

WALK Friendly Communities Application Review Team 2015

Ryan Martinson – P.Eng, Stantec

Ryan is a leader in the Active and Sustainable Transportation field and his passion for his work is made clear to clients and stakeholders he works with. Based out of Stantec's Calgary office, Ryan has been involved with numerous game-changing transportation projects; all with the goal of creating stronger communities and better cities for people to enjoy life. Examples of projects include the City of Edmonton's Complete Streets Guidelines, City of Calgary Centre City Cycle Track Network Planning and Implementation, Walkability Technical Reports, Safe Journey's to School, Complete Street retrofit projects, and numerous concept designs and planning studies.

Ryan is an active participant in ITE's Sustainability Task Force, a cross-council effort focused on promoting the development and communication of sustainable transportation solutions. As well, Ryan is a part of the Measuring Walking group of Walk21, which is currently documenting and sharing methods to capture walking and walkability data.

Locally, Ryan is involved with Sustainable Calgary he is also the Vice President of the Federation of Calgary Communities, an organization that provides programs, services, and support to not-for-profit organizations and community associations, and offers a respected voice on issues important to maintaining community life in Calgary.

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. Raktim Mitra

Dr. Raktim Mitra is an Urban Planner with expertise and interests in land use-transportation planning and healthy communities planning. Prior to joining Ryerson University, Dr. Mitra

worked as a GIS instructor at the University of Toronto, and as a lecturer at Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET). At Ryerson, he teaches undergraduate and graduate courses on Transportation Planning, Active and Healthy Communities, Quantitative Techniques and Research Methods.

Dr. Mitra's research explores travel behaviour and its relation to urban environment (both built and social) and health. Some of his recent areas of interest are (1) the social and environmental barriers and enablers to walking, cycling and transit use, (2) personal/household travel behaviour across space and over time, (2) the impact of engineering and non-engineering interventions on travel mode choice, and (3) the links between active transportation, physical activity and livability.

Dr. Mitra's recent research has largely focused on mobility of the children and youth. A current list of his scholarly publications can be found here: <http://tinyurl.com/raktim-mitra>

Bronwen Thornton – Development Director, Walk21

Bronwen is working with communities and professionals around the world to promote walking, develop and deliver innovative projects and provide resources, tools and services to support more walking. Her current projects include advising the UN and WHO, as well as cities in Canada, Asia and Europe. She worked on the European Active Access project and continues to deliver the Making Walking Count project and the International Charter for Walking.

Past projects such as the Walkability Roadshow in Canada 2007 and the Canadian Walking Master Class 2009 proved a project model of policy analysis and community engagement that can genuinely support local governments to deliver real results for walking. She is a strategic thinker and writer, expert facilitator and trainer with on-street experience of walking audits, transport design and urban planning. Originally from Australia, Bronwen now lives in the United Kingdom and loves nothing better than a muddy walk in the rain!

Dr. Kim Bergeron

Kim Bergeron is a health promotion consultant focusing on healthy public policy and municipal by-law development on the Health Promotion Capacity Building Team at Public Health Ontario. She has over twenty years of experience working within and alongside the Ontario public health system to facilitate multidisciplinary partnerships to create healthy, sustainable communities. She has provided consulting services to a number of provincial government programs working towards policy change, program development, and improving standards of practice. Kim holds a doctorate in kinesiology and health studies with a focus on health and the built environment from Queen's University and a master of health studies from Athabasca University.

Jennifer McGowan – School Travel Advisor, Metrolinx

Jennifer holds Bachelor Degrees in Environmental Studies, Geography from the University of Waterloo, and Education from the University of Toronto, as well as a Masters Degree in Development Studies from Dalhousie University. Prior to her current role as the School Travel

Advisor at Metrolinx, she worked for various Ministries of the Ontario Government in communications, environment, and cultural heritage planning, as well as an educator and facilitator in various non-profit and educational settings.

Jennifer first became involved in active and sustainable school travel while working as the Youth Active Transportation Coordinator at the Ecology Action Centre in Halifax, Nova Scotia. She is passionate about getting children and youth active and outside, which includes working with adults to ensure that communities are planned and built to support active and sustainable travel for all ages.

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.