

THE WALKABOUT

A Walkabout provides excellent insight into real and perceived risks and the walkability of the neighbourhood. The **Walkabout** consists of a short walk (45-60 minutes) on a designated route based on areas of concern identified in the **Family and Youth Surveys**. The Walkabout is immediately followed by a debriefing session (45-60 minutes) to begin drafting an **Action Plan** to improve active transportation at your school.

HOW:

- 1) At a planning meeting with the School Travel Planning (STP) committee, set the date and time, providing 3-4 weeks to invite important stakeholders using the **Walkabout Invitation Checklist**
- 2) Send email invitations to the identified key stakeholders using the provided **Walkabout Invitation Template**
- 3) Use survey findings to identify the top 5 areas of concern and identify the route on a map (see **Walkabout Map Example**). Walk the route yourself to be sure all areas of concern can be visited in the allotted time
- 4) Create the **Walkabout Worksheet** using the provided template by including relevant information from the school report and **Traffic Counts & Observations**
- 5) Make a copy of the **Walkabout Worksheet** for each attendee and attach a map of the route
- 6) Confirm attendance of stakeholders the week before. Arrange for refreshments. Walkabout bins are available through your local Health Unit (containing: pencils, markers, clip boards, and reflective vests)
- 7) Identify leader(s) to comment at various stops along the route (this could be STP Facilitator, principal, parent, or student)

THE BIG DAY

- 1) Ensure you have supplies for the debriefing session: pens, paper, chart paper, markers, and potential refreshments
- 2) Introduce yourself and guests. Give a brief overview of the STP program, if necessary
- 3) Ask the Principal to introduce him/herself and give update on typical traffic and safety issues
- 4) Ask stakeholders to briefly introduce themselves and their role
- 5) Begin the Walkabout. Remind stakeholders to take notes on the provided **Walkabout Worksheet**
- 6) Following the Walkabout, have debriefing session to discuss observations and brainstorm potential solutions. This important step begins the **Action Plan** development
- 7) Set next meeting with the School STP committee to review the draft **Action Plan**