

WALK Friendly Ontario Application Review Team 2013

Laura MacNeil – Urban Planner, Sam Schwartz Engineering

Laura MacNeil is an urban planner with Sam Schwartz Engineering, a transportation engineering consulting firm that specializes in pedestrian and bicycle transportation planning and design and community outreach.

Laura is well-versed in innovative pedestrian design policies as principal author of the *Steps to a Walkable Community* guide, which was co-developed with America Walks and won the Institute of Transportation Engineers' Pedestrian and Bicycle Council Best Project Award for 2013. Her work in the MTA's Second Avenue Subway Community Outreach won a silver award from the American Council of Engineering Companies, New York Chapter.

She holds a master of urban planning degree from Hunter College in New York City and a bachelor's degree in English literature from McGill University in Montreal, Canada.

Paul Young – Consultant, PublicSpaceWorkshop

Paul Young is a landscape architect and planner. He has designed streets, trails and parks for both public and private sector clients. He is also a health promoter at a Community Health Center in Toronto where he works to engage people in planning for a healthier community.

Combining the two skill sets Paul routinely conducts public engagement workshops to build understanding and commitments towards improving supports for walking, cycling and accessibility. He addresses both planning and urban design considerations by promoting complete communities with complete streets. He reviews policy and conducts speaking engagements.

Paul was on the Review Team that provided feedback to communities that took part in the pilot for WFO. Prior to that, he was on the judging panel for Canada Walks' Ontario Walkability Award of Excellence in 2010.

Jacky Kennedy – Director, Canada Walks

Since 1993 Jacky Kennedy has worked in the non-profit sector to promote and encourage people to walk and she has worked extensively with municipalities to encourage them to create great walking environments. Kennedy assisted in the creation of the North Toronto Green Community, overseeing several projects including the Toronto Renewable Energy Co-op (now renamed WindShare) and initiating Canada's first Active & Safe Routes to School (ASRTS) program in 1996 with Green Communities Canada. Kennedy managed the growth of ASRTS and

led the development and implementation of a Canadian School Travel Planning model.

In 2007 Kennedy collaborated with the City of Toronto and Walk21 to co-host the Toronto 2007 Walk21 conference - the first time in Canada. In 2008 Green Communities, led by Jacky, created Canada Walks to bring all of their innovative walking initiatives under one umbrella. In 2013 Canada Walks launches a community WALK Friendly designation program across Ontario.

Jennifer Lay – Program Advisor for School Travel, Metrolinx

Jennifer joined Metrolinx in 2009 to coordinate the Stepping It Up School Travel Planning project with 30 elementary schools in Hamilton and Peel, and is currently facilitating provincial studies and coordination on active and sustainable school transportation (more at www.metrolinx.com/schooltravel). She has co-authored a number of publications, co-facilitated workshops, and presented at numerous forums on the topic of school transportation.

Prior to joining Metrolinx, she delivered Smart Commute, a program of Metrolinx focusing on workplace travel planning for employers and employees, in North Toronto and Vaughan. She has a degree in Environment and Resource Studies and a diploma in Environmental Assessment from the University of Waterloo. In the community, Jennifer works with people on improving local transportation and food options, and coordinating children's activities at her local farmer's market. Jennifer is energized by the bicycle kilometers she travels daily to and from work.

Jennifer was on the Review Team that provided feedback to communities that took part in the pilot for WFO. Prior to that, she was on the judging panel for Canada Walks' Ontario Walkability Award of Excellence in 2010.

Nancy Smith Lea – Director, Toronto Centre for Active Transportation

Nancy Smith Lea is the Director of the Toronto Centre for Active Transportation (TCAT), a project of the registered charity Clean Air Partnership. She joined TCAT's first steering committee and helped to craft its platform that raised the profile of active transportation in the 2006 municipal election, and was hired to lead TCAT in 2008. TCAT advances knowledge and evidence to build support for safe and inclusive streets for walking and cycling. Nancy leads all of TCAT's research and programs, including the annual Complete Streets Forum.

Nancy has decades of experience in research and project management and has been actively involved in working toward improving conditions for active transportation in Toronto since 1993. She was an advisor on the Toronto Public Health report released in 2012 titled "Road to Health: Improving Walking and Cycling in Toronto". She is a steering committee member of the University of Toronto's "Cycling for All: An Urban Cycling Think and Do Tank" research project and a member of the University of British Columbia's Bicyclists Injuries and the Cycling Environment research team. Currently, Nancy is a co-investigator (with Dr. Paul Hess at the

University of Toronto) on a research project funded by Metrolinx: "Identifying and Overcoming Barriers to the Implementation of Active Transportation Policies."

Dr. Kim Bergeron

Dr. Kim Bergeron teaches on the built environment and health and is an Adjunct Assistant Professor at Queen's University. Her research focuses on understanding and influencing how policymakers, governments, communities, and professionals (e.g., planning, public health, engineers, economists, geographers, and architects) work together to build healthy communities. Dr. Bergeron has extensive experience influencing municipal policies and by-laws to support active living. She is widely recognized in Ontario as a leading built environment and health planning specialist and as a Canadian researcher on the topic of the built environment and physical activity. In addition to her teaching and consulting work, Dr. Bergeron is currently acting as a Health Promotion Field Specialist at Public Health Ontario.

Dr. Bergeron was on the judging panel for Canada Walks' Ontario Walkability Award of Excellence in 2010.