

## ELMO ASRTS Steering Committee Meeting

March 25, 2024

**Attendance: Andrew Clark, Kristy Kastelic, Sean Wraight, Erica Arnett, Emma Fabri, Marianne Larsen, Molly Miksa, Laura Dueck, Emily Petch, Darrell Jutzi, Andrew Gleason**

**Regrets: (TBD)**

**1. Introductions:** Roundtable for participants

**2. Minutes:** No minute adjustments required

**3. Agenda:** No agenda adjustments required

**4. New Partnership Updates:** – Andrew Clark

- Andrew reached out to some surrounding municipalities that have connections with school organizations to grow partnerships with ASRTS. (Per list previously provided by Allison Miller.)

**ACTION:** Andrew urged meeting attendees to update Excel spreadsheet with contact information if known. The list could also include school partnerships such as known parent groups etc.

- Outreach will require this additional information as well. Organizational links and contacts can be shared with Andrew. (Outreach information to Family Centres could be considered too.) The new partnerships will be updated in the portal, shared Excel Spreadsheet.

**5. Bike Train – Presentation:** – Andrew Clark

- Andrew conducted a Bike Train Program Presentation PPTx to meeting attendees (**attached or linked**). Andrew initially spoke of bike safety/ learning materials that could be partially funded by Emma Fabri and Allison Miller, City of London. Instructed to develop a report to determine feasibility with school body locally.

Bike Train Program (attached) is one of these options. Recommendations to organize included in Andrew's report.

- School the have interest can participate through the Home and School Association. Program participation could be insured by OSBE. A similar program is taking place in Ottawa and Waterloo Region. A London lens is needed though by adapting the current information; allowing understanding of what would work and would not work. Facilitators for this program could potentially be drawn from retiree volunteers. Conductors who offer on road instruction would require strong cycling skills. Any participants must have a signed waiver to participate in the program.

- Recommendations for participation: Route planning for the program would be included. Program suggests using parks and avoid streets with heavy traffic. Note that endpoints with heavy traffic areas should also be a location consideration. Andrew noted this program is open to all children. Key is to develop a built-up schedule to limit points of potential failure. Waterloo program used weather-based availability to participants. If Bike Train Conductors Work to minimize potential risks, this will lessen potential liability issues.
- Some concern about equity of the program as nothing appears to be built into the program. Darrell Jutzi asked if the Bike Train is currently in use locally. Mountsfield PS and Orchard Park programs were stopped last year because of liability concerns. Risks should be explicit in the program. Concerns about family members riding to school. A Liability Review is being recommended to OSBE for completion.

#### 6. School Travel Planning: – Andrew Clark and Kristy Kastelic – Website and STP

- STP Program that addresses barriers. Steps involved include: Develop a School Profile for participants. Fill out all descriptive elements and contact info. Completed form is then followed with an invite to participate. School profile identifies strengths and (weaknesses) of participating schools, (areas of concern).
- An Action Plan then comes from this that will identify issues of different complexity. Resources are then presented to create appropriate solutions. Some will require more intensive resource considerations.
- The goals, we are work is being done to make this an automated process, thus creating and Action Plan. As well, to have resources and back end completed by month end. (Erica Arnett expressed intent in this course is, as a pilot.

Built environment information is needed. For instance, sidewalk building, transport features. Keeping this in mind, municipal information and contacts (other than London is required.)

- Marianne Larsen asked about what we can do to help you as active committee members to assist. What do we need to do to support the work being done. **ACTION** -NEEDS – A Communications context. Required to know who is available to assist.

#### 7. Communications Working Group Outcomes: – Kristy Kastelic

Benefits of Active Travel. The group is now moving to part two of the Plan.

- Generate an action plan and necessary skill building. Who has the ability to create 6 – 8 messages with appropriate graphics will be required.

## 8. Program Offerings: – Andrew Clark

Reported on meeting with CAA and Curriculum Offerings. Learned that in person is needed. Regional trainers are also required. Complete electronic component. Police Services were once a big part of this program. Volunteers would now be needed to do this in schools.

Molly Miksa asked what is needed from potential Adult Trainers? Ie. Foot Patrollers, Bus Patrollers role for instance could be done by older students. There is an expectation that they would be available as school begins in September.

- Some police services continue to have a presence in schools however, this is not happening locally.

- CAA is interested in who could potentially participate. Is there enough interest to consider appropriate training. There is a need to learn more about this program to call for potential interested members.

## 9. Roundtable Updates – All

**Andrew C.** was contacted by a community member to show film. The Street Project- and was seeking promotional support.

[Trailer | The Street Project](#)

<https://www.thestreetproject.com/videos/>

**Molly M.** reported that London Cycle Link is facing a funding crunch. Potential outreach is threatened due to funding availability. Molly will update the group when she can do that.

- Molly did provide an update in terms of the grants (monies) that have been provided to the group. A video on **Protected Intersection** is very near completion. A planned **Roundabout Video** unfortunately had some problems in production with technical issues.

Ride to Thrive taking place at Sir Arthur Currie. Lord Nelson and others would feature a poster promotion.

- On June 11, a cycling event at Holy Family Catholic School in the form of a Bike Rodeo would coincide with **Helmets on Kids**, bike helmet giveaway online.

**Sean W** The annual Road Safety Community Partnership Grant Program (**RSCPP**) is expected to launch for this fiscal year April 2024 – April 2025 once it is approved. The grant opportunity previously launched in late May in 2023. Once again, using an online Transfer Payment Ontario Grants Portal (TPON). It is anticipated timing will remain consistent. I will share this

opportunity when it is made available.

Here is a link to RSCPP Guide for a better understanding in the event that non-profit community group would like to participate in future years.

[Road Safety Community Partnership Program Guide - Forms - Central Forms Repository \(CFR\) \(gov.on.ca\)](#)

\*As always, **all** non-profit road safe organizations and groups are invited to participate to fund road safety related initiatives in their area should they elect to pursue this opportunity. **Please share with appropriate non-profits when the program launch is announced soon.**

**Darrell J** updated the group with details of possible collaboration to study Poor Air Quality around schools. (He was seeking additional information). Asked about a potential partnership(s), connections that would examine air quality around schools in the London area. Work was done through the HEAL Lab grant, however due to COVID any outcome was affected.

**Emma F.** and **Andrew C.** conceded that most schools were not comfortable with this type of activity. Monitoring as such created concerns. Perhaps surrounding neighbourhoods could be tested to achieve similar goals as work will not continue with the Public School Board. Catholic School Board expressed interest. Darrell indicated they would be interested in partner collaboration. London Green Health Coop working with Molly.

10. Closing Remarks – Andrew and Kristy Kastelic