)?
6. How much do these services generally cost?
7. Are there specific tools or resources we should use to guide facilitation, consent, and community agreements?
8. What are fair honoraria rates and best practices when working with people who have lived experience?
9. Are there accessible and trusted venues you would recommend for this type of gathering?
10. Would the Committee be willing to review and give feedback on a draft engagement plan before the event?

Conclusion

The Climate Action Specialist, FAN-NWO, and EcoSuperior would greatly appreciate any feedback the Accessibility Advisory Committee can share on this topic. We are in the early stages of planning this event and want to make sure it is as helpful and meaningful as possible for the community.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Best regards,

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