

Simcoe Muskoka On the Move

Advisory Committee Meeting

Date: Thursday, August 13th 2026

Location: MS Teams

Time: 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Chair: Rachel Abaza (SMDHU)

Recorder: Jennifer Niven (SMDHU)

Attendees: Stephanie Ross, Laura Mallory, Kelsea Shadlock, Jennifer Niven, Rachel Abaza, Carolynne Bull, Joe Coleman, Vandita Watts, Ishan Maggo, Kristin Pechkovsky, Katie Kirton, Stephen Murphy

Regrets: Shawna Patterson, Nicole Gray, Bailee Yasher, Christine Hyde, Christine Dempster, Jon Main, Kerri McDonald, Rob Belsy

No.	Agenda Item	Action
1.0	Welcome & Member Updates The On the Move Advisory Committee welcomed the following: - o Kelsea Shadlock, Senior Planner Town of Huntsville - o Stephanie Ross, Program Manager Chronic Disease Prevention, SMDHU - o Laura Mallory, Public Health Nurse, SMDHU	
2.0	Review of Agenda and Minutes from May 11, 2026	Approved
3.0	Business Arising	
3.1	On the Move and Accessibility (<i>Rachel Abaza, SMDHU</i>) R. Abaza and C. Bushey met with the SMDHU Communications Team. R. Abaza shared the new page in the branding guide which was added to provide direction on designing with accessibility in mind such as guidance for readability, typography, colour and contrast. The On the Move Advisory Committee reviewed the redesigned wayfinding sign with a white background and the color in the clock being removed. It was noted that what has also been added at the bottom of the wayfinding sign is the On the Move website and a QR code that links to the On the Move website. At this time, SMDHU does not have the capacity for a full Brand Guide update.	Complete. R.Abaza to notify Committee members once the revised Brand Guide is available for request through the On the Move website.

3.2	Exploring Additional Tier-4 Opportunities (<i>Rachel Abaza, SMDHU</i>) Discussion occurred about the expansion of tier 4 to other municipalities as other municipalities have shown interest. At this time, it has been identified that the tier 4 option cannot be extended to other municipalities due to the capacity of the organizations that would be required to be involved. SMDHU is exploring next steps, and the Bradford West Gwillimbury pilot evaluation results may help to inform tier 4 implementation across Simcoe Muskoka. Exploration of a regional wide approach with leadership from the County of Simcoe and District of Muskoka could be considered in the future. R. Abaza shared, as an example, a brief update regarding success with a regional model in Waterloo. Also identified that the dissemination of the On the Move Policy Recommendations across the region is an intervention that could complement a regional wide approach and sustainability.	R. Abaza and SMDHU will continue to discuss long term planning for tier 4 implementation.
4.0	Standing Items	
4.1	School Level Activity Summary (<i>Rachel Abaza, SMDHU</i>) Update on local school activity as of August 2026 Tier 1: Information only requests: 0 requests Tier 2: Short term one-off activities: 4 schools • 1 new request (St Noel Chabanel) • 1 ongoing, Connaught Public School • 1 previous request – St Cecilia Catholic School (interested in Tier 3 in September) • 1 Uptergrove Public School working with Ramara Trails Committee (Ramara Township) to host a “Bike Bus” pilot with OTM resources to support the event. Tier 3: Fully Onboarded Schools: 9 SCDSB – 8 schools (no change from May report) • Mapleview Heights, Hyde Park, Admiral, Cameron Street, James Keating, Goodfellow, Huronia Centennial, Elmvale District High School (focus changing to grade 7&8 students rather than secondary students participating). SMCDSB school – 2 schools • St. Charles Catholic School • Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School Tier 4 (Municipal/community-wide approach) • Bradford West Gwillimbury: 13 schools participating +1 opening in September for a total of 14 in this school year. Other: • Springwater has 3 participating schools in Elmvale with both SCDSB and SMCDSB. Elmvale On the Move had an initial meeting between the Township, SMDHU and two school boards (SCDSB and SMCDSB) on July 14, 2026 and have agreed to establish Terms of Reference as a next step. Plans are to have this meeting in the third or fourth week of school; however, a meeting date has not yet been selected.	

	- Both Bracebridge and Gravenhurst are in exploration with a community wide approach with Drive to 5 initiatives. - Exploration in Midland and Penetanguishene at a tier 4 level is on hold until BWG evaluation results inform how to implement tier 4 in other regions. Wait List / Under Assessment: 5 schools; 7 schools in May, now St. Noel Chabbanel in Wasaga Beach would like to engage in tier 2 level activities this fall. Graduated Schools: Updated to 3 graduated schools: Clearview Meadows, Orchard Park, and Alcona Glen Elementary School. Alcona Glen is the new graduated school that was provided with a Sustainability Plan (from the local PHN) for ongoing implementation of school communication and engagement of active travel throughout the school year. Ethics approval with TLDSB is expired as of June 2026. SMDHU will be in contact with TLDSB for renewal.	R. Abaza to connect with SMDHU for ethics approval process with TLDSB.
4.2	Bradford West Gwillimbury On the Move Working Group Update (Laura Mallory, SMDHU) BWG Project Update L. Mallory shared an update on behalf of the BWG OTM Working Group. Planning has been underway this summer for the new Catholic school opening, such as updating the maps outlining suggested routes to school, signage and principal packages for all schools including safety messages and social media to ensure the BWG On the Move initiative is in place. C. Hyde and L. Mallory will formally meet with the new principal to orient them to the Bradford On the Move project. Discussion has occurred related to collecting further data as the walkabout and traffic observations were not completed per school as the guideline was written per school and not the whole municipality. There is consideration to complete the data collection with 4 to 6 schools this school year. The selection of the schools may be based on the data from the municipality and from the pilot itself. There may also be consideration to combine schools that are relatively close as the data collection would be using the same streets. Discussion for fall activities for data collection will occur at the next BWG On the Move Working Group meeting. BWG Evaluation As the BWG OTM Working Group was looking at what to collect to share with Municipalities and the On the Move Advisory Committee from a data collection and new school planning perspective, a question was raised about the different roles that each organization plays for the new school. L. Mallory brought forward an idea proposed through the BWG OTM Working Group, which was to create a document that outlines each organizations roles and representatives. Asked Advisory Committee members if this type of resource would be helpful for new schools as if would provide best practice docs or policies that guide that decision for the steps. It was noted that the resource may need to be adapted for each municipality. Feedback from the OTM Advisory Committee was:	R. Abaza to invite L. Mallory to the next Policy Subgroup Meeting to determine next steps of document creation to

	• It would be helpful for newly on-boarded schools and can act as a foundational document. • Within the document there could be considerations for actions and implementation at the implementation level. • This document could accompany the draft On the Move Policy Recommendations.	accompany the policy recommendations.
4.3	<u>Policy Recommendations</u> Dissemination Plan (<i>Rachel Abaza, SMDHU</i>) R. Abaza revised the Policy recommendations executive summary, the On the Move Advisory Committee action plan and Terms of Reference. Update: R. Abaza shared the policy recommendation document and noted the new “Introduction” section. The updated policy recommendations document was sent to the On the Move Advisory Committee along with today’s agenda. Consensus from the On the Move Advisory Committee what that the Policy Recommendations document can be finalized. The outstanding piece before it would be shared with the County of Simcoe is the letter of support from SMCD SB; the letter has not been received. The policy subgroup has received a letter of support from SCDSB. K. Kirton confirmed that a new letter of support from the SCDSB was not required with the addition of the introductory section; it was noted that the role of the individual who signed the original letter of support has changed but will not affect the letter. R. Abaza forwarded the revised Policy Recommendations document which did not include the new introduction piece to Christine Hyde for completion of a Letter of Support. K. Pechkovsky reached out to C. Hyde but is still waiting for a response regarding the letter of support from SMCD SB. K. Pechkovsky was to follow up with the Simcoe County Clerk’s office once she received a response from C. Hyde. Since K. Pechkovsky has not heard back from C. Hyde regarding the letter of support, this item is still in progress. Discussion occurred about consideration for a new strategy to move forward with letter of support received from SCDSB. The Policy Subgroup can meet to develop a plan of action. Agreed to contact C. Hyde to inquire re: status of SMCD SB letter. K. Pechkovsky wrote in a Teams chat: “When we meet as a policy subgroup, I think we should also consider the Health Unit and ORCCA’s project on Built Environment Policy Statements. Would there be a strategy opportunity to release those Policy Statements and these On the Move Policy Recommendations as part of a complete package.”	Complete. R. Abaza will finalize the Policy Recommendations document. R. Abaza and K. Pechkovsky will reach out to C. Hyde with the new introduction section to the Policy Recommendation document and see if there is an update related to the letter of support. R. Abaza will schedule a policy subgroup meeting prior to the next committee meeting in November.

	The On the Move Advisory Committee members were to reach out to the Policy Subgroup or R. Abaza with expressed interest to present the delegation.	
4.4	<u>On the Move Advisory Committee Action Plan 2026</u> (Rachel Abaza, SMDHU) Budget: SMDHU's CDP PHNs were to explore if onboarded schools have requests for funds to support action plans. Update: Three schools have used their \$800 funding and two schools have used slightly over \$800 (Admiral and Cameron Street in Collingwood). R. Abaza shared a "Map my Route" pamphlet resource for families that was created, and used the \$800+ funds for printing cost. R Abaza noted challenges that additional financial support was needed for a graphic designer due to limited capacity of the GIS Specialist, and financial support from the Town of Collingwood was received. Discussion occurred about the pamphlet and how it is a great example that can be shared with the other schools and the new school in BWG. If supported, this resource can be added to the Success Stories section on the On the Move website, with the Township of Clearview Map that was completed a few years ago. James Keating – received their money and are in progress of receiving the wayfinding signs. S. Ross is meeting with the finance department at SMDHU to discuss the remaining funds. A concrete timeline for spending the funds will be established following this meeting and will be shared with the advisory committee at the next meeting. Funding opportunities to support local projects: D. Zilkey was to connect with On the Move Advisory Committee once the Huntsville project was initiated. Update: David Zilkey from Huntsville/Lake of Bays previously mentioned that with the success of the Green Municipal Funding, they will be completing data collection and an evaluation that will support and align with the OTM initiative goals and outcomes. D. Zilkey has resigned from this staff position, therefore the data collection will be delayed until Winter 2026/Spring 2027 until a new staff member is hired to resume the project. It was mentioned that Spruce Glen Public School is the specific school where data collection will be occurring, however the committee is uncertain. Promotional activities: R. Abaza followed up with SMDHU regarding design and ordering of flag(s). R. Abaza brought this back to the SMDHU CDP Team and asked if a generic On the Move flag would help with their local regions. Their	Complete. R. Abaza will explore permissions to share the map resource with the Town of Collingwood, then disseminate to the Committee and add to the On the Move webpage. K. Shadlock with confirm with her Director about the Spruce Glen Public School data collection and if it will only be the one school. R. Abaza to receive budget update from

	response was that they were unsure if there would be any impacts if the flags were raised at a municipality as students are more likely to see the flags at a school however, there are policy restrictions for flag raising at the school. Discussion with the OTM Advisory Committee occurred about municipalities being interested in SMDHU ordering a generic On the Move flag that can be raised for special events such as a Proclamation Day, or other Ontario Active School Travel walk and wheel events. It was noted that Bradford West-Gwillimbury has done flag raisings where they bring schools and council together. The On the Move Advisory Committee will revisit the generic On the Move flag option once the remaining On the Move budget has been confirmed. School Board representatives from TLDSB and SCDSB shared that there are specific policies that guide flag raising in schools. Unofficial flags, such as OTM, would not meet criteria. Portable feather flags are more appropriate for use at schools.	SMDHU to resume discussion about flag purchase.
5.0	New Business	
5.1	Structure and Function of Committee (<i>Rachel Abaza, SMDHU</i>) Membership review/update: At this time of year, there would be a review of the membership and/or updates such as if there are changes in the membership's role, or in the organization. Discussion occurred about representatives that may be missing from the On the Move Advisory Committee members. It was noted that a representative from the District of Muskoka is not at this committee. The On the Move Advisory Committee was asked to reflect on the function of the committee and if the committee is reaching its goals for the purpose of the committee. If the committee members have any feedback or can recommend someone for the committee as they may be missing from a geographical area or agency, they were asked to email R. Abaza.	K. Shadlock will consult with her Director about asking to have a representative from the District of Muskoka. K. Shadlock will email R. Abaza with the response. All committee members to email R. Abaza with feedback regarding structure and function of the committee, as applicable.
6.0	Next Meeting: November 19th, 2026, 10:00am-12:00pm	