

Simcoe Muskoka On the Move

Steering Committee Meeting

Date: Monday, January 22, 2024

Location: Teams Meeting

Time: 2pm - 4pm

Chair: Monica Bovett (SMDHU)

Present: J. Niven, Monica Bovett, Christine Bushey, Chantèle Mayer, Baillee Yasher, Mary Brodeur, Carolynne Bull, David Hegarty, Jon Main, Ishan Maggo, Matt Ellis, Chantele Mayer, Kristin Pechkovsky, Kyle Pender, Susan Reese, Samuel Haniff, Kara Thomson-Ryczko, Julie Van Den Hoek, Vandita Watt, Stephen Murphy

Recorder: Jennifer Niven (SMDHU)

| No. | Agenda Item | Actions |
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| 1.0 | <p>Welcome and Member Updates</p> <p>Welcome Samuel (Sam) Haniff, Essa Township, Manager of Planning.</p> <p>Ishan Maggo, Planner III, County of Simcoe Planning Department: Simcoe County TMP Update was endorsed by Simcoe County Council on November 28, 2023. Thirty-day review period providing the public the opportunity to comment on the report ended January 12, 2024.</p> <p>Jon Main, Sustainability and Climate Action Coordinator, Severn Sound Environmental Association shared Google Environmental Insights portal as a potential source of transportation data. Google insights tracks smart phone location data from users as they travel and categorizes mode and frequency by municipality. The data is free to use however referencing the source is required.</p> <p>Vandita Watts, Environment and Sustainability Coordinator, Simcoe County District School Board -Notice of Motion from the Sept. 27, 2023, Board Meeting. The SCDSB approved the following motion: <i>That the Board approved that staff create an active transportation section to be inserted in Policy 2410 – Transportation of Students with a general aim to support and encourage students, their families and staff to travel safely to school through the use of modes of active transportation. And further in the creation of the section that the staff consult with community partners, students and families in the creation of the policy section, and finally that the draft updated policy be brought to the appropriate committee for trustee input and discussion prior to the summer recess.</i></p> | |
| 2.0 | Review of Agenda | Approved |
| 3.0 | Review of Minutes from October 25, 2023 | Approved |

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| 4.0 | Business Arising: | |
| 4.1 | <p>On The Move Local Implementation: Christine Bushey (SMDHU)</p> <p>Schools Continuing with On The Move 2023-24 School Year</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seven schools agreed to continue with the full On the Move initiative: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Admiral Elementary School – Collingwood ○ Cameron Street Public School – Collingwood ○ Worsley Public School – Wasaga Beach ○ Mundy’s Bay Public School– Midland ○ Orchard Park Public School – Orillia ○ Alcona Glen Elementary School – Innisfil ○ Huntsville Public School – Huntsville • Three of the seven returning schools received their \$800 funding allocation. • Some schools have implemented some activities in their actions plans, others are reviewing and updating their action plans, and some are wanting to do some additional data collection to update their action plan. One of the original pilot schools felt they met their objectives and is now only needing ad hoc support from the health unit. • Ethics approval for data collection is being discussed with each of the School Boards. See School Board Update below. <p>Vacancies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ten schools indicated they needed to withdraw from On the Move activities. • Three of the ten non-returning schools received their funding previously. • Funding remains to support seven schools. <p>School Board Engagement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • C. Bushey and M. Bovett continue to have conversations with On the Move Steering Committee members from the three major school boards in the area to seek direction on school recruitment, ethics approval, and board level promotion. • SMCDSB has indicated they are interested in supporting a small number of schools (up to 3) as part of an On the Move pilot with their board. School recruitment for these 3 vacancies is in the process of being discussed. Board level ethics approval is not required. Principals can approve data collection. • TLDSB has agreed to support the health unit reaching out to Gravenhurst Public School to assess their interest and capacity for becoming an On the Move school. There is also interest in discussing other potential schools to consider for On the Move. The Board has confirmed that ethics approval for data collection must be reconsidered by the ethics committee. The health unit is in the process of completing this submission. Schools can be supported on specific requests for service related to active school travel until ethics approval is received and data collection to create an action plan can occur. | <p>Health unit and school board members of On The Move SC to continue discussions to enhance school board engagement as appropriate within each board.</p> |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SCDSB is in the process of engaging in internal discussions related to the questions posed by the health unit. The health unit will work with interested schools on a request for service basis until processes are confirmed at the board level. Changes to the student transportation policy will support local active transportation activities. • The health unit can support schools on a request for service basis if they are interested in working on or promoting a specific aspect of active school travel. Interested schools can let their School Health Public Health Nurse know or they can call our Health Connection phone support line and put in a request for service. | |
| 4.2 | <p>New Resource</p> <p>To be posted on the On The Move Website: Why did Kids Stop Walking to School? Video by Uytay Lee (CBC, Vancouver)</p> <p>This a 12-minute video which discusses the barriers to active school travel.</p> | On The Move SC members encouraged to watch this video and share as appropriate. |
| 5.0 | New Business | |
| 5.1 | <p>Communications Subgroup: Chantèle Mayer/Kara Thomson-Ryczko (SMDHU)</p> <p>The On The Move Communications sub committee has had three meetings since its formation in Fall 2023. The focus of the meetings has been the development of a 2024 Communications workplan.</p> <p>Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit has identified three activities that we have the capacity to take on:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review webpages designated to Municipalities and School Boards and Schools with the goal of improving user experience, layout, navigation and content. 2. Review On The Move Awareness/Educational videos and determine how they can be used more fully by Steering Committee members to promote Active School Travel. 3. Develop a coordinated communications plan to raise awareness of Bike Month across Simcoe and Muskoka. Assets may include but are not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organic social media posts • Media Release • Customizable Public Service Announcement for Radio <p>We received positive feedback from On The Move SC members for similar assets that were developed last year. The goal is to have the new assets to the Steering Committee by the beginning of May 2024. J. Main shared an example for other municipalities to consider from the Town of Penetanguishene’s 2023 Commuter Challenge during Bike to Work week. https://www.connectpenetanguishene.ca/commuter-challenge-2023</p> <p>Other activities on the workplan require consultation with members of the Communications subcommittee. Goal is to reach consensus in the coming weeks.</p> | Communications Subgroup to provide update on workplan activities for March meeting. |

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| 5.2 | <p>Policies for Local Implementation: Monica Bovett, (SMDHU)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M. Bovett presented a PowerPoint slide deck on Active School Travel Zones as requested at the last On the Move Steering Committee meeting. Discussion occurred regarding how this concept could be used in Simcoe and Muskoka. The PowerPoint slide deck will be circulated with the minutes. • M. Bovett provided an overview of the policies recommended by the Policy Subgroup. Most recent version of policies attached to minutes. • Discussion occurred on how municipalities could make connections to the Vision Zero and Complete Streets approaches. It was mentioned that Ottawa and Toronto are in the process of planning protected intersections. • Discussion occurred about how the policy recommendations could be promoted and implemented by partners in Simcoe and Muskoka: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ M. Bovett suggested viewing policies as a list of options that municipalities and school boards could consider adopting and implementing. ○ It was suggested that it may be more feasible for municipalities and school boards to start by considering one or two policy options for implementation. ○ C. Bull suggested a presentation on the policy options to TLDSB by On The Move SC members with the intention to look for opportunities for collaboration with the Steering Committee. ○ J. Main suggested schools in the French School Board have large catchment areas and may be ideal pilot sites for policy implementation. ○ There was also a reminder about an option to present the policy options at a Simcoe County Council meeting as one way to promote the policies to municipalities. Some Steering Committees suggested that a deputation to councils would be a good idea. | <p>Committee members to bring back statements to their respective organizations for ideas on how to operationalize the statements and will share findings at March meeting.</p> <p>M. Bovett to explore TLDSB presentation with C. Bull in more detail before March meeting.</p> <p>M. Bovett to confirm opportunities with K. Pechkovsky at County of Simcoe.</p> |
| 6.0 Standing Items | | |
| 6.1 | <p>Education:</p> <p>Covered in policy discussion under Item 5.2 with a deeper description of the concept of Active School Travel Zones.</p> | <p>Members to advise if more education related to policy implementation would be helpful for March meeting.</p> |
| 6.2 | <p>On the Move Steering Committee Sustainability</p> <p>M. Bovett reviewed the Terms of Reference (ToR) document, accepting feedback and making changes to align with current On The Move SC priorities.</p> | <p>M. Bovett to circulate updated ToR for members to review. Approval to be confirmed at March meeting.</p> |

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| | <p>Sustainability of the On the Move initiative was discussed. The following suggestions were discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore possibility of an in-person meeting/event for June 2024. • Reflect upon how to continue to build our On The Move SC collaborative structure and processes to form whole community responses. • Possible items to be discussed at the June meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Collaboration Spectrum Exercise (attached to these minutes)– are we where we want to be? ○ What is happening in our systems/organizations right now that will impact our work? ○ What are the opportunities to bring On The Move work to the centre of our desks? | <p>M. Bovett to propose dates and tentative agenda for in person extended morning meeting in June to focus on future direction for On The Move SC.</p> <p>On The Move SC members to respond to proposed June meeting dates and provide suggestions for June agenda before the March meeting.</p> <p>M. Bovett to request and gather in proposed agenda ideas and J. Niven to send out save the date notices with RSVPs.</p> |
| <p>7.0</p> | <p>Meetings occur in October, January, March, June, August</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting times (day) • June in person event planned • Doodle polls are sent out in advance to determine specific dates. | <p>J. Niven to send a doodle poll to Steering Committee members for the March meeting and save the date and location for June in person meeting.</p> |