

## Ottawa School Travel Planning Program Quick Facts

- School Travel Planning (STP) is a tool designed to improve safety for children currently walking or cycling to school and to encourage other families to choose active transportation at least some of the time.
- Launched in Ottawa in 2010, STP has been implemented at 28 elementary schools across the city (urban, suburban & rural). It is approved and supported by the Ottawa Student Transportation Authority (OSTA), Ottawa-Carleton DSB, Ottawa Catholic SB, City of Ottawa, Ottawa Safety Council and other stakeholders.
- Program is coordinated by Green Communities Canada, a non-profit organization and leader in promoting walking to school across Ontario through its Active & Safe Routes to School Program ([www.saferoutestoschool.ca](http://www.saferoutestoschool.ca)).
- STP brings together schools (educators, parents, students), school boards, municipalities, police and others who work with a dedicated Facilitator to identify and implement long-term solutions to a school's transportation problems.
- Creates a customized action plan for each school with specific measures to support walking and cycling. Examples: installing bike racks; pedestrian safety training; promotional events (ex. International Walk to School Day; engineering improvements (ex. sidewalk repairs, new signage); enhanced traffic enforcement.

### Benefits to your school community:

- Supports student well-being policies, School Learning Plans, Eco-School requirements.
- Permanent solutions to chronic safety issues and reduced staff time dealing with traffic.
- Curriculum connections: physical literacy & health (active living, movement, healthy living strands)

*"It helped to have someone to remind us of our plan and focus on our goals."*

*- Principal*

*"We made major changes to safety around the school during drop off and pick up."*

*- Parent*

*"Highly regarded by public health & elected officials because of the project's best practices."*

*- Municipal staff*

## What we require of you

- Minimum two-year commitment with optional third year.
- Team of Champions:
  - Administration: principal or vice-principal
  - Teachers: minimum of 1
  - Parents: minimum of 2
  - Optional: Students (ex. Green Team) who can support action plan implementation
- Meetings: 4 to 5 in Year 1, 3 in Year 2; some additional time required to support data collection and action plan implementation.
- Meeting space, photocopying.

## How we help you:

- A dedicated Facilitator who will guide your school through the process, providing expertise and resources, supporting your activities, and liaising with community stakeholders.
- Honorarium : \$500 over 2 years.
- A stakeholder group of school board and municipal representatives who help develop and implement your action plan.
- Resources: free access to an extensive toolkit ([www.saferoutestoschool.ca/schooltravel](http://www.saferoutestoschool.ca/schooltravel)) and promotional items.

## For more information:

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**OSTA**

Ottawa Student  
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