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# **Building a Community of Practice to Support Healthy Built Environment Policies**

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Heart and Stroke Foundation

Conference Board of Canada, Toronto, May 2014



HEART &  
STROKE  
FOUNDATION

# HCBD CLASP Vision Statement

## Vision Statement:

Health officials, planners, engineers and NGOs in communities across Canada collaborate seamlessly to:

- ❑ ensure built environments are designed to promote health and well-being,
- ❑ thus contributing to the reduction of risk factors for chronic diseases (with a particular focus on **physical inactivity**).



# HCBD CLASP I Partners (2009-12)



## Four National Organizations:

- ❑ Heart & Stroke Foundation (Lead)
- ❑ National Collaborating Centre Healthy Public Policy
- ❑ Canadian Institute of Planners
- ❑ Urban Public Health Network



URBAN PUBLIC HEALTH NETWORK  
RÉSEAU CANADIEN POUR LA SANTÉ URBAINE



Centre de collaboration nationale  
sur les politiques publiques et la santé  
National Collaborating Centre  
for Healthy Public Policy

**Region of Peel**  
*Working for you*  
Public Health

## Six Health Authorities:

- ❑ Montreal Public Health
- ❑ Toronto Public Health
- ❑ Peel Public Health
- ❑ Vancouver Coastal Health
- ❑ Fraser Health Authority
- ❑ Vancouver Island Health Authority

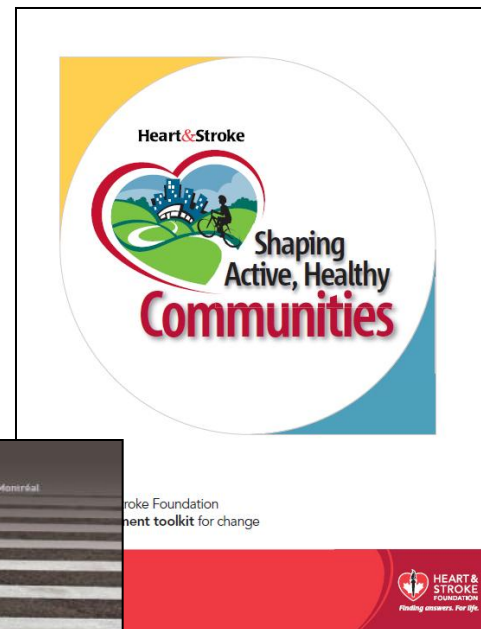


**Toronto**  
Public Health



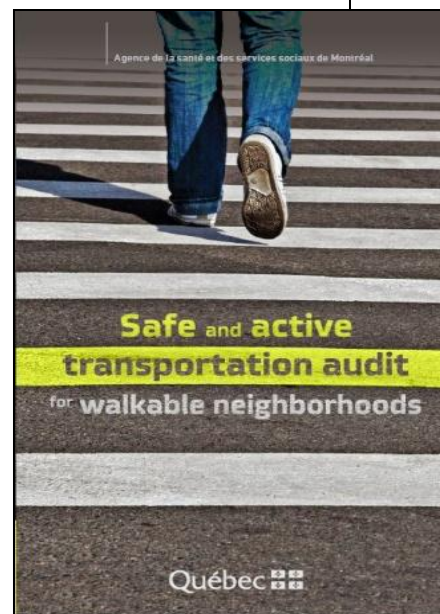
### Heart and Stroke Foundation:

- ❑ Shaping Active, Healthy Communities Toolkit – with CIP & Canadian Urban Institute
- ❑ Healthy Communities in Action Factsheet
- ❑ [HSFC-Healthy Communities Web-page](#)



### Montreal Public Health:

- ❑ Transportation Audit
- ❑ Mapping community groups



Heart & Stroke Foundation  
Shaping Active, Healthy Communities Toolkit for change

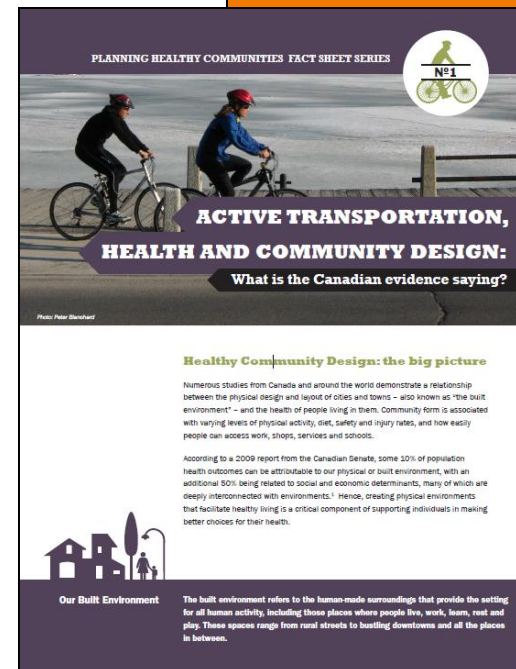
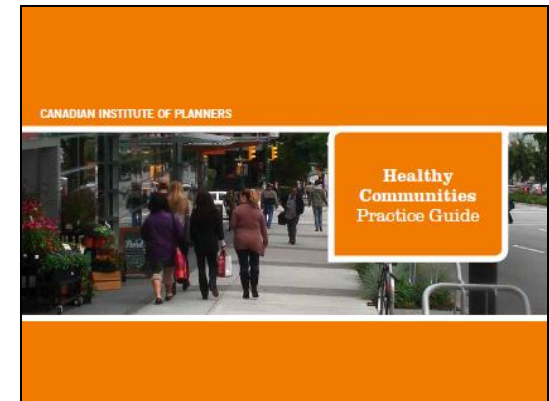


### Three BC Health Authorities:

- ❑ Provided access to a Planner to work on built environment issues with them
- ❑ Influencing policies at a local level

### Canadian Institute of Planners:

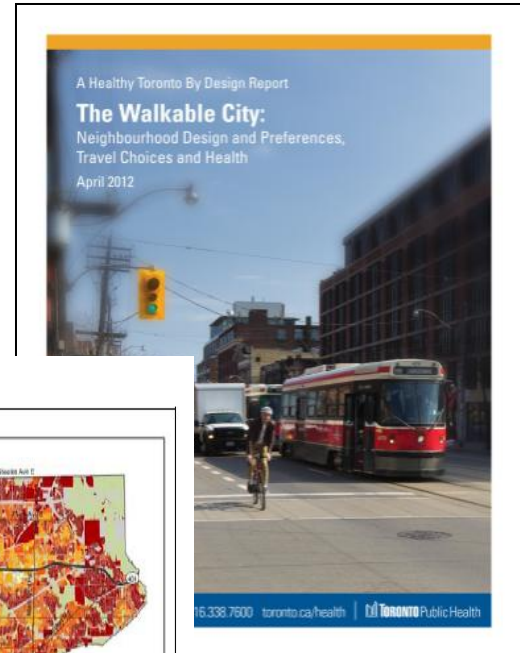
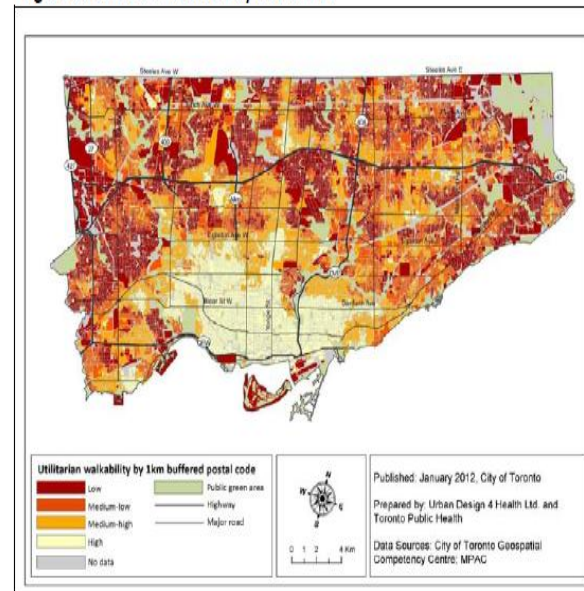
- ❑ Healthy Communities Practice Guide
- ❑ 3 Research Briefs with CIHI, PHAC & HSF:
  - Active Transportation, Health & Community Design
  - Health Equity and Community Design
  - Active Living, Children & Youth



### Residential Preferences Survey

- ❑ UD4H with 4 HCBD Health Authorities in BC & Ontario
- ❑ Residents' Preferences for Walkable or Auto-oriented neighbourhoods
- ❑ Impact of neighbourhood design & neighbourhood preferences on travel choices, physical activity, VKT & BMI
- ❑ TPH Report – GTA results
- ❑ UD4H Report – Metro Vancouver

Figure 2: Utilitarian Walkability in Toronto



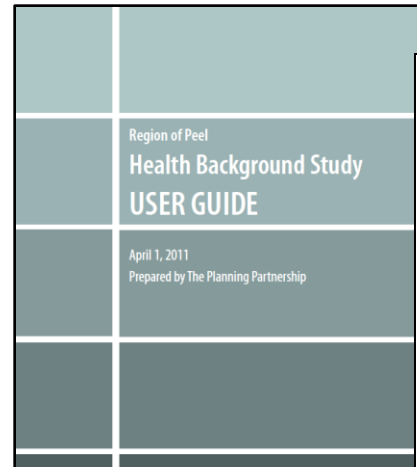
# HCBD CLASP I

## Applied Research & Policy Tools



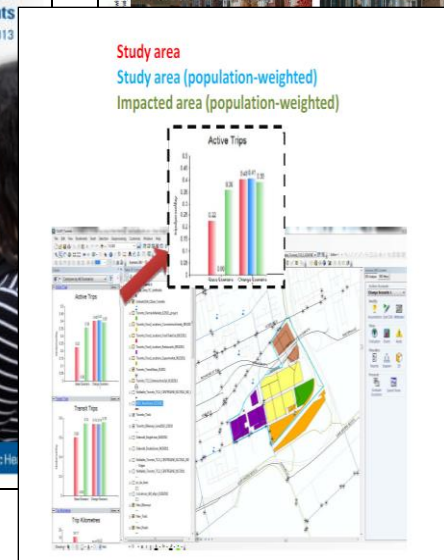
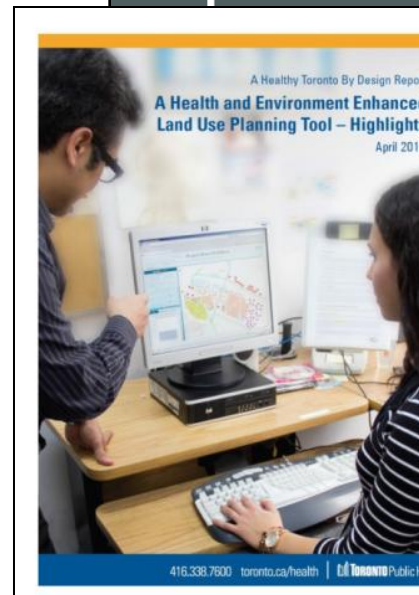
### Peel Public Health:

- ❑ **Healthy Development Index** - Health-based criteria to guide neighbourhood design in Peel Region



### Toronto Public Health:

- ❑ Software tool to assess travel choices, physical activity, VKT associated with neighbourhood design options



# HCBD CLASP Partners (2012-14)



## 5 National Organizations:

- ❑ Heart & Stroke Foundation (Lead)
- ❑ National Collaborating Centre  
Healthy Public Policy
- ❑ Canadian Institute of Planners
- ❑ Urban Public Health Network
- ❑ Canadian Institute of  
Transportation Engineers

## 2 NGOs:

- ❑ Toronto Centre for Active  
Transportation
- ❑ Montreal Urban Ecology Centre

## Academic Partner:

- ❑ Simon Fraser University

## Health Authorities:

- ❑ Montreal Public Health
- ❑ Toronto Public Health
- ❑ Peel Public Health
- ❑ Vancouver Coastal Health
- ❑ Fraser Health Authority
- ❑ Newfoundland and Labrador  
Provincial Wellness Advisory  
Council/Eastern Health Region
- ❑ Capital District Health, Halifax
- ❑ New Brunswick Department of  
Health
- ❑ Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region
- ❑ Winnipeg Region Health Authority
- ❑ Ottawa Public Health (unfunded)



# HCBD Objective #1 – Deepening Impact

## ❑ Two Transportation & Health Data Projects

- Simon Fraser University & BC Health Authorities
- University of Montreal & Montreal Public Health

## ❑ Community Engagement & Active Transportation

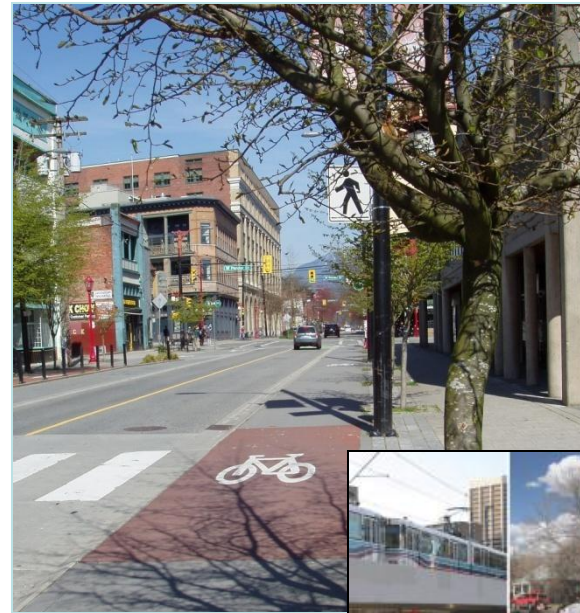
- Toronto Centre for Active Transportation & Toronto Public Health



# HCBD Objective #1 – Deepening Impact

## ❑ Fostering Innovative Street Designs – 3 Projects

- National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy – Town in Quebec
- Heart and Stroke Foundation – Town of Clearwater
- Canadian Institute of Transportation Engineers



## ❑ Fostering Healthy Communities

- Canadian Institute of Planners
- Examine Provincial Legislation across the country



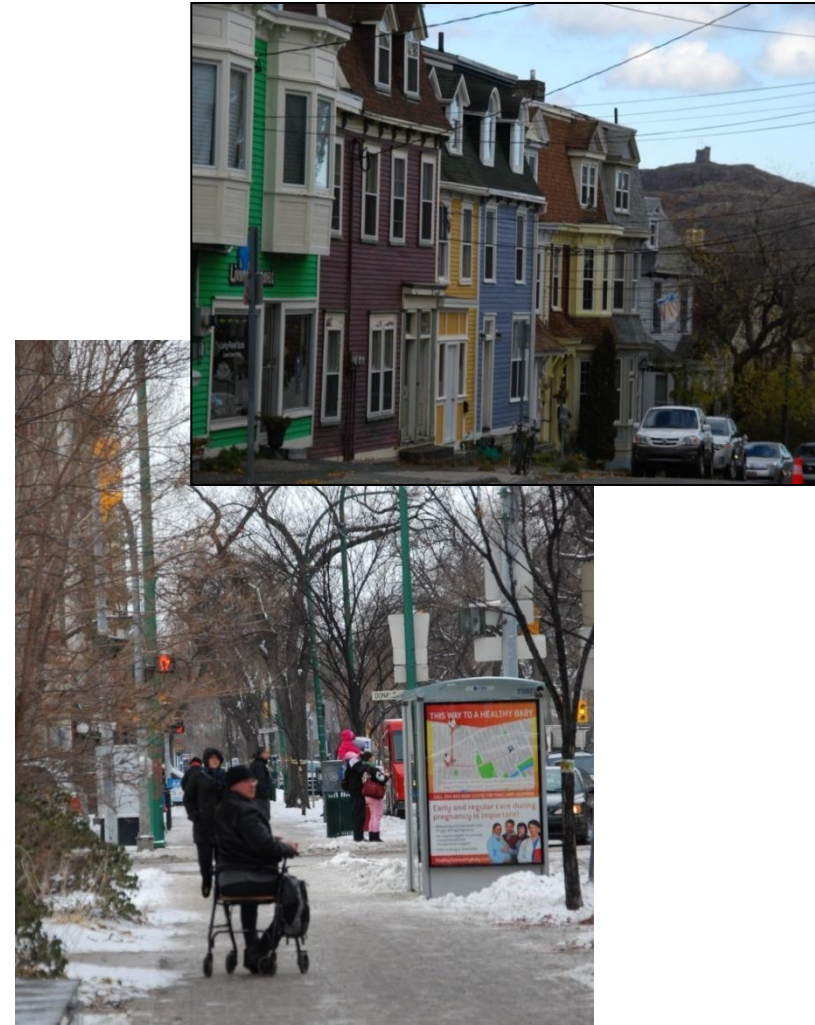
# HCBD Objective #2: Broadening Impact

## ❑ Six new health authorities:

- Five new provinces: NB, NFLD, NS, Manitoba & Saskatchewan
- Extend work - rural & remote contexts
- Bring health considerations into local policies
- Create communities that foster physical activity & active transportation

## ❑ Twin Goals:

- Affect policy at a local level
- Build Capacity within Health Authorities



## Planner for each Health Team

- ❑ Modelled on the HCBD CLASP projects in BC
- ❑ Identify strategic opportunities to influence land use & transportation planning processes at a local level
- ❑ Facilitate relationship-building with planning & transportation professionals
- ❑ Build capacity & Influence policy





# Health Authority Projects: Local Support

## Access to Prominent Expert for each team

- ❑ 6 days each with Dr. Karen Lee, NYC
- ❑ Local workshops & conferences with Planners & Health
- ❑ Meetings with local stakeholders
- ❑ Local media & public meetings.



# Health Authority Projects: Multi-Community Collaborative

## ❑ Peer to Peer Sessions

- HCBC resources & tools
- Pilots in other communities
- Speakers – HCBD members & guests from 3 sectors

## ❑ Informal Peer to Peer Sessions – no guests

## ❑ Information Sharing

- Through the Website
- Presentations & reports
- Password protected pages



# HCBD Coalition: Multi-Sectoral Community of Practice



## ❑ Face to Face Meeting

- 2 day meeting - Presentations, Discussions & Networking

## ❑ Peer Mentoring Sessions

- For HCBD members plus Guests from partner organizations
- Multi-Sectoral Guest Speakers

## ❑ E-Newsletters

- Keep HCBD members informed about other partners
- Keep decision- makers within our partner organizations aware of our work



# HCBD Coalition: Communicating with Broader Network



## ❑ HCBD Website Articles & Twitter

- 17 Articles – 450 hits each
- 19,000 hits in 1 year

## ❑ HCBD Webinar Series

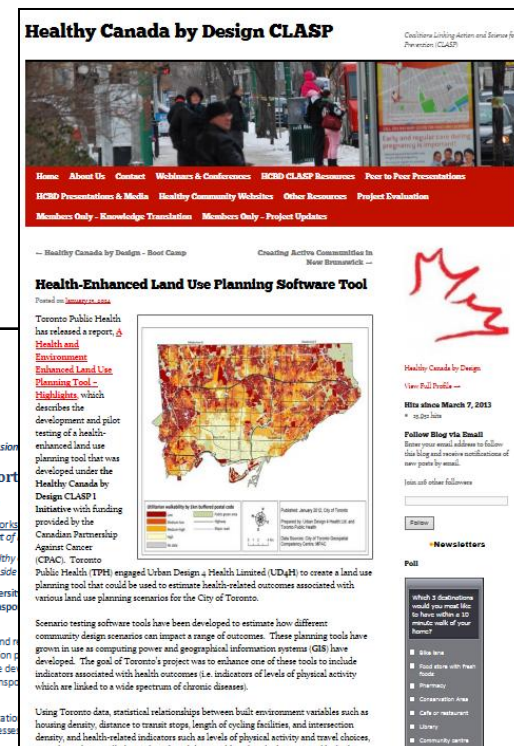
- 12 HCBD projects – 4 Webinars

## ❑ Panels at National Conferences

- 12 HCBD projects – 3 national conferences - CPHA, CITE & CIP

## ❑ CJPH Supplement

- Peer reviewed articles on projects from first round of funding





# HCBD: Opportunities & Strengths



- ❑ HCBD CLASP I partners building upon work & capacity build under first round of funding
- ❑ Have 11 health authorities from 8 provinces; rural & urban; to foster new health authority partners
- ❑ Body of resources, tools and pilots – 5 national partners & health authorities – to build upon
- ❑ Built an inter-sectoral Community of Practice
- ❑ Demand among others to join HCBD
- ❑ HCBD brand is recognized; approached by researchers and government agencies

# HCBD: Challenges & Next Steps



- ❑ CPAC CLASP funding ends in Sept 30, 2014
- ❑ Difficult to find funding for policy work & true knowledge translation (moving science into policies, programs & action)
- ❑ Approaching PHAC & corporate partners recommended by them
- ❑ Working with a Sustainability Committee to develop the next proposal.
- ❑ Hope to continue to: deepen the work and expand the partners into new jurisdictions



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