

Canada needs a national active transportation strategy.



Canada needs an active transportation strategy to make walking and cycling the natural choice in all types of communities, all across our country.

Benefits of active transportation

- ✓ make physical activity part of our everyday lives, increase fitness levels
- ✓ reduce risk for many chronic diseases, including obesity, type 2 diabetes, some types of cancer, osteoporosis, cardiac and respiratory disease
- ✓ control health care spending
- ✓ reduce carbon emissions, support transit, improve air quality
- ✓ reduce traffic casualties
- ✓ increase transportation options and improve housing affordability
- ✓ create communities where seniors can age in place, maintain mobility
- ✓ improve accessibility for everybody
- ✓ create more prosperous communities
- ✓ attract creative employees and build the innovation economy
- ✓ create vibrant communities with a sense of place, distinct character



What a national AT strategy will do

- ✓ set bold, achievable targets for increased walking and cycling
- ✓ establish agreement about the benefits of active transportation, barriers and solutions, and priority actions
- ✓ develop collaboration among all levels of government, organizations, businesses and others
- ✓ establish mechanisms for monitoring progress and accountability
- ✓ shape infrastructure investments and transformative policy initiatives like the introduction of autonomous vehicles.





Outcomes of a national AT strategy

- ✓ change attitudes and norms for Canadians of all ages, especially the young
- ✓ address practical barriers, by making active transportation safer and more convenient—the natural choice
- ✓ build healthy, sustainable communities with more destinations—workplaces, shops, services—that can be reached on foot or bicycle
- ✓ transform our streets and our communities into places where people want to walk and cycle: interesting, enjoyable, fun, exciting...

An idea whose time has come

A broad alliance of cycling, walking, and active school travel organizations has come forward to lead the strategy development process—including research, extensive coast-to-coast consultation, and collaborative action planning.

Support is extensive and enthusiastic. The call for a national AT strategy has been endorsed by dozens of leading health, transportation, environmental, and planning organizations, businesses, community organizations, municipalities, school boards, government agencies, and others, all across Canada.

The next step is for the federal government to provide the necessary resources.

Canada needs a national active transportation strategy. **Now!**

Urge the federal government to support a national strategy.

For more on how you can help, visit:

www.activetransportationcanada.weebly.com



**National Active & Safe Routes
to School Working Group**