



Workshops & Consulting Services

At Canada Walks our vision is simple:
A Canada where everyone can enjoyably, easily and safely walk to school, work, play, shopping and transit.
 Together we can make it happen!

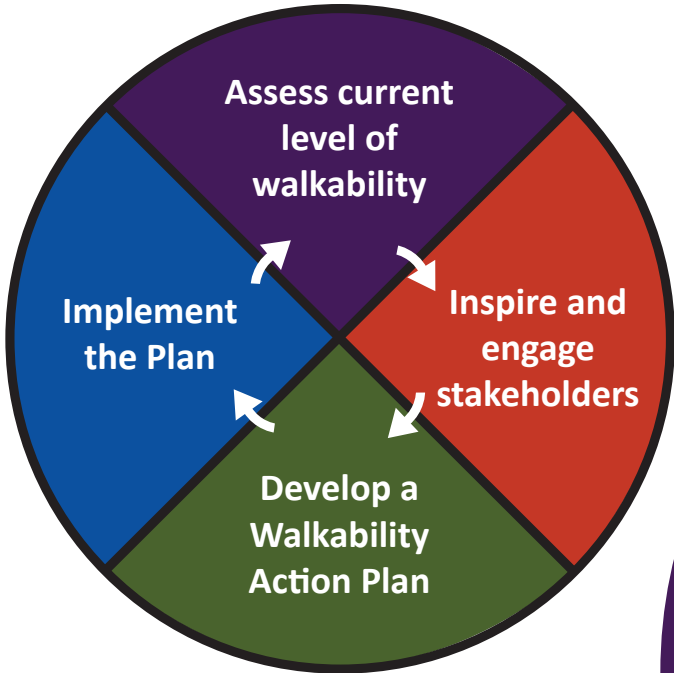
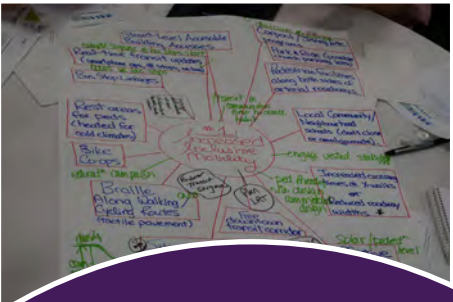
Walkable communities are good places to live, work and play.

Extensive research has shown that walkability:

- improves quality of life for residents and visitors;¹
- increases property values and desirability for home buyers;²
- enhances the economic vibrance of a community;³
- improves safety for all road users especially the young and elderly;⁴ and
- improves the health of residents as a result of increased physical activity and cleaner air.⁵

Canada Walks can help you meet your walkability goals.

We offer a full range of workshops and consulting services to help you:



“The demand for walkable urban development will prove to be a major engine of economic growth for the next generation. Let’s go to work!”
 Chris Leinberger, Author, The Option of Urbanism

“Walkable environments should be considered economic infrastructure.”
 Centre for Community Study (2012). Walkability and Economic Development. Hamilton Chamber of Commerce

“A majority of GTA residents identify location-efficient attributes such as walkability and shorter commutes as the most important considerations in choosing where to live.”
 RBC-Pembina Home Location Study (2012)

1 Evaluating Non-Motorized Transportation Benefits and Costs, Todd Litman, Victoria Transport Policy Institute, Dec. 2012
 2 Speck, Jeff, *The Walkable City*, Farrar, Straus, and Giroux, 2012;
RBC Pembina Home Location Study, Pembina Institute, 2012
 3 Walkability and Economic Development, Hamilton Chamber of Commerce, 2012
 4 *Pedestrian Death Review*, Office of the Chief Coroner for Ontario, 2012
 5 *walkON Walkability Toolkit*, Chapter 1, Green Communities Canada, 2009

The Canada Walks Approach

From convenient webinars, to half and full-day on-site workshops, to four-day intensive community visits, we customize our services to meet your needs. Choose from a menu of options:

- **Inspire your stakeholders** with dynamic presentations that showcase the benefits of walkability and share experiences from dozens of communities that are making strides to improve.
- **Benchmark your community** against the eight principles of the International Charter for Walking so you can track your progress.
- **Learn how to qualify** for a WALK Friendly designation⁶ at the Bronze, Silver, Gold or Platinum level.
- **Generate agreement** around a Walkability Action Plan through facilitated sessions with public health, city planning, parks and recreation, transportation, council members and more.
- **Invite input and build buy-in** through a Community Forum.
- **Identify solutions** for areas of concern with expert-led walkability audits.
- **Build skills, knowledge, and enthusiasm** among your walkability champions through train-the-trainer sessions and online workshops.
- **Increase uptake of active school travel** by drawing on our School Travel Planning model.
- **Showcase your success** with custom communication pieces we can create for you, including fact sheets, case studies and more.

Why work with Canada Walks?

- Our skilled consultants know how to present a convincing business case for walkability.
- We've worked with communities in every province and territory, including Whitehorse, Halifax, Haliburton, Red Deer, Moncton, and Kelowna.
- We've worked in communities of all sizes, from Carstairs, Alberta (population 2,600) to Toronto, Ontario (population 5.6 million) and everything in between.

Over the past decade, we've helped more than 60 communities across the country advance their walkability goals and we're excited to bring that expertise to you.



6 WALK Friendly Communities is a recognition program launched in 2013 in Ontario that recognizes excellence in creating and improving spaces and places for walking (www.walkfriendly.ca). Canada Walks will roll out the WALK Friendly designation program across Canada in 2014.

Find out how Canada Walks can help you meet your goals.

Contact us for a free consultation. We'd be happy to talk with you about your needs.

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www.walkfriendly.ca



is a division of



"Thank you all so very much for sharing your passion, energy and knowledge with us...Bringing the mayor together with key decision makers in our community was essential to putting the [walkability] issue on the agenda."

Stasia Starr, RN, PHN, Thunder Bay District Health Unit

"Exeter, like many rural communities with a highway for its main street, wanted to improve pedestrian safety. First we had our Municipal Council sign the International Charter. Then we launched "Sharing Main Street," a community-driven awareness campaign to improve pedestrian safety. Next, we're partnering with our local schools on an Active and Safe Routes to School program. Not bad progress in one year. Thanks Canada Walks!"

Mark Cassidy, Coordinator, Main Streets Exeter

"When Alberta Health Services worked with Canada Walks and Walk21 to pilot the Alberta Walkability Roadshow...we intended to engage the stakeholders in Alberta communities to create an action plan to improve the walkability of their community. What we got in return was much more than that. The relationships formed within communities and throughout the province will have a positive effect on walking initiatives for years to come."

Graham Matsalla, Health Promotion Facilitator, Health Promotion, Disease and Injury Prevention, Alberta Health Services