Active & Sustainable School Travel in York Region

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York Catholic District School Board &
York Region District School Board
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Working together…
on a movement to shift travel choices
ASST includes walking, wheeling (cycle, scoot, wheelchair, skate) or taking the bus (if eligible) for the trip to and from school.
The School Travel Planning (STP) Process & Partnership in York Region
Essential STP Partners

School Community

Health Department

Municipality/Region
School Travel Planning (STP)

- Helping communities prioritize active and sustainable school travel.

- Is a flexible process with a customized tool kit available online (Green Communities Canada).

- Brings communities together to identify and overcome barriers to active and sustainable school transportation.

- Uses the 5 E’s (Education, Encouragement, Enforcement, Engineering, Evaluation)

- Further refining partnerships while collaborating through each step of the STP process.
From Documents & Policies into Action

York Region

- Official Plan
- Strategic Plans
- ASRTS Committee

School Travel Planning in York Region Council Report

Active Healthy Kids Canada Report

The Canadian School Travel Planning Model

Ontario Public Health Standards

Metrolinx ASST Strategy & Hub

School Board policies

2010 Pilot Project Findings

Town of Aurora School Travel Planning Policy (2013)
1. **Daily Physical Activity**
   - Active and sustainable school travel can contribute significantly to 60 minutes of physical activity per day, connected to the school day.

2. **Healthy Schools**
   - Focus on Physical Activity

3. **EcoSchools**
   - Focus on Environmental stewardship
Metrolinx and ASST

- Metrolinx Active and Sustainable School Travel (ASST) Strategy & Hub:
  - Metrolinx delivers mobility-related solutions in the GTHA
  - ASST Strategy & Hub: Along with 20+ stakeholders - by 2031, to substantially increase (to 60%) the number of children involved in active school travel and build lifelong healthy habits
  - Process funded by Metrolinx and MTO
  - YCDSB, YRDSB and York Region are each represented as part of the Strategy & Hub
  - Collaborating to make active travel a priority Provincially
  - Developing GTHA-wide initiatives, projects and events
School Events
International Walk & Bike to School Day – October 8, 2014

- Unionville Public School, Markham: Community partners collaborating to support schools on International Walk & Bike to School Day
School Travel Planning at St. Patrick CES, Schomberg (Dec. 2014)

- Collaborated with public health and municipality to:
  - Plan monthly active travel celebrations across the school year.
  - Develop King Township crossing guard and community walk leader pilot projects.
Bike to School Week
May 30 to June 3, 2016

Let's Get Rolling!
Cycling – it's healthy, green, fast and fun. At our school, we're joining students and teachers across the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area to celebrate Bike to School Week 2016.
biketoschoolweek.ca
@smartcommute #biketoschool
Active School Travel Resources
Dear Principal,

As part of YRDSB’s & YCES’s Active and Safe Routes to School (ASRTS) initiative, this kit provides information on promoting active and sustainable school travel for the trip to/from school (walking, biking, wheeling, taking the bus (if eligible) or parking and walking a block). The ASRTS initiative includes a collaborative approach in developing a school travel plan (STP) which involves numerous stakeholders including school board staff, students, teachers, parents, York Region Public Health Nurses as well as municipal and other regional staff. In York Region, the initiative is based on a collaborative model where community partners work together to support schools.

This kit provides information and tools that can be shared with the entire school community to encourage active and sustainable school travel awareness and assist with developing a school travel plan for your school.

It’s International & National: ASRTS initiatives are becoming increasingly popular across the globe. In Canada specifically, Green Communities Canada Walks collaborates with organizations and schools nationally to help support these initiatives.

It’s Provincial: The goal to increase the number of children and youth engaged in active and sustainable travel for the trip to/from school is Province-wide with Metrolinx currently developing an active and sustainable school travel (ASSST) strategy for the Greater Toronto and Hamilton area. The Ministry of Education has recommended a goal of 60 minutes of physical activity for children, connected to the school day. Participation in active and sustainable school travel can significantly benefit York Region who are community and Health TOS schools that have also support their Healthy Schools annually.

Working Together, Walking Together

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2014 - 09:00

How Active Transportation is Strengthening Communities & Helping York Region Students Lead Healthy, Active Lives

When it comes to using forms of active transportation—such as walking or biking to school—the Active Healthy Kids Canada Report Card has once again given Canadian children a failing grade—a D, along with a D- for overall physical activity.
Active School Travel Resources

- Principal Resource Kit, YRDSB & YCDSB - available upon request

- Information and resources related to ASST, Student Transportation Services of York Region
  www.schoolbuscity.com/routes/

- School Travel Planning in Aurora, Town of Aurora
  https://www.aurora.ca/TownHall/Pages/Departments/Infrastructure%20and%20Environmental%20Services/School-Travel-Planning.aspx

- School Travel Planning Toolkit and other resources, Green Communities Canada
  www.saferoutestoschool.ca

- Information about the Healthy Schools program, York Region
  www.york.ca/healthyschools

- Pedestrian Safety Information and Resources, York Region
  www.york.ca/pedestriansafety

- School Travel Resources, Metrolinx
Thank you

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