Glossary

Active transportation - any non-motorized human powered mode of transportation, such as walking or cycling.

Active transportation infrastructure - facilities and resources to encourage and support non-motorized human transport, such as trails, sidewalks, cycling lanes, footpaths or bridges, bike racks, benches, rest areas, and the signage, markings and dividers relative to the same.

Adaptation - actions, initiatives and measures to reduce the vulnerability of natural and human systems against actual or expected climate change effects.

Alcohol outlet - any premise on which alcohol is legally sold for immediate or future consumption, including but not limited to off-premise locations (all styles of LCBO, wine outlets, beer stores) and on-premise locations (bars, restaurants, nightclubs).

Alcohol outlet density - the number of physical locations in which alcoholic beverages are available for purchase in a community either per area, road mile or population. Some areas may choose to include square footage or capacity in density calculations.

Adequate supply - when supply equals the demand (e.g. supply of smoke-free housing meets the demand for it).

Adverse effect - means one or more of:

a) impairment of the quality of the natural environment for any use that can be made of it;

b) injury or damage to property or to plant or animal life;

c) harm or material discomfort to any person;

d) an adverse effect on the health of any person;

e) impairment of the safety of any person;

f) rendering any property or plant or animal life unfit for human use;

g) loss of enjoyment of normal use of property; and

h) interference with the normal conduct of business.

Built environment – human-made surroundings that create the setting for all human activity, including those places where people live, work, learn, play and rest. These settings range from small rural communities, to busy urban streets and neighbourhoods, to bustling downtowns, and all places in between.

Community garden - a publicly accessible garden where people share the basic resources of land and water; can be on public or privately-owned land, and is managed by a group of community members, organizations and/or government agencies.

Complete community - a community that meets the daily living needs of its residents by providing a mix of jobs, housing, schools, recreation, open space, local shops and services, and has options for active transportation and transit.

Complete streets - a design concept wherein built environment features are designed for all ages, abilities, and modes of travel. On complete streets, safe and comfortable access for pedestrians, bicycles, transit users and the mobility-impaired is an integral planning feature.

Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) - an approach to deterring criminal behaviour by creating a built environment through environmental design that influences offender decisions before a criminal act occurs.

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Glossary

Edible landscaping - the use in landscaping of plants that produce food instead of commonly used ornamental plants.

Food desert - a socioeconomically disadvantaged area with relatively poor access to affordable, healthy food retailers such as supermarkets.

Food system - all of the processes that are a part of providing food to people including the growing, harvesting, processing, packaging, transporting, marketing, consuming and disposing of food and food packaging.

Health inequities - unfair and avoidable or modifiable differences in health status experienced by various individuals or groups in society due to unequal access to key factors that influence health, for example, income, education, age, gender, race, employment and social support.

Incubator kitchen - a shared-use commercial kitchen where local food entrepreneurs can prepare their food products in a fully licensed and certified environment, often with technical, business development and other assistance.

Mitigation - activities that reduce the amount of greenhouse gases emitted to our atmosphere

Regional food hub - an organization that actively manages the collection, distribution, and marketing of food products primarily from local and regional producers to strengthen their ability to satisfy wholesale, retail and institutional demand.

Social capital - the ways and degree to which people interact with their neighbours, the relationships they form within their community and the amount of time they spend engaged in civic endeavors, volunteer work or other community activities.

Urban agriculture - covers a range of activities that focus on growing food in or around cities, towns or smaller communities. Some examples include backyard gardens, beehives, berry patches, community gardens, container gardening, edible landscaping, greenhouse agriculture, herb gardens, urban farms, orchards, rooftop gardens, schoolyard gardens, vineyards and small-scale poultry raising.

Utilitarian physical activity - physical activities that serve a practical purpose; for example walking to get from one place to another.

Walkable community - a community or neighbourhood that is friendly to walking, determined by factors such as the presence of sidewalks, trails or other pedestrian right-of-ways, road design, traffic conditions, land use patterns and safety issues.

Vulnerable populations - populations who are at risk of health inequities due to their income, education, age, gender, race, employment or social support.

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Resources

This document is just one of many resources available to support the creation and implementation of healthy community design policies.

Other useful resources include:

Backgrounders and Reports

Active Design Supplement: Promoting Safety (2012). John Hopkins Centre for Injury Research and Policy, NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Society of Public Health Education www.centerforactivedesign.org/promotingsafety.

Active Transportation Beyond Urban Centres: Walking and Bicycling in Small Towns and Rural America, Rails to Trail Conservancy www.railstotrails.org/resources/documents/ourWork/reports/BeyondUrbanCentersReport.pdf.

Aging in Place: A State Survey of Livability Policies and Practices (2011). Nicholas Farber, JD, and Douglas Shinkle, National Conference of State Legislatures. www.assets.aarp.org/rgcenter/ppi/liv-com/ib190.pdf.

Best Practices in Local Food: A Guide for Municipalities (2013). The Ontario Municipal Knowledge Network www.omkn.ca/Best-Practices/Beneficial-Reports.aspx.

Creating Walkable and Transit-Supportive Communities in Halton.(2009). Halton Region Health Department www.halton.ca/common/pages/UserFile.aspx?fileId=18644

Evaluating Non-Motorized Transportation Benefits and Costs (2012). Todd Litman, Victoria Transport Policy Institute www.vtpi.org/nmt-tdm.pdf.

Healthy Communities, Sustainable Communities (2007). Ontario Professional Planners Institute www.ontarioplanners.ca/PDF/Healthy-Communities/2007/Healthy-Sustainable-Communities-2007.aspx.

Health Equity and Community Design, Planning Healthy Communities Fact Sheet Series – No. 3, Healthy Canada by Design CLASP www.cip-icu.ca/_CMS/Files/FACTSHEETS-Equity-FINALenglish.pdf

If Health Matters: Integrating Public Health Objectives in Transportation Planning (2011). Todd Litman, Victoria Transport Policy Institute www.vtpi.org/health.pdf

Limiting Alcohol Availability – Helping Municipal Governments Reduce Alcohol-Related Harms www.carbc.ca/Portals/0/Community/Municipal/1LimitAvail(e).pdf

Pedestrian and Bicycle Planning: A Guide to Best Practices (2014). Todd Litman, Robin Blair, Bill Demopoulos, Nils Eddy, Anne Fritzel, Danelle Laidlaw, Heath Maddox, Katherine Forster Victoria Transport Policy Institute www.vtpi.org/nmtguide.doc.

Planning by Design: A Healthy Communities Handbook (2009). Ontario Ministry of Municipal Affairs, and Housing and Ontario Professional Planners Institute www.mah.gov.on.ca/Page6737.aspx.

Promoting Public Health through Smart Growth: Building Healthier Communities through Transportation and Land Use Policies and Practices. Smart Growth BC www.smartgrowth.bc.ca/Portals/0/Downloads/SGBC_Health_Report_FINAL.pdf.

School Zone and Nutrition: Courses of Action for the Municipal Sector. Public Health Agency of Canada www.aspq.org/documents/file/guide-zonage-version-finale-anglaise.pdf.

The Impact of the Built Environment on the Health of the Population: A Review of the Review Literature (2007). Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit www.simcoemuskokahealth.org/Libraries/HU_Library/BHC_LitReview.sflb.ashx.

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Resources

Checklists

Public Health in Land Use Planning & Community Design — Land Use Checklist, National Association of County & City Health Officials (U.S.) - www.naccho.org

Sustainability Checklist for Rezoning and Development Permit Applications (Port Coquitlam) – www.portcoquitlam.ca

Websites

Active Living By Design – www.activelivingbydesign.org

Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals - www.apbp.org

Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design; CPTED Ontario – www.cptedontario.ca

Complete Streets for Canada - www.completestreetsforcanada.ca

Canadian Institute of Planners - www.cip-icu.ca/web/la/en/default.asp

Change Lab Solutions – www.changelabsolutions.org

Driven to Action: Stopping Sprawl in Your Community – www.davidsuzuki.org

Ontario Professional Planners Institute – www.ontarioplanners.ca

Preventing Excessive Alcohol Consumption: Regulation of Outlet Density - www.thecommunityguide.org/alcohol/outletdensity.html

Shaping Active, Healthy Communities – www.heartandstroke.com

Walkable and Livable Communities Institute - www.walklive.org

Victoria Transport Policy Institute - www.vtpi.org

Books

Lopez, Russell, P. (2013) The Built Environment and Public Health

Jackson, Richard J. (2011) Designing Healthy Communities

Dunham-Jones, Ellen (2001) Retrofitting Suburbia: Urban Design Solutions for Redesigning Suburbs

Gehl, J (2010) Cities for People

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