Successful Partnerships, Successful School Travel Planning

Teija Cumming, RN, BScN
Public Health Nurse
York Region Community and Health Services

Sonia Sanita, OCT, MES
Safe Routes to School Facilitator
York Region District School Board & York Catholic District School Board
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School Travel Planning (STP)

- Helps communities prioritize active school travel
- Flexible process with a customized tool kit (www.saferoutestoschool.ca)
- Brings community stakeholders together
- Facilitates the development of an action plan

Priority population: children and youth
Milestone events

- 1999: ASRTS Committee formed
- 2008: School Board Partnership formalized with School Traffic Planner
- 2010: Successful Pilot Project
- 2013: SFU in York Region Council Report
- Town of Aurora Council Report & Policy
1999: ASRTS Committee formed
2008: School Board Partnership formalized with School Traffic Planner
2010: Successful Pilot Project
From documents and policies to action
The STP model
Steps to action
Essential STP partners
School Community

Health Department

Municipality/Region
Strategic resources developed
• Walking Wednesdays Resource
• Heading to School? Pedestrian Safety Campaign
• Going to School? Go Active!
• Building Healthy Communities School Travel Planning Factsheet
• School Travel Planning in York Region Council Report
• www.schoolbuscity.com/routes
• Success Stories
Communicating through partnerships
Sharing success stories

Lessons learned:
- School location
- Whole school community engagement
- "Can Do" attitude of STP stakeholder group
- School catchment area map
- Infrastructure modifications

Many factors contributed to STP success.
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- Whole school community engagement
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Many factors contributed to STP success.

From "School Travel Planning in Action in Ontario: Successes and Lessons in Active and Sustainable School Transportation", Metrolinx 2013
Pilot Project Findings - Wismer PS, Markham

- 28% reduction in car usage
- 20% increase in walking to school
- Shift from 70% driving to school to 70% walking to school in the first three weeks!
- Over 35 different first languages spoken at home in this school community
Next steps

- Comprehensive data development to capture region-wide active school travel data
- Expanded outreach to school principals using multiple marketing strategies
- Process evaluation upon completion of the stakeholder meetings at each school
- Engaging additional municipalities in STP projects
- Advocating for policy development
• Comprehensive data development to capture region-wide active school travel data

• Expanded outreach to school principals using multiple marketing strategies

• Process evaluation upon completion of the stakeholder meetings at each school

• Engaging additional municipalities in STP projects

• Advocating for policy development
Thank you!
teija.cumming@york.ca
sonia.sanita@yrdsb.ca
sonia.sanita@ycdsb.ca
Working together ... on a movement to change behaviour